

Maximizing Your Philanthropic Support



Four
Forward

Deferred, non-cash, and complex gift solutions allow you to maximize your Four Forward support while meeting your overall financial and philanthropic goals. These gift options can be structured in a way that provides income to yourself or those you care about and to help support Denison's current campaign.

Bequests

A bequest is an easy way to make a deferred gift impacting Denison through Four Forward into the future. You can create a bequest by including the university in a provision via your will or living trust for a specific amount, a specific asset, a number of trust shares, or a percentage of your estate. Any of these options allow you to make generous gifts while maintaining control of your assets during your life, and bequests given to Denison are not subject to estate tax. We recommend the following language for your plans:

I give, devise, and bequeath [*\$x/x%/# of shares/residue*] to Denison University, a non-profit corporation (Tax ID 31-4379459) located in Granville, Ohio, to support the "Four Forward Endowed Scholarship Fund" (#60527).

We can also work with you or your advisor to develop customized language that accurately reflects your wishes to impact Denison through Four Forward and ensure your gift will be used as you intend.

Beneficiary Designations

Most types of financial accounts provide for a beneficiary designation or a payable on death (POD)/transfer on death (TOD) designation. Like a bequest, this option allows you to maintain control of your account and its assets during your life, with the remaining funds moving to your beneficiaries after you pass. Beneficiary designations function separately from your other estate documents, so it's important to confer with your advisers to ensure your designations are aligned with your overall estate plan. Bank accounts, retirement accounts, savings bonds, life insurance policies, donor-advised funds, and brokerage accounts all have the ability to assign a beneficiary. You can assign your beneficiary designation as any percentage, up to 100%, through recommended language below.

Denison University fbo Fund #60527
Tax ID 31-4379459
Attn: Office of Gift Planning
100 West College Street
Granville, OH 43023

Character limits on most beneficiary form name lines are extremely tight, so this language is designed to be as short as possible. (Fund #60527 is the Four Forward Endowed Scholarship Fund, and that number won't change. "For the benefit of" is shortened to "fbo.") We can assist if even this text is too long or, again, work with you or your advisor to develop customized language that accurately reflects your wishes.

Tax-deferred investment/retirement accounts, savings bonds, and commercial annuities are often the most attractive assets to leave to a non-profit like Denison because the university does not pay any income tax on these assets that a non-charitable beneficiary (like a relative) would pay. Other similar assets (like brokerage accounts and real estate) are more attractive to leave to non-charitable beneficiaries because those beneficiaries receive a step-up on the basis of an account owner's passing.

IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

After you have attained the age of 70½, the current tax law permits you to transfer up to \$105,000 annually to a qualified non-profit like Denison. The funds must come directly from your IRA custodian with the check made payable to “Denison University.” The direct transfer has two main benefits: 1) Any funds transferred will count towards or cover your required minimum distribution (RMD) for that tax year, and 2) distributions are not added to your taxable income. *Note that while you will not receive a charitable deduction for these gifts, excluding them from your income is more advantageous than a deduction.*

Grants from Your Donor Advised Fund

While Denison does not sponsor a donor-advised fund (DAF), it is a qualified non-profit to receive grants from DAFs. Recommending your DAF provider direct a grant to Denison is a wonderful way to make an impact at the university through Four Forward. Recommending your grant is an easy three-step process where you: 1) Sign in to your DAF account then locate your DAF provider’s grant-recommendation form, 2) Complete key information in your form, and 3) Submit your completed recommendation. *Note that the IRS prohibits DAFs from making distributions that provide “more than incidental benefit” to a donor, like distributions toward a pre-existing pledge. We can structure gift documentation to allow you to make your gift through your DAF — just let us know.*

Charitable Gift Annuities

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) is an easy, popular option that allows you to transfer cash or appreciated, marketable securities to Denison in exchange for a charitable deduction the year of your gift and, based on your age, a specific fixed payment until the end of up to two lives. (If unneeded now, payments can also be deferred for at least one year after a CGA’s creation for an increase in both the charitable deduction and annual payments.) The remaining proceeds will benefit the university through Four Forward — or other purpose(s) of your choice — after all income beneficiaries pass away.

You cannot add to an existing CGA, but you can establish additional CGAs, and they can often be a great tool to increase income on low yielding investments (like CDs or short-term bonds). The minimum age to begin receiving payments and the amount to establish a Denison CGA are 60 and \$10,000, respectively.

Charitable Remainder Unitrusts

A charitable remainder unitrust (CRUT) is similar to a CGA, but instead of fixed payments for life, CRUTs annually recalculate your payment based on the market value of your trust on January 1 of each year. This recalculation allows for payments to grow over time with inflation but also exposes them to market volatility and potentially a decline over time. CRUTs can be funded with a broad range of assets, including cash, marketable securities, and real estate. (In transferring highly appreciated assets, you can often defer payment of capital gains taxes on the property while also receiving a tax deduction on the estimated remainder value.) The minimum age to begin receiving payments and the amount to establish a Denison CRUT are 55 and \$250,000, respectively. Like with CGAs, your CRUT’s remaining proceeds will benefit the university through Four Forward — or other purpose(s) of your choice after all income beneficiaries pass away.

We can develop a free, no-obligation CGA or CRUT illustration customized for your particular goals.

About the Harris-Tight-Huffman (“HTH”) Society

The HTH Society honors Denison’s alums and friends who have decided to benefit the university with a planned gift. The society is named in honor of three distinguished Denisonians from the early 20th century: Dr. Laura C. Harris, Class of 1916; Dexter J. Tight, Class of 1912; and William P. Huffman, Class of 1911. All three individuals were outstanding leaders in their professional lives, and their planned gifts ensured Denison’s long-term success.

Any planned gift designated to benefit a Four Forward purpose also qualifies you for “Horizon Circle” recognition within Four Forward.

Please Contact Us

We’re available to answer any questions or discuss how you can maximize your Four Forward philanthropic impact via any of the above options or others, all at no obligation. Please also let us know if you’ve already included Denison in your estate plans — it would be an honor to say thank you and ensure we can bring your generosity to life as you intend. For more information, please contact:

Office of Principal Gifts

740-587-6291
framel@denison.edu

Office of Gift Planning

740-587-5023
giftplanning@denison.edu

The logo for Denison University, featuring the word "DENISON" in white, serif, all-caps font centered within a solid red rectangular background.

100 West College Street
Granville, OH 43023

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