

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

A convenient and flexible way to support your favorite charities with potential tax benefits.

A **donor advised fund** (DAF) is a charitable account administered by a sponsoring nonprofit organization, or “sponsor,” for the purpose of supporting the charities you care about most. When you contribute to a DAF, you receive an immediate tax deduction and the flexibility to recommend grants to your favorite charitable organizations over time. As the person who can recommend how the sponsor distributes grants from your fund, your role is referred to as the “advisor.”

How it works



Give: Open a DAF with a sponsoring organization, make a contribution to it, and receive an immediate income tax deduction. Many donors simply contribute cash, but sponsoring organizations are usually able to accept gifts of appreciated stock or other assets as well.



Invest: The sponsoring organization may provide the opportunity for you to recommend an investment strategy for your fund from a range of options.



Grant: Recommend grants to qualified U.S. public charities – like Duke – and support the causes that matter most to you.

Each sponsor of a DAF program will have rules regarding minimum fund size, grant size, fees, investment options, and other guidelines. Please consider these carefully before establishing your DAF.

Benefits for you:

- **Retain flexibility** to recommend which charities your fund supports and when
- **Centralize your philanthropy** and minimize tax receipts
- **Some sponsors can assist in complex giving strategies** – such as gifts of privately-held business interests or cryptocurrency – that other organizations may not be able to accept directly

Benefits for Duke:

- Use DAF grants to **make an immediate impact** at Duke
- **Satisfy multi-year commitments** to the Annual Fund
- **Create or add to an existing permanent endowment** in your name or in memory of a loved one

How to make a donor advised fund grant to Duke for *IMMEDIATE IMPACT*

1. Contact your DAF sponsor to recommend a one-time or recurring grant to Duke. When making a grant, your donor advised fund may need this information:
2. Contact Duke's Office of Gift Planning to inform us of your DAF recommendation so we can appropriately acknowledge your generosity and ensure that your grant is allocated according to your desires and any grant restrictions.

Mailing Address

Alumni & Development Records
Duke University
Box 90581
Durham, NC 27708

Tax ID

56-0532129

Factors to consider

- Grants from DAFs may be used to establish endowment funds and may receive matching funds, if available.
- A multi-year commitment may be fulfilled through DAF grants under certain circumstances. Such a commitment would be established as a "non-binding intention" rather than as a legal "pledge." If you would like to make a multi-year commitment that you intend to satisfy through grants from your DAF, please note this on your commitment form or inform a Duke development officer of your plans.
- Please note that DAF grants cannot be used if the donor or anyone else receives something of value in return – such as the ability to purchase basketball tickets in Cameron Indoor Stadium through support of the Iron Dukes.

How to make a donor advised fund grant to Duke for **FUTURE IMPACT**

A DAF can be a useful and tax-efficient tool for supporting charities you care about in the near term *and* can often be incorporated into your longer-term philanthropic plans. Most sponsors will allow you to designate which charities will receive the remaining balance of your DAF subsequent to your passing. **This can be a great way to support your passions at Duke with a legacy gift.**

1. Contact your DAF sponsor for a beneficiary form to designate Duke University to receive a portion of your DAF after you pass away. This can often be accomplished through your DAF's website. You may need to specify Duke's tax ID: 56-0532129.
2. In order to designate your legacy DAF gift to a specific use – such financial aid or support for a school or program – contact Duke's Office of Gift Planning to discuss your options.

When you name Duke to receive a portion of your DAF as a testamentary gift, please let us know! We would like the opportunity to thank you personally for your generosity. Plus, knowing your intentions in advance will help us ensure that your gift will be allocated as you desire.

Alternatively, you may be able to designate a successor advisor who can recommend grants from your DAF after you pass away.

If you do not designate specific charities as beneficiaries of your DAF or name a successor advisor, many sponsoring organizations may distribute the remaining assets in your DAF according to their own priorities – not yours. Please be sure to carefully consider and document how you would like your DAF to ultimately be distributed.

Connect with us to get started

Duke University's Office of Gift Planning has charitable planning professionals available to work with you and your financial advisors to explore charitable giving strategies that support your financial goals now and in the future.

EMAIL: giftplanning@duke.edu

PHONE: (919) 681-0464

WEBSITE: giving.duke.edu/giftplanning

BLOG: giving.duke.edu/blog

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