



Beneficiary Designations



A beneficiary designation is one of the easiest and most flexible ways to leave a gift to your favorite charities through your life insurance policy, donor advised fund, individual retirement account (IRA), money market or other financial account.

Retirement Plan Assets

A tax-wise option to make a gift is to designate the association as a partial or sole beneficiary of your retirement assets such as your IRA, 401(k) or other qualified plan. All you need to do is contact your plan administrator and fill out a beneficiary designation form. These forms are often online and can be printed and completed from the comfort of your home, and you usually only need three pieces of information to name a charity as a beneficiary of a retirement asset: the charity's legal name, Tax Identification Number and an address.

Benefits:

- You may avoid both income AND estate tax levied on the residual amount left in your retirement account by leaving a gift to the association because we are a non-profit organization and do not pay taxes on the transfer. These taxes can eat up the principal of your account when transferred to your heirs.
- You can continue to take withdrawals during your lifetime.
- You can designate all or a percentage of your account and can change your beneficiaries or the percentage designated for each beneficiary at any time. There is typically no charge to update your beneficiary form.



Life Insurance

A life insurance policy also provides another tax-wise option to make a future gift to the association. If you want to keep your current policy but make a future gift, you can leverage your policy by simply naming the association as a beneficiary of your policy. As with retirement plan assets, beneficiary forms are often online and can be printed and completed from the comfort of your home.

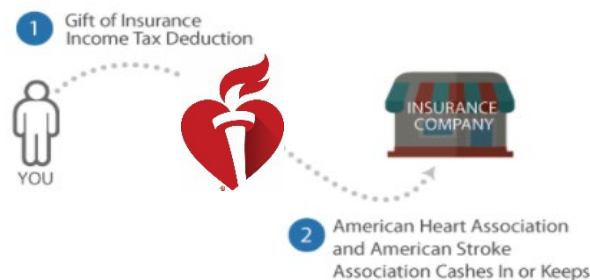


Beneficiary Designations



Benefits:

- You retain ownership of the policy and, therefore, have continued access to the policy's cash value.
- You can designate all or a percentage of your policy and can change your beneficiaries or the percentage designated to each beneficiary at any time. There is typically no charge to update your beneficiary form.



Testamentary Charitable Gift Annuity or Testamentary Charitable Remainder Trust

As of January 2020, non-spousal beneficiaries of your IRA must take all distributions from the account within ten years unless they meet the exceptions of being a minor child, disabled, chronically ill, or a person not more than ten years younger than the account owner. Making a Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust the beneficiary of your IRA allows for fixed payments to your non-spousal beneficiaries (i.e., children or grandchildren) over a longer span of time.

Benefits:

- Your non-spousal beneficiaries do not have to take the entire distribution from your IRA within ten years. This could help your beneficiaries from being pushed into a higher income tax bracket with a very large tax bill.
- You can protect your IRA from beneficiaries who might deplete the account quickly by specifying the term they receive fixed payments.

For More Information

If you have questions about how to make a gift through a beneficiary designation, or unsure which strategy may be right for you, please contact us at [888-227-5242](tel:888-227-5242), plannedgiving@heart.org, or visit [Heart.org/plannedgiving](https://heart.org/plannedgiving). We are pleased to assist you and answer your questions.