



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FOR DONOR-ADVISED STARTER FUNDS



GIFTS TO YOUR DONOR-ADVISED STARTER FUND

I've Established My Starter Fund With an Initial Donation. What's Next?

When you established your fund, you were asked whether you would like to make donations on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis. If you selected monthly, your payments will be automatically applied to the credit card you provided to the foundation on the first day of each month. If you selected quarterly, semi-annually or annually, you will receive a payment reminder 30-60 days before your payment is due.

How Long Do I Have to Fully Fund My Starter Fund?

You have 36 months to build your fund to the \$5,000 minimum balance required of all donor-advised funds. As stated above, you select the schedule that works for your situation: monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually.

Can I Change My Payment Schedule?

Unfortunately, no, but you can make additional payments at any time you would like.

What Happens to My Fund If I Am Unable to Reach the Minimum Balance Within Three Years?

Should you be unable to fulfill the pledge and build your fund to the \$5,000 minimum balance required of donor-advised funds, your fund's assets will be transferred to Akron Community Foundation's Community Fund and become available for grant distribution as undesignated funds. At that time, your fund will be permanently closed and you will be under no further obligation to make any additional payments.

How Do I Contribute to My Donor-Advised Fund?

Adding to your fund is simple and can be done at any time. You can continue the schedule you set when you established the fund or make additional donations when it makes sense for your financial situation. If you are giving cash assets, you can mail us a check made payable to Akron Community Foundation with the name of your fund in the memo line. You can also give to your fund 24/7 online with Visa, MasterCard or Discover by using your fund's custom giving URL or by visiting www.akroncf.org/GiveNow. If you are considering a gift of stock, please call Akron Community Foundation at 330-376-8522 to talk with our chief financial officer.

What Types of Assets Can I Contribute to My Donor-Advised Fund?

Akron Community Foundation can accept a wide range of gifts, including cash, stock, retirement assets and life insurance. We also accept more complex gifts, such as S-corp stock and real estate, that many organizations cannot. To learn more, visit www.akroncf.org/waystogive or reach out to your primary staff contact.

Can I Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution From My IRA Into My Donor-Advised Fund?

Under current IRS regulations, donor-advised funds are not eligible to receive qualified charitable distributions (QCDs). However, QCDs are a great choice for making tax-free gifts to designated or scholarship funds at Akron Community Foundation.

Can I Name My Donor-Advised Fund As a Charitable Beneficiary in My Will?

Yes. Including your donor-advised fund in your estate plans is a simple yet powerful way to carry on your charitable legacy after your lifetime. You can choose to leave a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate to your donor-advised fund. You can also make a residual bequest, meaning a percentage of the residue of your estate will go to your fund. For more information and suggested language for your will, please see our Bequests & Memorial Giving insert.

Are My Charitable Gifts Irrevocable?

Yes, gifts to your fund at Akron Community Foundation are irrevocable. This means you have transferred the total asset to Akron Community Foundation and you no longer own it.

Are Additional Contributions to My Donor-Advised Fund Tax Deductible?

Yes, gifts to Akron Community Foundation and your donor-advised fund are deductible to the fullest extent of the law. For taxpayers who itemize, donations to donor-advised funds are deductible up to 60% of adjusted gross income on gifts of cash, and 30% on gifts of appreciated assets like stock, mutual funds and real estate. Donating long-term appreciated assets to a donor-advised fund may even eliminate capital gains taxes. We recommend consulting with a tax advisor to determine the most tax-advantageous assets for your situation.

Will I Get a Receipt for My Contributions?

Yes. Akron Community Foundation will mail your tax acknowledgment within five business days of gift receipt.

Can Other People Contribute to My Donor-Advised Fund?

Absolutely. Many of our donor-advised fundholders encourage their friends and family to donate to their fund in lieu of gifts for special occasions. Your fund's custom giving URL will take people directly to a donation page for your fund, giving people a quick and simple way to donate to your fund on their computer, tablet or mobile device. Please see our Public Relations & Marketing Tools insert for more information about promoting your fund.

How Are the Assets in My Donor-Advised Fund Invested?

Akron Community Foundation pools the assets of all of our funds and invests them according to our strategic, long-term investment policy. Charitable assets in a donor-advised fund grow tax-free. You can review our investment policy at www.akroncf.org/financials.

Where Can I Access Information About My Fund's Gift History, Current Balance, etc.?

All donor-advised fundholders have access to DonorCentral, our online fund management system, where you can download your quarterly fund statements, monitor your fund's market value, access gift information, and view resources from the foundation. If you need access to DonorCentral, contact our donor-advised fund administrator, Cathy Kemp, at ckemp@akroncf.org or 330-436-5616.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DONOR-ADVISED STARTER FUND

When Can I Begin Making Grants From My Starter Fund?

Your fund must be a fully funded donor-advised fund, meaning it has reached \$5,000 in contributions, to begin making grants to nonprofit organizations. Once your fund is a fully funded donor-advised fund, you will receive more information.

Can I Make Changes to My Fund After the Agreement Has Been Signed?

It will depend. If you'd like to discuss changing the name of your fund, advisors to the fund, etc., please reach out to your primary contact or call 330-376-8522.

What Fees Are Charged to My Donor-Advised Fund?

There is no fee to establish a donor-advised fund. Once your fund is established, Akron Community Foundation charges a combined administrative and investment fee of approximately 2%, but only after you have received your full tax deduction for gifts to the fund. Our administrative fee is one of the lowest in the industry and stays right here in Greater Akron to benefit your community. Please see our fees insert for more details.

When Will I Receive Financial Statements for My Donor-Advised Fund?

You will receive fund statements four times a year for the quarters ending June 30, Sept. 30, Dec. 31, and March 31 (our fiscal year is April 1 through March 31). The statements are usually mailed within four weeks after the end of the quarter and show activity for the most recent quarter, including spendable income, total contributions, investment activity, distributions for grants, administrative fees and other activity. You can also access your fund statements at any time through your DonorCentral account. Please see our Understanding Your Fund Statement insert for more information.

What Records Should I Reference When Filing My Taxes?

You will receive a tax acknowledgment letter from Akron Community Foundation for all gifts you make to your donor-advised fund. These letters are the official records you should save and reference when filing your taxes. If you misplace an acknowledgment, please call our office at 330-376-8522 to request a new copy. Please do not rely on the data in DonorCentral for tax purposes. We recommend consulting with a tax advisor to determine if gifts to your donor-advised fund may be deductible on your taxes.

OTHER QUESTIONS? Please reach out to your primary contact or to our donor-advised fund administrator, Cathy Kemp, at ckemp@akroncf.org or 330-436-5616.