Compare Your Options



Some of our donors initially considered creating a private foundation, but the start-up and administrative costs, lack of privacy, and limited tax deductibility led them to create a Donor Advised Fund with us instead.

They find their giving goes further with us: they enjoy more benefits including community knowledge, our experience working with multigenerational families, tax favorability, and opportunities to partner with others for greater impact. With a Signature Fund, they can also enjoy the same degree of name recognition and family involvement they'd gain with a private foundation.

Compare the options below, then call us. We'd welcome the opportunity to meet with you - and your tax, legal, or financial advisor - to see if a Donor Advised Fund or Signature Fund makes sense for you.

	Donor Advised Fund at The Minneapolis Foundation	Donor Advised Fund at a Private Foundation	Donor Advised Fund at a Financial Institution
Income Tax Deduction Limit		•	
Cash Gifts	50%	30%	50%
Percent of Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)			
Appreciated Property	30%	20%	30%
Carry-over Available	yes	yes	yes
Amount Deductible (subject to percentage limitations)			
Appreciated Publicly-traded Stock	Fair Market Value (fmv)	fmv	fmv
Other Appreciated Property (long-term)	fmv	basis	n/a ¹
Administration & Fees			
Minimum Payout	no	yes	in some cases
Start-up Costs	none	varies	none
Separate Tax Return	no	yes	no
Accounting	no	yes	no
Record-Keeping	no	yes	no
Investment Management Fees	varies	varies	varies
Administrative Expenses	1% ²	varies	varies
Federal Excise Tax Imposed	no	yes	no
Charitable Giving Services			
Creating a Family Giving Plan	yes	fee-based	varies
Help with Grantmaking	yes	fee-based	varies
Connecting with Other Donors	yes	n/a	no
Information About Community Issues	yes	fee-based	no
On-line Fund Management	yes	fee-based	yes

¹ Many commercial gift funds do not accept gifts of real property, such as real estate, privately held stock, or S-corporation stock. ²1% on first million dollars; breakpoints apply thereafter.