

Making a Smart Bequest

Leave a legacy to perpetuate student success, promote faculty excellence, enhance academic programs, or improve facilities that enrich the WSU experience without affecting your current financial picture.

Your Legacy

Bequest Benefits

- A simple way to make a future gift to WSU.
- Continue your annual gift in perpetuity.
- Flexible—can be changed as your goals change.
- Retain control over your property during your lifetime.
- Reduce your estate tax liability.
- Receive the personal satisfaction that comes from creating your own family legacy.

Creating a Bequest to the Washington State University Foundation

- Determine how you wish to distribute your property to your loved ones and your favorite charities.
- Contact the Gift Planning team of the WSU Foundation to help you and your attorney draft a bequest that fits your situation, satisfies your personal goals, and meets the University's needs.
- Provide the Gift Planning team with a copy of the page of your Will, Revocable Living Trust, or beneficiary designation form benefiting WSU. The terms of your bequest will be kept in strict confidence.
- Receive recognition for your intended gift and become a member of the Legacy Associates. However, if you prefer, we will honor your wish to remain anonymous.
- As you move through the stages of your life, your bequest can be changed to meet the goals important to you at that time.

Alternative Ways to Give

There are many ways to give through your estate that you may not have considered, including:

- Retained Life Estate, which allows you to donate your residence, farm, or vacation home to the WSU Foundation while retaining lifetime use and/or income from your property.
- IRAs and Qualified Retirement Plans (see "Twice Taxed Assets")
- Saving Bonds (see "Twice Taxed Assets")

Bequests through Wills and Revocable Living Trusts are the foundation of our philanthropic tradition. Such gifts enable you to make significant contributions that may not be possible during your lifetime.

Codicil to Last Will and Testament:

If your attorney has your estate planning documents up to date, your attorney can simply draft a short Codicil (amendment) to the existing documents to provide a bequest to the WSU Foundation using the following or similar language: "I, (your name), hereby amend my last Will and Testament, executed on the (date of establishment). I direct that all provisions of that Will remain in effect but in addition I give the Washington State University Foundation, located in Pullman, Washington, (refer to Suggested Bequest Language on facing page for options)."

A Gift Use Agreement is a short agreement between the donors and the WSU Foundation. It includes background information provided by the donors and specifics regarding how the gift will be used. Donors may amend it as often as they like without the necessity of revising their Will or Revocable Living Trust.

The Gift Planning team will be happy to help you prepare your Gift Use Agreement.

Makes a Difference



Create An Endowment Through Your Bequest

- Bequests are a very important source of support for the University, representing about one-third of WSU's endowment.
- For as little as \$25,000 (in today's dollars) you can create a permanent endowment in your family's name—a lasting, powerful affirmation of your family's partnership with WSU.

Twice-Taxed Assets (IRD Assets)

Q. What are IRD assets?

A. Income in Respect of a Decedent is income to which a decedent is entitled at death but which was not included in gross income. IRD assets include: qualified retirement plan income (for example, IRA, SEP, 401(k), 403(b), pension, profit sharing), U. S. savings bonds, and installment contracts.

Q. Is it better to leave IRD assets to my family or WSU?

A. Tax planning experts often suggest that if you are planning on both family and charitable gifts, give stock and other assets to family members and IRAs and other IRD assets to charity.

For example, if you designate the WSU Foundation as the beneficiary of your IRA to be paid on death, the gift to WSU qualifies for the unlimited estate tax charitable deduction so that it won't be subject to estate tax. And, the WSU Foundation, being a tax-exempt charity, won't have to pay income tax on the proceeds.

If heirs are designated as the beneficiary of your IRA, they will have to pay income tax, **and** your estate may have to pay estate tax as well.

Suggested Bequest Language

Your bequest to Washington State University may ultimately include some of the following language. We recommend that you review your bequest with the WSU Foundation's Gift Planning Office to assure that your plans will be carried out as you wish.

I give:

_____ % of my estate,
OR
the sum of \$ _____,
OR
the real property described on the deed as _____,
OR
personal property described as _____,
OR
all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate,
OR
_____ % of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate

to the Washington State University Foundation
(Federal Tax ID Number 91-1075542)

to [establish] OR [augment] the _____ Endowment
(e.g. the John and Jane Doe Endowment)

OR
to be held and managed as a part of the permanent endowment of the WSU Foundation.

The Foundation shall hold, manage, and distribute the funds in accordance with the certain Gift Use Agreement* entered into between the WSU Foundation, the University and myself.

If your estate includes payment from IRD (Income in Respect of a Decedent) assets (see sidebar on left):

This bequest shall be paid out of IRD assets as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code to the fullest extent possible. If such IRD assets as valued for U.S. estate tax purposes are insufficient to pay this bequest, then it shall be paid to the extent necessary out of the general assets of my estate.

*See Gift Use Agreement information in this publication.
*Bequests are but one of the gift planning options available.
Contact the Gift Planning Office for information on other options.*



The Town Centre Building, downtown Pullman.
Home of the WSU Foundation.



Gift Planning Office

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The information in this strategy is for discussion purposes only and should not be interpreted as legal, tax, or financial advice. Before entering into a planned or deferred giving arrangement with any charitable organization, seek competent professional legal and tax advice.

Establish an endowment that continues the success of WSU.
The University receives bequests of all sizes for a wide range of purposes.

Consider the following examples:

Art and Helen Brunstad, WSC '31, established the Art and Helen Brunstad Endowment for Faculty Research and Support in Sociology. Art established this endowment to honor one of his dearest friends, Wallis Beasley. Beasley, who retired from Washington State University as acting president in 1981, “. . . was the only person,” Art jokingly claimed, “whom I never disagreed with.” Recognizing Wallis’s decades of service and contributions to WSU and the Department of Sociology, Art hoped that his establishment of this endowment would encourage others who share his and Wallis’s love for WSU to invest in the University’s mission and vision.

Art died in 2002, but every year, through his legacy, he provides professional support for 10 faculty members.

In 1989, **Jim and Carol Graybill, WSC '47**, became the trustees for the estate of Jim’s uncle, Harold Curtis. Harold grew up in Seattle and spent two years at Yale University before joining the Army during World War I. Harold had a keen and inquisitive mind that led him to constantly examine the world around him. He also had a strong desire to help the best and brightest to receive an education. The Graybills wanted to use their uncle’s funds to help students with equally inquisitive minds. Through research and careful planning, James and Carol established the Harold P. Curtis Scholarship in WSU’s College of Engineering and Architecture. This endowment is one of the largest the college has ever received.

Harold died in 1988, but every year, through his legacy, he pays tuition for 34 WSU students.

Zeno Katterle, WSC '28, was the acting dean of the College of Education from 1954–1964. His passion for his college and his students ran deep. Dean Katterle strongly believed in the commitment to excellence and pride among the faculty and staff he worked with and the students he served. He felt it was his duty to inspire the students and create in them a desire to learn. Not only did he want to make a difference in the lives of the students; he also wanted to lead by example. As both an employee and alumnus of WSU, Zeno, along with his wife Kay, established a scholarship to support graduate level education within the college he served.

Dean Katterle died in 1992, but today, through his legacy, he provides support for 8 graduate students.