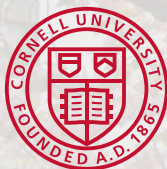


SPRING 2025

VESTED INTEREST

Gift planning newsletter from Cornell University



Meaningful giving at your stage in life

The desire to make a difference exists in all of us, but the ideal gift will change depending on your situation and stage in life.

The following options may let you support Cornell University in a way that fits your planning needs today.

Getting started in philanthropy

Are you building a career or raising a family? Consider making a comfortable commitment that won't affect your current finances and can be revised later if your needs or goals change.

- **A gift in your will or living trust.** These essential estate planning tools are an easy way to designate a future gift to Cornell. You can choose to give a specific asset or amount, a percentage of your estate, or what is left of your estate after all other obligations are met.
- **A charitable beneficiary designation.** With a simple Change of Beneficiary form, you can name Cornell the sole or percentage beneficiary of a life insurance policy, IRA, or other retirement account.





Taking advantage of rewarding gift options

As you approach and finally reach retirement, your planning focus will shift. Some gifts require a bit more thought and effort but provide creative ways to meet advanced financial and charitable goals.

- **Appreciated stock.** If you are reducing risk or rebalancing your portfolio, you may want to sell off appreciated stock (held for longer than one year). Consider transferring the stock directly to us instead—you'll owe no capital gains tax, and your gift will still qualify for a deduction for the stock's full value.
- **Gifts that create income.** A charitable gift annuity is easy to set up. In exchange for your gift, we agree to pay a fixed income to you and/or someone else for life. The annuity payment is based on the amount of your gift, the age of the person(s) receiving the payments, and whether the start of payments is immediate or deferred.

Thinking about your legacy

When you reach the stage where you want to expand your philanthropic footprint, there are gift options that let you further shape your personal legacy in meaningful ways.

- **Another look at your will or living trust.** Periodic reviews and adjustments provide good opportunities to add strategic, beneficial charitable gifts.
- **A gift from your IRA.** If you are an IRA owner age 70½ or older, you can give directly from your IRA. You pay no tax on the transfer up to \$108,000 (the annual aggregate limit for 2025), and the transfer counts toward your required minimum distribution if one is due (generally beginning at age 73). A one-time life income option is also available—ask us for details.

Non-cash assets: An effective way to make a difference

If you want to support learning, discovery, and engagement at Cornell, cash is an easy answer. However, it's worth considering the powerful difference you can make with a gift of non-cash assets—including stock, real estate, a closely-held business interest, a life insurance policy, or personal property like artwork or collectibles.

A double tax benefit is available for gifts of appreciated assets held for more than one year—you owe no capital gains tax on the gift, and you can still deduct the full fair market value of the asset. These tax advantages may make larger gifts possible.

A gift of non-cash assets is a particularly good option if you are:

- heavily invested in a particular stock or sector and looking to rebalance your portfolio
- ready to sell a vacation home, farm, undeveloped land, or other real estate
- holding a life insurance policy that is no longer needed for its original protection purpose
- considering an estate reduction strategy that incorporates charitable giving
- a business owner anticipating a liquidation event or looking to diversify your wealth

NOTE: If you hold stock that has decreased in value, it's better to sell the stock and then use the cash to make your gift. Talk to your advisor to find out if this is a good strategy for you. Your gift still qualifies for a charitable income tax deduction, and you may be able to use the capital loss to offset some of your ordinary income.

Donating non-cash assets can be a sophisticated and highly effective giving strategy. For some assets, it can also be complicated. Reach out to start a confidential conversation. We can evaluate your gift plan and guide you through any necessary steps.



**“Cornell prepares
everyone to be a
global citizen and
to make the changes
and be the changes
they want to see in
the world.”**

—Latoya Francis '22

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Learn about options for meaningful gifts, today and tomorrow

- ☐ Please send your free brochure,
Planning Options for Your Stage in Life.
- ☐ I would like to hear more about
blended gifts.
- ☐ Please send me a copy of my
complimentary estate planning kit.
- ☐ I would like a member of the Cornell
Gift Planning team to contact me
about estate planning.
- ☐ I have included Cornell University in
my estate plans and would like more
information on the Cayuga Society.

Honoring those who have
established a planned gift
for Cornell University



Please mark items of interest.

Fold and tape the card and return to us.

No postage is necessary.

NAME

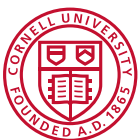
ADDRESS

CITY

STATE, ZIP

TELEPHONE

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Cornell University

Blended gifts: The unique power of custom gift combinations

Because there are many ways to give, a combination of two or more gifts (called a blended gift) is sometimes the most effective way to reach your charitable goals. The result is often truly special—a donation with more meaning, greater impact, and tax benefits that fit your unique situation. Use the following four steps to get started:

1. **Create a recipe for success.** There is no “right way” to combine gifts, so begin by considering what you want your gift to accomplish, what assets you have available, what combination of planning benefits will help you reach your goals, and what steps are necessary to implement your strategy.
2. **Choose the right ingredients.** The end result depends entirely on the gifts you join together. Consider timing as well as assets—many blended gifts are designed to support our faculty, staff, and students both today and in the future.
3. **Envision the options and results.** It can be helpful to look at the approaches others have used. Ask us for stories about gifts other supporters have made. We’re also happy to work with you and your advisors as you explore the possibilities.
4. **Add a personal touch.** Your unique combination of gifts can honor or remember loved ones or creatively make a statement about your values and what is meaningful to you.



Dear Friends of Cornell,

Just as spring nurtures new beginnings, the foresight of those who include Cornell in their charitable plans creates lasting opportunities. The seeds of thoughtful planned giving have already produced nearly \$20 million in undergraduate scholarships this fiscal year. This significant investment directly empowers talented students to access a Cornell education, fostering the next generation of leaders and innovators.

There are numerous avenues to make a meaningful impact while also achieving your personal philanthropic objectives. Our team of planned giving experts stands ready to guide you, along with your financial advisors, in exploring giving opportunities that align with your stage in life.

Thank you for your continued thoughtfulness and generosity. Your philanthropic spirit is essential to Cornell's enduring strength and future success.

Wishing you a most enjoyable season ahead,



Carine J. Hails
Executive Director
Trusts, Estates, and Gift Planning

(800) 481-1865 | gift_planning@cornell.edu



JASON KOSKI

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF TRUSTS, ESTATES, AND GIFT PLANNING
130 E SENECA ST, SUITE 400
ITHACA, NY 14850