

FINDING THE RIGHT DONOR-ADVISED FUND FOR YOU

There are many different types of donor-advised funds (DAFs) available and they vary significantly by provider. We can work with you to find the right fit and optimize your experience.

What's a donor-advised fund?

A donor-advised fund is a private fund, administered by a third party, for the purpose of managing charitable donations on behalf of a family, individual, or one of their entities.

Advantages of donor-advised funds:

- Accept non-cash assets such as stocks, mutual funds, bonds, and complex assets such as private S- and C-corp stock
- Enable donors to claim a tax deduction in the year assets are contributed, rather than in the year the funds are granted to the charity
- Provide higher deductibility rates than private foundations
- Provide the option to make anonymous gifts
- Require little to no setup costs
- Are quick to initiate

Interest in DAFs is growing

Due to their minimal setup costs and ease of use, DAF usage has increased significantly in recent years. There are now more than one thousand sponsors of DAFs in the United States. Contributions to and grants from DAFs both rose in 2020, despite global crises and economic volatility.

"Donors may initially choose DAFs for their flexibility and ease of use—and they continue using DAFs because they can both plan for and respond quickly to causes that are important to them."

- Eileen R. Heisman, President and CEO of the National Philanthropic Trust

Total Value of Grants Made by Donor-Advised Funds (\$B)



^{*} Data from the National Philanthropic Trust, NPTrust.org

What differentiates one DAF from another?



Investment Flexibility

Some DAFs require the investments in the fund to adhere to preset models, while others allow your advisor to make those decisions.



Allowed contributions

Some will accept private stock, real estate, cryptocurrencies, or alternative investments, while others require the contributions be made in cash and publicly-traded securities.



Distributions requirements

Some funds require annual distributions, while others require them less frequently.



Gifting constraints

Some funds restrict which charitable organizations may receive gifts.



Experience & capabilities

Some sponsors are small and do not have the experience to handle more esoteric gifts or the staff to process gifts quickly.

How we can help

We can help you better understand all of your charitable giving options. If a donor-advised fund is suitable for you, we will help you select the right sponsor and guide you through the process.

Partner with us:

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