

# CREATIVE WAYS TO FULFILL YOUR PERSONAL & PHILANTHROPIC GOALS

BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY

With thoughtful planning you can **maximize the impact your gifts to Boston University will have on future generations** in ways you might not have thought possible.

## FAVORITE WAYS TO MAKE A GIFT

### 1. CASH

A gift of cash is a simple and easy way for you to make a gift. In exchange for your gift, you receive an income-tax charitable deduction for the full value of your gift.

### 2. SECURITIES

Donating appreciated securities, including stocks or bonds, is an easy and tax-effective way for you to make a gift. You can transfer stock to us electronically through your broker or by mail. The best stocks to use for charitable giving are those that you have owned longer than one year and that have appreciated in value, as the transfer of appreciated “long-term” shares does not trigger capital gains.

### 3. A GIFT IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST

A charitable bequest is one of the easiest and most flexible ways that you can leave a gift to BU that will make a lasting impact. Three popular options are to leave a percentage of your estate after making provisions for family and friends, to leave a specified sum of money, or to leave a particular piece of property.

## GIFTS THAT GIVE BACK TO YOU

### 4. CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

This is a simple contract between you and BU that pays you a fixed dollar amount for your lifetime and that of another individual,



if desired, based on your ages at the time of your gift of \$10,000 or more. The older you are, the higher the payment. Plus, you are eligible for an immediate partial income-tax deduction.

### 5. DEFERRED CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

This is similar to an immediate gift annuity, but you can delay the start of payments until you reach an age you select at the time of your gift. In exchange for deferring your payments, you receive a higher payment rate and a larger income tax-deduction, depending on your age and the length of the deferral period.

### 6. CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUST (CRUT)

A CRUT will pay you a variable dollar amount each year for the rest of your life from assets you place in a trust worth \$100,000 or more. After your lifetime,

the balance in the trust goes to the charities of your choice. Plus, you are eligible for an immediate partial income-tax deduction.

## **BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS**

### **7. RETIREMENT PLAN OR IRA ASSETS**

Your tax-deferred retirement plan and IRA accounts will result in higher taxes when you leave them to loved ones. Consider leaving non-retirement plan assets to heirs, and naming charities as beneficiaries on these accounts. To leave a percentage or all of your retirement assets to BU, you can complete a beneficiary designation form provided by your retirement-plan custodian.

### **8. LIFE INSURANCE**

If you have a fully paid life insurance policy that has outlasted its original purpose, consider gifting the policy to BU. You can designate BU as a partial, full, or contingent beneficiary.

### **9. BANK ACCOUNTS AND CDS**

You can name BU as the “payable-on-death beneficiary” of your bank accounts and certificates of deposit. After your lifetime, the assets will pass directly to BU without going through probate. Simply visit your bank and request to name BU as a beneficiary on your accounts or CDs.

## **REAL ESTATE**

### **10. DONATE APPRECIATED PROPERTY DIRECTLY TO BU**

You can give your real property to BU by executing a deed transferring ownership. Your gift will generally be based on the



property’s fair market value, to be established by an independent appraisal.

### **11. DONATE YOUR HOME AND KEEP LIVING IN IT**

Through a “retained life estate” you make a gift of your home while retaining the right to use and occupy the property during your lifetime. You realize an immediate income-tax deduction for a portion of your home’s value as well as avoid all capital gains.

## **OTHER TAX-SMART GIFT IDEAS**

### **12. QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION**

If you are 70½ or older, you can direct your IRA administrator to distribute a gift from your IRA directly to BU. You won’t be taxed on the transfer, and it counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). You can direct up to \$108,000 to your favorite causes each year.

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***We’re happy to help you start planning the gift that is the best fit for you.***

***Please visit our website, [bu.edu/plannedgiving](https://bu.edu/plannedgiving), or contact us for more information.***

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