Giving Through Your Will or Living Trust

Estate gifts have been key to the success of the University of Virginia since its inception in 1817. As support for higher education from the Commonwealth of Virginia has continued to decline, bequests have become increasingly important. Bequest gifts from alumni, parents, faculty and friends enable the University to strengthen its national reputation by offering an outstanding student experience, nationally ranked athletic programs, exposure to fine and performing arts, and opportunities for public service. They advance leading-edge research in science and technology and further scholarship in the humanities. When you create or revise your estate plans, we hope you will consider including the University among your beneficiaries.

How Do I Include the University in my Will or Living Trust?

You may make a gift through your will or your living trust by including specific language outlining your support for the University. You may designate a specific amount, a specific property, or a portion of your entire estate; and you may choose exactly how you want your bequest to be used. You might consider using the language provided above in your will. If you have a living trust, simply modify your trust language directing your trustee to make the desired distributions.

BEQUEST FOR THE UNIVERSITY’S UNRESTRICTED USE

By designating your bequest be for unrestricted use, you provide vital funds, allowing the University to address its most pressing needs at the time your bequest is realized.

“I give to The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia, a Virginia public corporation located in Charlottesville, Virginia, the sum of $___________ [or property described herein] [or ___ percent (___ %) of the rest of my estate] to be used by the University in its discretion for its general purposes.”

BEQUEST TO BE USED FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE

You may instead designate your bequest for a specific school or program, or for a specific purpose, such as a scholarship or graduate fellowship, for research support, capital improvements, or any program that captures your imagination and speaks to your passion.

“I give to The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia, a Virginia public corporation located in Charlottesville, Virginia, the sum of $___________ [or property described herein] [or ___ percent (___ %) of the rest of my estate] to be used by ___________________ for the following purpose: __________________.”

If you want your bequest to benefit a particular school or program, we recommend that you ask the Office of Gift Planning to review your provision to ensure that your wishes can be carried out.

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You may also designate the University as a full or partial beneficiary of your retirement account. More information on how to make this type of gift is available in the Retirement Plan Assets brochure.

**Why Should I Include the University in My Estate Plan?**

Your bequest ensures that the values and traits that define the University will endure for generations to come. In addition, you and your estate can benefit from your bequest designation. A bequest is:

**Comfortable** – A bequest allows you to retain your assets throughout your lifetime.

**Flexible** – Your bequest can be directed to any University school or program you choose.

**Revocable** – You may make changes to the beneficiaries of your estate throughout your lifetime.

**Tax Wise** – A bequest to the University will not be subject to estate tax in your estate.

Sharing your bequest information helps the University fully understand the vision behind your intentions and ensures that there is a plan in place for implementing it. It can also inspire others to give similarly. Notifying U.Va. of your gift does not obligate you or your estate in any way.

**The Cornerstone Society—Letting Us Say Thank You**

On October 6, 1817, President James Monroe and former Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison gathered at a ceremony to lay the cornerstone of Pavilion VII, the first structure at the University of Virginia. Just as this cornerstone provided the foundation for the University’s first building, the Cornerstone Society is laying the groundwork for the University’s achievements in the decades ahead. The Cornerstone Society comprises alumni, parents, and friends who have made planned gifts to the University or its related foundations, through wills, living trusts, or retirement plan assets; gifts of life insurance; charitable gift annuities; and charitable remainder trusts or lead trusts.

To learn more about giving through your will or living trust or about other planned giving opportunities at the University of Virginia, please call the Office of Gift Planning at 434-924-7306 or toll-free at 800-688-9882, e-mail us at giftplanning@virginia.edu or visit our Web site at www.virginia.edu/giftplanning.

The University of Virginia does not provide legal or tax advice. We recommend that you seek your own legal and tax advice in connection with gift and planning matters. To ensure compliance with certain IRS requirements, we disclose to you that this communication (including any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding tax-related penalties.