



## CHARITABLE IRA ROLLOVER

### **Made Permanent Law in 2015**

On Dec. 18, 2015, the Federal government permanently extended the charitable IRA rollover allowing donors to make charitable contributions from IRAs to qualified charitable institutions.

### **What is a charitable IRA rollover?**

The charitable IRA rollover, or qualified charitable distribution (QCD), is a special provision allowing certain donors to exclude from taxable income – and count toward their required minimum distribution – certain transfers of Individual Retirement Account (IRA) assets that are made directly to public charities, including the SDSU Foundation.

Since it was first made available in tax year 2006, many Jackrabbit supporters age 70 ½ or older have used this popular option to support the areas of their choice with tax-wise gifts ranging from \$100 to \$100,000.

### **How does this help me?**

A charitable IRA rollover makes it easier to use IRA assets, during one's lifetime, to make charitable gifts.

### **Why will lifetime IRA gifts be easier?**

Under current law, withdrawals from traditional IRAs and certain Roth IRAs are taxed as income, even if they are immediately directed to a charity. The donor receives a tax deduction for his or her donation, but various other federal, and sometimes state, tax rules can prevent the deduction from fully offsetting this taxable income. As a result, many donors have chosen not to use IRA assets for lifetime gifts. The charitable IRA rollover eliminates this problem.

### **What gifts qualify?**

Called a “Qualified Charitable Distribution” (QCD), a qualifying gift is:

- Made by a donor age 70 ½ or older
- Transferred from a traditional or Roth IRA directly to a qualified public charity, such as the SDSU Foundation.
- Completed during the applicable tax year

### **Is there a limit on the amount that can be given?**

Yes, the limit is set at \$100,000 per tax year for outright contributions.

### **What about the required minimum distribution (RMD)?**

If you have not already taken your RMD in a given year, a qualifying rollover gift can count toward satisfying this requirement.

### **Is an income tax deduction also available?**

No. The gift would be excluded from income, so providing a deduction in addition to that would not be allowed by the IRS.

### **Why are Roth IRAs included? Aren't withdrawals from a Roth IRA tax-free?**

Withdrawals from a Roth IRA may be tax-free only if the account has been open for longer than five years, or if certain other conditions apply; otherwise, withdrawals are taxed as if they came from a traditional IRA. In such cases, certain donors could benefit from this law as it applies to their Roth IRA.

### **Are other retirement plans, such as 401(k) and 403(b) accounts, included?**

No. However, it may be possible to make a tax-free transfer from such other accounts to an IRA, from which a charitable rollover can then be made.

### **Can a SEP or Simple IRA qualify for a QCD?**

There is an exception for the SEP-IRA or a SIMPLE IRA. If the employer has made a contribution to these accounts during the taxable year, a charitable IRA rollover is not permitted. However, if an employee has retired and the employer is no longer making contributions to the SEP-IRA, then it qualifies for the IRA rollover.

### **Can a gift be made to any charity?**

No. Excluded are:

- Donor Advised Funds
- Supporting Organizations
- Private Foundations

### **Who can benefit from using the charitable IRA rollover?**

- Persons making gifts that are large, relative to their income (Because a charitable rollover is not included in taxable income, it does not count against the usual percentage limitations on using charitable deductions.)
- Persons who do not itemize deductions
- Persons with significant IRA assets

### **Who shouldn't consider this option?**

Donors living in the states of Kentucky, New York, and Colorado will likely not want to utilize this giving option. Ask your tax advisor or our gift planning team for details.

### **Is the charitable IRA rollover right for everyone?**

While this is a great option, other types of gifts may provide donors with more tax benefits. As with any gift planning question, donors should consult their tax professionals for the final answer to that question. Our SDSU Foundation gift planning team is also available to you and your advisors as you make a decision.

### **What if a withdrawal does not meet the requirements of a charitable IRA rollover?**

It will simply be included in taxable income as other IRA withdrawals currently are.

### **Can a rollover gift be used to pay my pledge made to SDSU?**

Yes. You can honor your gift pledge to SDSU with one or more qualified charitable IRA rollover transfers of up to \$100,000 per person, per calendar year. Have your provider indicate that the transfer is a gift from you so that we can properly identify the gift when it arrives and provide you the important gift documentation required for your records.

### **Can a rollover gift be used for a gift to the Jackrabbit Club?**

You can utilize the rollover to support Jackrabbit Athletics as long as no benefits are received in exchange. Thus, the required minimum for Jackrabbit Club memberships and payments for seat licenses are not eligible for qualified charitable distributions from IRAs.

### **Can a rollover gift count toward my lifetime giving?**

Yes. The only permissible benefits from a charitable IRA rollover gift are those that would not reduce the tax deduction for which the donor would have otherwise qualified. At SDSU, a charitable IRA rollover gift is allowed to count toward naming opportunities and recognition society memberships.

### **Can a rollover gift be used to fund a charitable remainder trust or charitable gift annuity?**

The answer is not yet. The *Legacy IRA* bill is being worked on in Congress. ([www.charitableira.org](http://www.charitableira.org)) It would allow donors possibly as young as age 65 to do just that. Charitable gift annuities are also a possibility if this legislation gets enough congressional support.

### **Can I still make a gift with an IRA beneficiary designation?**

Absolutely! You can always name a charity like SDSU as an account beneficiary. Please include our gift planning team in beneficiary conversations so that we can be sure the gift is allocated to match your intent.

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*We would be honored if you would consider a gift for South Dakota State University. Please contact your IRA custodian for the necessary form to transfer your desired gift amount, then contact the SDSU Foundation to ensure the proper allocation is documented for the program or college you wish to support. If you have questions or need additional information please contact the SDSU Foundation by phone at (888)747-7378 or (605)697-7475.*