



General Donor and Giving Frequently Asked Questions

We sincerely appreciate your enthusiasm for supporting Colorado State University. We also understand that you may have a few questions regarding your gift to CSU. Below, you will find the most commonly asked questions we receive from donors. If you don't find what you're looking for or have additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact University Advancement.

Colorado State University

University of Advancement

Phone: (970) 491-7774

E-mail: donorrelations@colostate.edu

How do I make a gift to Colorado State University?

Online

Our secure online giving form is the easiest way to make a gift. To make an immediate gift using your credit or debit card, please visit giving.colostate.edu.

Phone

If you prefer to make your gift over the phone, or if you have questions while trying to make your gift, please contact University Advancement at (970) 491-7774.

Mail

To mail a gift, please make your check payable to Colorado State University Foundation. If you wish to designate your gift to a certain area, please write that in the memo line of the check.

Mailing address:

Colorado State University Foundation

P.O. Box 1870

Fort Collins, CO 80522

For security and safety reasons, **do not mail cash** donations. Instead, please deliver to:

Colorado State University Foundation

300 University Services Center

Fort Collins, CO 80523



Can I choose what my gift supports?

Absolutely! Colorado State University believes you should be able to support what matters most to YOU. With more than 1,000 funds available, there is a designation that should match your philanthropic passion. To view a list of options, please visit advancing.colostate.edu/giving/catalog.asp.

Not sure where to begin? Call or e-mail us. University Advancement would be happy to connect you to your philanthropic passions.

When is the best time to make my gift?

To take advantage of tax benefits, your gift must be made by the end of the calendar year. Please consult a financial adviser if you are considering the tax advantages of making a gift to CSU.

I can't make a large donation to CSU. Does my gift even make a difference?

Most definitely, yes! Gifts of all sizes support our students and advance the work of our faculty.

Can you charge my credit card on a recurring schedule for my gift?

Yes. You can authorize your credit card to be automatically charged on an ongoing or limited basis. This is also possible via ACH transfers through a checking or savings account.

Are memberships considered gifts to CSU?

Membership in the CSU Alumni Association and CSU Athletics Ram Club are considered gifts to CSU.

For additional details on membership benefits contact:

CSU Alumni Association: (970) 491-6533 or alumni.colostate.edu

CSU Athletics Ram Club: (970) 491-4666 or csuramclub.colostate.edu



What is a donor community? How do I join?

Colorado State University's donor communities honor and recognize donors for their continued support of CSU's mission and vision.

Women and Philanthropy

Recognizes donors who contribute \$50 or more during one calendar year.

1870 Club

Recognizes donors who contribute \$1,870 or more during one calendar year.

Morgan Society

Recognizes donors who have achieved \$100,000-\$999,999 in cumulative giving to CSU.

Lory Society

Recognizes donors who have achieved \$1 million or more in cumulative giving to CSU.

Frontier Legacy Society

Recognizes alumni and friends who have invested in the University's future through a planned gift.

What are some gift options?

Gift of Cash

A gift of cash is a simple and easy way for you to make an immediate impact on Colorado State University's mission. Visit giving.colostate.edu to make an online gift. If you prefer to make your gift over the phone, or if you have questions while trying to make your gift, contact University Advancement at (970) 491-7774.

Matching Gifts

Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will double or even triple any charitable contributions made by their employees. Visit your company's employee website or benefits office to learn about eligibility and how to initiate your matching gift. We will do the rest. Some companies even match gifts made by retirees and/or spouses. Visit matchinggifts.com/colostate to find out if your company has a matching gift policy.

Commemorative Gifts

If you have a friend or family member who has been touched by Colorado State University, you are welcome to make a gift in honor or memory of that individual. This is a thoughtful and meaningful way to recognize the accomplishments or memory of a colleague, professor, friend, or relative.



To designate your gift in honor or in memory of someone, please indicate their name on the memo line of your check or in the space provided on the online form. University Advancement notifies the honoree or relative regarding memorial and honorary gifts whenever contact information is available. If you wish to include our standard language in an obituary, please consider, “Gifts of remembrance can be sent to the Colorado State University Foundation at P.O. Box 1870, Fort Collins, CO 80522. Please include <insert the decedent’s name> in the memo line.”

Commemorative trees and benches are also thoughtful gestures to memorialize or honor someone who has meant so much. The cost of a tree is \$1,500 and a bench is \$5,000. For more information, visit giving.colostate.edu/commemorative-trees-and-benches.

Payroll Deductions

If you are a current CSU employee, you may make a monthly gift via payroll deduction. To create, cancel, or modify a payroll deduction, please log in to Donor Connect at donorconnect.colostate.edu.

Gift Planning

CSU’s Office of Gift Planning can assist you in making a planned gift (such as an estate, bequest, or trust). There are a variety of options that take into consideration your personal circumstances and the needs of your family. For more information visit giftplanning.colostate.edu or call the Office of Gift Planning at (970) 491-4254.

Gifts-In-Kind

A gift of personal property includes equipment, inventory, books, works of art, vehicles, or other tangible property. Gifts-in-kind will be used to benefit the college, department, or center as designated by the donor. For more information, contact University Advancement at (970) 491-7774.

Acceptance of the gift is based on whether Colorado State University can use the gift in furtherance of its mission. Consideration will be given to the cost of accepting and maintaining the gift as well as costs associated with the potential resale of the gift. Depending upon the donor’s tax circumstances, a charitable deduction may be claimed if the gift is accepted for the University’s tax-exempt purposes. Please consult your tax advisor to determine the tax deductibility of your gift.

What is an endowment?

An endowment is a special type of invested asset that is designed to generate positive returns and grow in perpetuity. Each year, a percentage of the overall endowment value can be used for the intended purpose of the fund, thus providing permanent support for teaching, research, student aid, and a variety of other academic programs and activities. If you have questions about supporting an existing endowment or establishing a new one, please contact University Advancement at (970) 491-7774.



How do I set up a scholarship?

If you'd like to create a scholarship, please contact University Advancement at (970) 491-7774 and we will put you in touch with the college's or unit's development office. We will work with you to better understand your vision for the scholarship as well as your financial commitment.

Can I make my gift in installments?

Yes. Donors often make gift pledges that can be paid over a period of time. We are here to assist you in determining if a pledge is the best option for you and to help you with the process.

When will I receive a receipt for my gift?

If you've made your gift online, you will receive an official e-mail receipt from the CSU Foundation when your gift has been processed (usually 1-2 business days). If you prefer to receive a printed receipt, please allow 2-4 business days.

How much of my gift is tax-deductible?

That depends on the nature of your gift. Most gifts are at least partially deductible. If you receive any goods or services in return for your gift, such as auction items or tickets, the fair-market value of those items is not tax-deductible. Please consult your tax advisor to determine the tax deductibility of your gift.

How do I obtain a copy of my tax receipt?

To obtain a duplicate copy of your tax receipt, please contact University Advancement or visit donorconnect.colostate.edu, where you can find your past receipts, giving history, personal impact, and much more.

Does CSU assess a fee on donations?

Yes. In line with nonprofits, charitable organizations, colleges, universities, and the majority of our peer institutions who fundraise, Colorado State University assesses an Advancement Investment Fee on gifts. The Advancement Investment Fee (5% as of July 1, 2016) is one of many revenue streams used to sustain and stabilize the University's fundraising efforts to bring in charitable dollars to invest in students, programs, faculty, research, and facilities. The Advancement Investment Fee is applied monthly to CSU faculty and staff payroll deduction gifts.



The Advancement Investment Fee is applied to each gift according to the following tiered structure (maximum \$400,000 as of July 1, 2016):

- 5% on the first \$5 million
- 3% on the next \$5 million
- 0% on the portion of the gift that exceeds \$10 million

For more information on the Advancement Investment Fee, visit

giving.colostate.edu/ways-to-give/#Gift-Policies or call University Advancement at (970) 491-7774.

Does the Advancement Investment Fee affect the tax-deductibility of my contribution?

The Advancement Investment Fee does not affect the deductibility of your gift. Donors receive a gift receipt for the full amount of their gift.

How does the Advancement Investment Fee help Colorado State University?

The Advancement Investment Fee supports the philanthropic initiatives at Colorado State University. As state support for higher education continues to diminish, charitable giving becomes even more crucial to sustain CSU as a vital, thriving institution. University Advancement, which is responsible for CSU's fundraising activities, maintains an efficient operation and remains a key investment for the University.