

Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

Use Your IRA for Charitable Giving to Loyola University of Chicago

If you own an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and are over the age of 70 ½, you can donate a total of up to \$100,000 per year to charitable organizations like Loyola University of Chicago and receive tax benefits regardless of whether you itemize deductions on your income tax returns. If you are married and your spouse also owns an IRA and is over the age of 70 ½, they may also donate a total of up to \$100,000 per year.

At Loyola, your gift(s) can provide important support for student scholarships, academic programs and many other worthwhile initiatives that further the University's mission.

7 Steps to Donating Via Your IRA

Since the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has specific rules that must be followed for this kind of charitable gift, here is a step by step guide to successfully using your IRA for donations-

- 1. First, it helps to know that the IRS calls this type of charitable gift a "Qualified Charitable Distribution" or simply, "QCD." Informally, the term "charitable IRA rollover" is also used.
- 2. You must be the IRA account owner and you must be at least age 70 ½ to make this kind of gift. The same holds true for your spouse.
- 3. In 2020 Congress enacted legislation (the SECURE Act) that changed the age for which Required Minimum Distributions (RMD's) must be withdrawn from IRA accounts. The age increased from 70 ½ to 72.

This is important for two reasons. First, a main tax benefit of the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution is that it counts toward the donor's Required Minimum Distribution amount. By donating a Qualified Charitable Distribution, you can reduce the amount of IRA distributions included in your gross income for tax purposes. Instead of a charitable gift deduction, the IRS enables you to exclude the total amount of your IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions from your taxable income. The same holds true for your spouse.

Second, as mentioned already, if you are at least age 70 ½, the SECURE Act did not change the earliest age for donating via the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution method. So, regardless of changes to Required Minimum Distribution rules, you can still gain tax benefits this year by making gifts via the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution.

- 4. We always recommend that you consult with your tax and/or financial advisor to assure that the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution is suitable for your specific financial circumstances.
- 5. An important IRS rule is that the company that administers your IRA must transmit the money for your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift directly to Loyola.

To initiate the gift, you should contact your IRA administrator and tell them that you want to donate a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA to Loyola University of Chicago.



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Your IRA administrator will need the following information:

Our legal name: Loyola University of Chicago Our tax identification number: 36-1408475

U.S. Postal System Address: Loyola University of Chicago Gift Processing P.O. Box 4336 Carol Stream, IL 60122-4336 Overnight Delivery like UPS, FED Ex, etc: JP Morgan Chase Bank Attn: Loyola University Chicago (Lockbox 4336) 131 S. Dearborn Street, 6th FL Chicago IL 60603

Please ask your IRA administrator to issue and mail a check payable to Loyola University of Chicago and include your name and address in the check's memo section.

- 6. Some IRA administrators have issued IRA checkbooks to IRA owners. If you and/or your spouse have an IRA account checkbook, please follow step 5 to send your gift check to Loyola. Please write "IRA QCD" in the memo section of your check. If you want your gift designated to support a specific scholarship, program, or other initiatives, please include a brief cover letter with your check with those instructions.
- 7. The last step is also important to know. In order for this gift to qualify for current tax year benefits, under IRS rules the money must be transferred from your IRA account to Loyola by December 31. So, this means your check should be received by Loyola at least 2 weeks prior to that date to give us and your IRA administrator ample time to cash it and transfer the money. To be safe, please be sure that your IRA gift check is mailed to Loyola before December 15.

We encourage you to support Loyola and gain the tax advantages of an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution this year. Please contact your IRA administrator soon to start the process of them sending a check for your gift to Loyola.

We are grateful for your support!

Questions? Send us an email at giftplanning@luc.edu.