

MAKE A GIFT FROM YOUR IRA TODAY

The IRA Charitable Rollover, also known as a Qualified Charitable Distribution, allows UCS members to make tax-free gifts directly from their IRA accounts. Direct transfers from traditional IRAs count toward minimum distribution requirements and do not generate federal taxable income.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- You must be 70 ½ or older at the time of the gift.
- There is no minimum gift amount required by UCS, though your IRA administrator may set a minimum transfer amount.
- You may transfer up to \$100,000 of charitable gifts directly from your IRA each year.
- Gifts must be transferred directly from a traditional IRA account to a qualified charity by your IRA administrator. Funds that are withdrawn by you and then contributed do not qualify and will likely be considered a taxable distribution.
- Gifts from 401(k), 403(b), SEP, and other retirement plans do not qualify. To make a gift of assets in these types of accounts, you would need to roll the assets over into an IRA and then make a direct transfer from that IRA.
- Gifts to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, private foundations, and charitable remainder trusts are not allowed.
- You may not receive any tangible benefit (e.g., a book, a tote bag) in exchange for this type of gift. You also may not use this gift to establish a charitable gift annuity or other income-producing gift, as income constitutes a tangible benefit.

THE BENEFITS

- You can support our work for a healthier planet and safer world while reducing your tax burden.
- In most cases, qualified charitable distributions count toward your required minimum distribution. IRA charitable rollover gifts can also be used to satisfy outstanding pledges.
- You may avoid incurring federal income tax on these heavily taxed assets.
- The charitable distribution generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so even those who do not itemize their charitable deductions can benefit from this type of gift. By lowering your taxable income, you may reduce your income tax bracket, which can affect your Social Security and other benefits.
- Qualified charitable distributions from your IRA may be included in your income for state and local tax purposes and may not earn an offsetting charitable deduction, depending on state and local law. Your tax advisor will be able to give you specific information about your individual tax situation.



HOW TO MAKE AN IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER GIFT TO UCS

- Contact your IRA administrator and request a direct transfer to:
Union of Concerned Scientists
Attn: Eric St. Jacques
Two Brattle Square
Cambridge, MA 02138
UCS Tax ID #: 04-2535767
- Please be sure that the funds are NOT distributed directly to you, which could trigger taxable income rather than a direct charitable distribution to charity.
- Please instruct your IRA administrator to include your name on the check they send to UCS. Financial institutions often neglect to provide us with any donor information, making it difficult for us to track and credit the funds, or provide you with written substantiation for your gift.
- Once you have contacted your IRA administrator, please provide us with the name of your IRA company and amount of your gift so we can identify and acknowledge your gift in a timely manner.

BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

If you are interested in creating a legacy of support for UCS after your lifetime, a gift of retirement plan assets can be a tax-savvy way to accomplish your goals. When passed to heirs other than a spouse, retirement plan assets are subject to income tax as well as possible federal or state estate taxes. However, when you leave retirement assets to a tax-exempt charity such as UCS, 100 percent of your gift will go to support our work. Designating UCS as a beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k), or other retirement account is easy—simply contact your plan administrator to request a Change of Beneficiary Form.

By making UCS a beneficiary of your retirement account or other financial or estate plan, you will qualify for membership in the Kurt Gottfried Society. Please contact us to notify us of your gift and to learn more about our legacy society that honors Kurt Gottfried and the nearly 1,000 supporters who have left a gift to UCS.

Thank you for your support and commitment to UCS.

CONTACT US

To learn more about these and other giving opportunities, please contact the Planned Giving team at (617) 301-8095 or plannedgiving@ucsusa.org.

Note: Your financial needs and goals are unique. We encourage you to discuss all giving options with your own advisors as well as any family members with whom you make financial and charitable giving decisions. UCS is not in a position to give qualified tax advice.