



MONASH University

Monash University Bequest FAQ's

Donor, Alumni and Community Relations

Information on Wills and Bequests
September 2010

Fulfilling your wishes and dreams

For most of us, leaving a legacy for our families and communities securing them a fulfilling life is our first priority.

Today, making philanthropic gifts to life-changing causes through ground-breaking solutions has been made easier than ever before through Monash University.

We will meet your philanthropic interests and our excellent team will ensure careful stewardship of your gifts, to make your dreams and wishes a reality.

By including a bequest in your Will, you will help shape life-changing experiences for students and our community, by supporting much needed scholarships, ground-breaking Research and by addressing key issues of sustainability, social justice and human rights.

Monash University's expertise will help you achieve your dreams of helping people that matter to you.

A bequest is also a great way to ensure that your family knows that you care for the causes Monash University is involved in and that you want your support to continue.

What is a bequest?

A bequest is simply a gift that you detail in your Will. It can be a gift of cash, property, shares or other investments. You nominate a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or the residue remaining after your other wishes are met.

What can I give to?

Most people who make a bequest are happy to allow Monash University to decide the best way to use their gift. However, you can request your gift to be directed to a specific area. If you wish to do this, we ask that you discuss your intent with us. The needs of our community are changing rapidly and answers are being found every day at Monash University. It may be difficult to implement your wishes in years to come if your intent is too specific.

How large should a bequest be?

Monash University encourages all levels of bequests. Large gifts can fund projects, help make key enhancements that support research better or may help establish a Chair. More modest gifts can combine with others to help meet needs based on priority.

How do I make a bequest?

We encourage you to properly detail your bequest in your Will.

Using the correct wording ensures that your wishes are carried out in the best possible manner. Please use 'Monash University', our full name, and let your solicitor go through it when your will is being created or amended. Here are a couple of samples of the wording:

Example one:

"I bequeath 'Monash University' of (address) for its general purposes [(the whole) or (a specific amount or gift) or (a percentage) or (the residue)] of my estate free of all duties, and I declare that the receipt of its treasurer or other authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my executor."

Example two:

I give to Monash University,

.....
*(Insert here the **amount of money** or the percentage of the residual estate and/or the **specific property** you want to leave to Monash University.)*

*to be applied for the purposes of (insert here the **special area of interest** if you wish) by Monash University in such manner as its Directors may determine. I direct that the receipt in writing of an authorised officer of Monash University shall be deemed proof of payment.*

What is a will?

A Will is the legal document that every adult should have to protect their assets. A Will is not just for individuals of high net worth or older people. Your Will allows you to direct how you want your assets distributed after your death, including gifts to your favourite organisations. If you do not have a Will, your assets will be distributed according to pre-determined legal parameters.

By making a Will, you will also make it clear to your family and the people you care for about your intentions, thereby leaving nothing to chance. If you want your support for Monash University to continue beyond your lifetime, your Will is the practical way forward.

Do I need legal advice?

Monash University strongly advises you to seek qualified legal advice when creating or amending your Will. It is essential to note that someone may challenge your Will if it is not drawn up correctly. If you do not have a legal advisor, the following independent organisations can help you. You are also welcome to consult with Monash University.

State Trustees

Web: <http://www.statetrustees.com.au/>

Phone: (03) 9667 6444.

Law Institute of Victoria

Web: www.liv.asn.au/directory/specialists/

Phone: (03) 9607 9311

Further information

For further information or to discuss your philanthropic interests, please contact:

Paul Benjamin (in lieu of a Bequest Officer)

Donor, Alumni & Community Relations

Office of the Vice-President (Advancement)

Monash University

Phone: +61 03 9903 4281

Mobile: +61 0438526864

Email: Paul.Benjamin@adm.monash.edu.au