

# **Bequests**

Including a future gift to Fisher College in your will or revocable trust is a simple and flexible way to create an enduring legacy at the College. The benefits of a bequest include:

- It costs you nothing now;
- It is private your will is not filed or made public until your death; and
- It is flexible you can change the provisions in your will or trust at any time until death.

A bequest can be for a specific amount ("I bequeath the sum of ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars"), a specific asset ("I bequest my home"), or a percentage of your estate after taxes, expenses and specific bequests have been paid ("I bequeath ten percent of the rest and residue of my estate").

Generally, a percentage bequest allows for more flexibility in your long-term planning and requires less frequent updating during your lifetime. Younger donors are particularly encouraged to take this approach.

You can also leave a legacy that costs you nothing now by naming Fisher College the beneficiary of a retirement plan or insurance policy. Just fill out a Change of Beneficiary form available from your policy provider.

# You Can Make Your Bequest in Several Ways...

### Specific Bequest

Your bequest can deliver a specific dollar amount, asset, or percentage of your estate: "I give and devise to Fisher College (Tax ID #042-005934), located in Boston, MA, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be used for its general support (or for the support of a specific fund or program)."

#### Residual Bequest

Alternately, you can give us all or a percentage of the balance remaining in your estate after expenses, taxes, and the specific bequests have been paid:

"I give and devise to Fisher College (Tax ID #042-005934), located in Boston, MA, all (or state a percentage) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, to be used for its general support (or for the support of a specific fund or program)."

## **Contingent Bequest\***

Finally, your bequest can be payable to Fisher College if the initial beneficiary is unable to inherit it:

"If (insert name) is not living at the time of my demise, I give and devise to Fisher College (Tax ID #042-005934), located in Boston, MA, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (or all or a percentage of the residue of my estate) to be used for its general support (or for the support of a specific fund or program)."

## And, You Can Direct Your Request To A Specific Purpose...

Your bequest can be directed to support a specific program at Fisher College, or you can tell us to apply it to the need that is most pressing at the time we receive it. Since we will likely not receive your bequest until far into the future, its terms should be as general as possible – to avoid benefiting a project that we no longer pursue or terms that will be difficult to meet. Please consult with us if you are considering a bequest for a specific purpose to make sure we can use it exactly as you intend.

Whenever restricting a bequest to a specific purpose, we recommend that you have your attorney insert a "saving clause" that provides some flexibility in the future:

"If at the time this bequest is received by Fisher College, or any time thereafter, the Board of Trustees of the School determines that all or any part of the bequest can no longer be utilized to best advantage for the institutional purpose designated herein, then all or any part of the bequest may be used for such other institutional purpose or purposes which, in the sole discretion of the Board of Trustees, shall most closely carry out my intention."

## **Legal Disclaimer**

The information provided herein is for educational purposes only and is not intended as legal advice or tax advice. Always consult an attorney or other qualified professional for assistance in creating your plan.

For additional information, please contact:

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#### ESTATE AND CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING ATTORNEYS

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