

Donor Advised Fund Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is there a minimum amount required to start a fund?

The minimum is \$25,000, but you can also gradually build a fund through our Acorn Fund program.

2. Can grants be made to charities outside of the greater Milwaukee area?

You may make grants to qualified charities anywhere in the world.

3. Which organizations are eligible to receive fund grants?

Organizations exempt from federal taxation under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3), and classified as public charities, are eligible.

4. Does the Foundation ever decline grants recommended by fund adviser(s)?

The Foundation does its best to honor grant recommendations, though it must decline those not in compliance with requirements such as: if the recipient is not a public 501(c)(3) charity, if it would fulfill a pledge made by you, or if it would provide some benefit to you (e.g. membership dues or event tickets).

To protect the effectiveness of your grantmaking, and comply with published nonprofit guidelines, the Foundation reviews the financial and governance records of potential grant recipients. In rare cases, serious red flag issues can arise. We would then work with you to develop the best solution.

5. Must the fund make grants every year?

Unlike private foundations, a donor advised fund is not required to make grants every year.

6. Can I name anyone as a fund adviser?

You can name yourself as the initial fund adviser and/or one or more individuals, including family or friends. Successor advisers, however, must be members of your family.

7. How many generations of fund advisers are allowed?

For funds exceeding \$200,000, you may arrange for an unlimited number of generations. For funds less than \$200,000, you may name two generations of advisers.



Ten Reasons People Choose to Give through the Greater Milwaukee Foundation

One We are a *local organization* with deep roots in the community and beyond.

Two Our community investment staff has *broad expertise* regarding community issues and needs.

Three We provide highly *personalized services* tailored to each individual's charitable and financial interests.

Four Our funds help people *invest in the causes* they care about most.

Five We accept a wide *variety of assets*, and can facilitate even the most complex forms of giving.

Six We partner with *professional advisers* to create highly effective approaches to charitable giving.

Seven We offer *maximum tax advantage* for most gifts under federal law.

Eight We *multiply the impact* of gift dollars by pooling them with other gifts and grants.

Nine We build *endowment funds* that benefit the community forever and help create personal legacies.

Ten We are a *community leader*, convening agencies and coordinating resources to create positive change.



8. What happens when there are no fund advisers?

Your legacy lives on while the fund continues to make grants each year according to your gift agreement. This agreement even lets you name specific charities, a field of interest (e.g. homelessness) or allows the Foundation Board to make grants that meet the most pressing community needs.

9. How much is the administrative fee?

Funds up to \$1 million pay an annual fee of 1 percent of the fund value, with a minimum fee of \$500 per year. The fee declines as the asset value increases.

The Greater Milwaukee Foundation

provides a simple, powerful, and highly personal approach to giving. We offer a variety of giving tools to help people achieve their charitable goals. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your adviser to fulfill your unique charitable objectives. For more information and ways to integrate charitable giving into your financial planning, contact the Philanthropic Services Department at 414-272-5805.