



Gift Acceptance Policy

While in general charitable nonprofits are grateful for any contributions, there some kinds of gifts that your nonprofit simply may not be prepared to accept or use in a productive way, or that may result in more hassle and expense than benefit to the organization.

Consider adopting a written gift acceptance policy that is posted on your website to manage donors' expectations and to use as guidance for your board and staff who may someday be faced with a donor who wants to give your nonprofit a white elephant.

Note: The redesigned 990 asks on Schedule M whether a nonprofit has a "gift acceptance policy" that requires the review of any "non-standard gifts" (gifts other than cash or check).

Attached is a SAMPLE Gift Acceptance Policy that you may review and consider to edit for use by the Furkids organization. You may wish to seek professional legal/accountant advice when stipulating gift acceptance policies.



Gift Acceptance Policy

Acceptance of any contribution, gift or grant is at the discretion of the Furkids organization. Furkids will not accept any gift unless it can be used or expended consistently with the purpose and mission of the organization.

No irrevocable gift, whether outright or life-income in character, will be accepted if under any reasonable set of circumstances the gift would jeopardize the donor's financial security.

Furkids will refrain from providing advice about the tax or other treatment of gifts and will encourage donors to seek guidance from their own professional advisors to assist them in the process of making their contribution.

Furkids will accept donations of cash or publicly traded securities. Gifts of in-kind services will be accepted at the discretion of the organization.

Certain other gifts, real property, personal property, in-kind gifts, non-liquid securities, and contributions whose sources are not transparent or whose use is restricted in some manner, must be reviewed prior to acceptance due to the special obligations raised or liabilities they may pose for the organization.

Furkids will provide acknowledgments to donors meeting IRS substantiation requirements for property received by the charity as a gift. However, except for gifts of cash and publicly traded securities, no value shall be ascribed to any receipt or other form of substantiation of a gift received by the organization.

Furkids will respect the intent of the donor relating to gifts for restricted purposes and those relating to the desire to remain anonymous. With respect to anonymous gifts, Furkids will restrict information about the donor to only those staff members with a need to know.

Furkids will not compensate, whether through commissions, finders' fees, or other means, any third party for directing a gift or a donor to the organization.