

TEXAS EDUCATION LEGACY CHALLENGE

Frequently Asked Questions

What types of planned gifts qualify for the Texas Education Legacy Challenge?

Planned gifts eligible for matching funds include bequests via will or living trust, beneficiary designations from a retirement account or bank account, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, and beneficiary designations of a life insurance policy given to the college — in this case, the match will be based on the existing cash amount in the policy.

Gifts must be at least \$100,000.

Why is it important to document my planned gift?

Gift documentation is vital for a number of reasons. First, we want to ensure we meet your wishes. Documenting now allows you and the College of Education to clarify your intentions and ensure that we can implement them to the fullest extent possible. Second, when we know you are making a gift, we can update you on any changes that may affect it. Third, planned gifts are a vital source of funding, and participation inspires participation. Your gift can motivate others to give, creating a multiplier effect that benefits our future students, faculty and programs. Fourth, we want to acknowledge you. Documenting your gift enrolls you in the Texas Leadership Society — a community of over 2,000 generous Longhorn alumni and friends who receive special opportunities and recognition.

What if I document but then I change my mind or my circumstances change?

Documenting your gift does not create a legally binding contract. We know that priorities and circumstances can change. So while we hope you will continue to support UT, we know that what you intend to do now may change in the future.

If I have already documented a planned gift with UT Austin's College of Education, will it qualify for the Texas Education Legacy Challenge?

First, thank you for supporting the college and documenting your planned gift! We are truly grateful. Previously documented gifts do not count towards the Texas Education Legacy Challenge. If you would like to increase the amount of your gift, that increase will count as long as it is at least \$100,000.

How do I document my planned gift for the Legacy Challenge?

There are a number of ways to document your gift. You can [submit the online form](#). You can also submit a Letter of Intent, which you can download [here](#). Print the document, fill it out and return it via email to Michelle Debelak at michelle.debelak@austin.utexas.edu. Michelle is a director on UT's Gift and Estate Planning team and will be able to assist you with any questions.

Where can I designate my matching funds?

You can direct your matching funds to a designated area of support that is most meaningful to you. If you have an existing endowment in the College of Education, you may also direct your matching funds there.

How much of my gift will be matched?

Campaign matches are based on a sliding scale. Gifts from \$100,000-\$250,000 will receive \$2,500 in matching funds. Gifts above \$250,000 will be matched at 1% with a limit of \$10,000.

For example:

\$100,000 will be matched at \$2,500. \$250,000 will receive \$2,500 in matching funds.

\$330,000 receives \$3,300 while \$500,000 is matched at \$5,000. \$1 million+ receives the match limit of \$10,000.

Please contact [Michelle Debelak](mailto:michelle.debelak@austin.utexas.edu) at michelle.debelak@austin.utexas.edu with any questions about the Legacy Challenge or your estate planning needs.

As with any decision involving your assets and/or estate, we urge you to seek the advice of your professional counsel when considering a gift to The University of Texas at Austin.