



Donor Advised Funds

Donor advised funds (DAFs) are a useful tool for charitable organizations as well as their donors. They allow for tax-free growth and investment which benefit those with significant financial resources who are looking to support charitable organizations. Increasing access to these funds is critical for growing the philanthropic sector.

NY Funders Alliance Donor Advised Funds Policy Statement:

NY Funders Alliance supports policies that expand and enhance charitable giving, which is why NY Funders Alliance promotes the continued availability of donor advised funds. We oppose any new requirement of a timeframe for donor advised fund distribution and support expanding the IRA charitable rollover to allow gifts to donor advised funds.

Approved: NY Funders Board of Directors, January 2021

Donor freedom is essential to philanthropy.

Tax policy plays a large role in both structuring and encouraging charitable gifts that support nonprofit organizations and their communities. DAFs are the fastest-growing vehicle for charitable giving and grants from these funds account for more than three percent of all giving in the United States and about 13 percent of individual giving. Restrictions of these funds, like instituting a timeframe for distribution or mandating payout requirements, limits potential investments and can stunt the growth of the charitable sector. Access to DAFs should be expanded to support the sector fully.

The IRA charitable rollover, made permanent in December 2015 through the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act, allows taxpayers over age 70 ½ to transfer up to \$100,000 annually from their IRA accounts directly to charity without having to recognize it as income. Unfortunately, DAFs held by community foundations are excluded. By removing this prohibition, philanthropy will benefit. We support expanding the IRA charitable rollover to include DAFs and any changes to DAF requirements that would increase philanthropy and grow the sector.

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