General Instructions

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice.—We ask for this information to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. We need it to ensure that taxpayers are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax. You are required to give us this information.

Purpose of Form

You must attach Form 8283 to your return if you claim a deduction for a charitable contribution of property other than cash (a contribution by check is considered cash) if the total claimed value of all property contributed exceeds $500. Depending on the value and type of property, you may need to complete Section A, Section B, or both.

Who Must File

• Individuals.
• Closely held corporations.
• Personal service corporations.
• Partnerships.
• S corporations.

When To File

File this form with your tax return for the tax year in which you contributed the property and first deducted it on your return.

Which Sections To Complete

Section A.—Include in Section A only items (or groups of similar items) with a fair market value (FMV) of $5,000 or less per item (or group of similar items) and certain publicly traded securities (even if their value exceeds $5,000). The publicly traded securities that are reportable in Section A even if their value exceeds $5,000 are securities which are:

1. Listed on a stock exchange in which quotations are published on a daily basis; or
2. Regularly traded in a national or regional over-the-counter market for which published quotations are available.

Section B.—Include in Section B only items (or groups of similar items) with a FMV of more than $5,000 (except for certain publicly traded securities reportable in Section A).

Similar items of property are items of the same generic category or type, such as stamp collections, coin collections, lithographs, paintings, books, nonpublicly traded stock, land, or buildings.

Example. A taxpayer donated clothing valued at $400, publicly traded securities (quotations for which are published daily) valued at $7,000, and a collection of 15 books to a charitable organization. Each book in the collection is valued at $400 ($6,000 total). The taxpayer should report the clothing and the securities in Section A and the books (which are a group of similar items) in Section B.

With certain exceptions, items reported in Section B will require information based on a written appraisal by a qualified appraiser.

Specific Instructions

Identification Number.—Donors who are individuals must enter their social security number. All other donors should enter their employer identification number.

Partnerships and S Corporations.—A partnership (S corporation) that makes contributions of property with a total claimed FMV over $500 must file Form 8283 with Form 1065 (1120S). If the claimed FMV of any item or group of similar items exceeds $5,000, the partnership (S corporation) must complete Section B of Form 8283 even if the amount allocated to each partner (shareholder) does not exceed $5,000.

The partnership (S corporation) is required to give a copy of the complete Form 8283 to every partner (shareholder) who receives an allocation of a deduction for donated property shown on the partnership’s (S corporation’s) Section B.

Partners and Shareholders.—The partnership (S corporation) will provide you with information on your share of the value of contributed property with your Schedule K-1 (Form 1065 or Form 1120S).

In some cases, the partnership (S corporation) is required to give you a copy of the partnership’s (S corporation’s) Form 8283. In these cases attach a copy of the Form 8283 you received to your tax return. Be sure to deduct the amount shown on your Schedule K-1, not the amount shown on the Form 8283.

If the partnership is not required to give you a copy of Form 8283, combine the amount of noncash contributions shown on Schedule K-1 with any noncash contributions you made to see if you must file Form 8283. If you need to file Form 8283, you do not have to complete all the information requested in Section A for your share of the partnership (S corporation) contributions. Do not complete line 1, columns (a)–(f) and (h). Instead, write “From Schedule K-1 (Form 1065 or 1120S)” across columns (c)–(f). Enter your share of the contribution on line 1, column (g).

Section A

Part I, Information on Donated Property

Line 1, column (b).—Describe the property in sufficient detail. The greater the value, the more detail is needed. For example, a car should be described in greater detail than a contribution of pots and pans.

For securities, the description should include the name of the issuer, kind of security, and whether or not the security is regularly traded on a stock exchange or in an over-the-counter market.

Note: Columns (d), (e), and (f) do not have to be completed if (g) is $500 or less.

Line 1, column (d).—Enter the approximate date you acquired the property. If the property was created, produced, or manufactured by or for you, enter the date the property was substantially completed.

Line 1, column (e).—State how you acquired the property, i.e., by purchase, gift, inheritance, or exchange.

Line 1, column (f).—You do not have to complete this column for:

• Publicly traded securities; or
• Property held 6 months or more for which the information is not available.

If you do not have to complete column (f), be sure to keep your records regarding the property’s cost or other basis.

Note: If you have reasonable cause for not providing the acquisition date in column (d) or the cost basis when required in column (f), attach an explanation.

Line 1, column (g).—Enter the FMV of property on the date you gave it. The FMV is the price a willing buyer would pay a willing seller who neither has to buy or sell and both are aware of the conditions of the sale. If you donate property, other than certain publicly traded stock, with an FMV that is more than your basis in it, you may have to reduce the FMV by all or part of the increase in value when you figure your deduction. The amount of the reduction depends on whether the property is ordinary income property or capital gain property.

Property is ordinary income property if its sale on the date it was contributed would have resulted in ordinary income or in short-term capital gain. Examples of ordinary income property are inventory, works of art created by the donor, and capital assets held for 6 months or less (1 year or less if acquired after 12-31-87). The deduction for a gift of ordinary income property is limited to the FMV less the amount that would be ordinary income if the property were sold at its FMV.

Capital gain property is property that would result in long-term capital gain if it were sold at its FMV on the date of contribution. It includes certain real property and depreciable property used in your trade or business, and generally held for more than 6 years (more than 1 year if acquired after 12-31-87). You may deduct gifts of capital gain property at their FMV. However, you must reduce the FMV by the amount of the appreciation if: the capital gain property is contributed to certain private nonoperating foundations; you choose the 50% limit instead of the special 30% limit; or the contributed property is tangible personal property that is put to an unrelated use by the charity.

Attach a computation showing your reduction to the FMV. For more information, get Publication 526, Charitable Contributions. If you contribute depreciable property, also get Publication 544, Sales and Other Dispositions of Assets.

If your donation qualifies as a “qualified conservation contribution” under section 170(h), attach a statement that shows the claimed FMV of the underlying property before and after the gift and the conservation purpose furthered by the gift.

Line 1, column (h).—Enter the method(s) you used to determine the FMV of your donation. FMV of used household goods and
on Form 8282, Donee Information Return, with the IRS and send a copy to the donor. However, an exception applies to items having a value of $500 or less which are part of a group of similar items contributed. For these items, a donee organization does not have to file Form 8282 if the donor completed and signed the statement in Part III (Section B) of Form 8283. This rule applies only to items clearly identified in Part II as having a value of $500 or less.

Part II, Information on Donated Property

The information provided in Part II must be based on a written appraisal by a qualified appraiser unless the property donated is:

- Nonpublicly traded stock valued at $10,000 or less; or
- Securities for which market quotations are considered to be readily available because the issue satisfies the five requirements established in regulation section 51.86-4.1986-4 I.R.B. 51. At this time this form went to print, final regulations for section 517 were being written that will incorporate the information in this Announcement.

Use Part II to summarize your appraisal or appraisals. Generally, you do not need to attach the appraisals, but you should keep them in your records. For art with an aggregate value of $20,000 or more and donated after December 31, 1987, you must attach a complete copy of the signed appraisal and include an 8 x 10 inch color photograph (or a color transparency, no smaller than 4 x 5 inches). These attachments are optional for art donated before January 1, 1982.

The appraisal must be made not earlier than 60 days before the date you contribute the property. It must be received by you before the due date (including extensions) of the return on which the deduction is first claimed. For a deduction first claimed on an amended return, the appraisal must be received before the date the amended return was filed.

A separate qualified appraisal and a separate Form 8283 is required for each item of property except for an item which is part of a group of similar items of property. Only one qualified appraisal is required for a group of similar items of property contributed in the same tax year, provided the appraisal covers all the required information for each item.

The appraiser may select any items whose aggregate value is appraised at $100 or less for which a group description rather than a specific description of each item will suffice. If similar items of property are given to more than one donee and the total is more than $5,000, a separate Form 8283 must be attached for each.

Note: If the donee organization sells, exchanges, transfers, or otherwise disposes of the property within two years after the date of the receipt of the contribution, the organization must file an information return.

Section B

Part I, Donee Acknowledgment

The donee organization must complete Part I before submitting Form 8283 to the donee for acknowledgment, complete at your name, identification number, and description of the donated property (line 3, column (a)). If tangible property is donated, you must also describe the physical condition of the property (line 4) in the time of the gift. Complete the Taxpayer (Donor) Statement in Part III, if it is applicable, before submitting Form 8283 to the donee. See the instructions for Part III.

The person acknowledging the gift must be an official authorized to sign the tax returns of the organization, or a person specifically designated to sign Form 8283. After completing Part I, the organization must return Form 8283 to you, the donor. A copy of this form must be provided to the donee organization for its records. You may then complete any remaining information required in Part II. Also, Part IV may be completed at this time by the qualified appraiser.

Note: If the donee organization sells, exchanges, transfers, or otherwise disposes of the property within two years after the date of the receipt of the contribution, the organization must file an information return.