

Instructions for Form 8283

(Revised August 1988)

Noncash Charitable Contributions

(Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code, unless otherwise noted.)

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.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is:

Recordkeeping 20 minutes

Learning about the law or the form 25 minutes

Preparing the form 35 minutes

Copying, assembling, and sending the form to IRS 35 minutes

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form more simple, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to either IRS or the Office of Management and Budget at the address listed in the instructions of the tax return with which this form is filed.

Purpose

Use Form 8283 to report certain required information about noncash charitable contributions. Do not report on Form 8283 out-of-pocket expenses for volunteer work or amounts you gave by check or credit card. Treat these items as cash contributions.

Additional information

Do not use this form to figure your charitable deduction. For information on computing the amount of the charitable deduction, see your tax return instructions. You may also want to get **Pub. 526**, Charitable Contributions (for individuals), and **Pub. 561**, Determining the Value of Donated Property. If you contribute depreciable property, get **Pub. 544**, Sales and Other Dispositions of Assets.

Who Must File

You must file Form 8283 if the amount of your deduction for all noncash gifts is more than \$500. (For this purpose, "amount of your deduction" means your deduction BEFORE applying any income limitations that could result in a carryover. The carryover rules are explained in Pub. 526.)

If you must complete Form 8283, you may need to complete Section A, Section B, or both, depending on the type of property and the amount claimed as a deduction. See **Which Sections To Complete**.

Form 8283 is filed only by:

- Individuals
- Partnerships
- S corporations
- Closely held corporations
- Personal service corporations
- Other C corporations

Note: *C corporations, other than personal service corporations and closely held corporations, must file Form 8283 only if the amount claimed as a deduction is over \$5,000 and donated after June 6, 1988.*

Reductions to Fair Market Value (FMV).

—Make any required reductions to FMV before you determine if you must file Form 8283. Attach a computation to your tax return showing the reduction. The amount of the reduction (if any) depends on whether the property is ordinary income property or capital gain property. See the FMV discussion below.

When To File

File Form 8283 with your tax return for the tax year you contribute the property and first claim a deduction.

Fair Market Value (FMV)

Although it is the amount of your deduction that may cause you to file Form 8283, you also need to have information about the value of your contribution to complete the form.

Fair market value (FMV) is the price a willing buyer would pay a willing seller when neither has to buy or sell, and both are aware of the sale conditions.

You may not always be able to deduct the FMV of your contribution. Depending on the type of property donated, you may have to reduce the FMV to get to the deductible amount, as explained below.

Ordinary income property is property that would result in ordinary income or short-term capital gain if it were sold on the date it was contributed. 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 December 31, 1987). 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 months (more than 1 year if acquired after December 31, 1987). You usually 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.

Qualified Conservation Contribution.

—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.

Which Sections To Complete

Section A

Include in Section A only items (or groups of similar items) for which you claimed a deduction of \$5,000 or less

per item (or group of similar items). Also include certain publicly traded securities even if the deduction exceeds \$5,000.

The publicly traded securities you should report in Section A even if the deduction claimed exceeds \$5,000 are:

1. Securities listed on an exchange in which quotations are published daily;
2. Securities regularly traded in national or regional over-the-counter markets for which published quotations are available; or
3. Securities that are shares of a mutual fund for which quotations are published on a daily basis in a newspaper of general circulation throughout the United States.

Section B

Include in Section B only items (or groups of similar items) for which you claimed a deduction 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. You claimed a deduction of \$400 for clothing, \$7,000 for publicly traded securities (quotations published daily), and \$6,000 for a collection of 15 books (\$400 for each book). Report the clothing and the securities in Section A and the books (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.

Special Rule for Contributions of Inventory and Scientific Equipment by Certain C Corporations

A special rule applies for deductions taken by certain C corporations under section 170(e)(3) or (4) for contributions of inventory or scientific equipment. To determine if you must file Form 8283, or which section to complete, take into account only the amount claimed as a deduction in excess of the amount you would have deducted as cost of goods sold (COGS) had you sold the property instead. This rule is **only** for purposes of Form 8283. It does not change the amount or method of computing your contribution deduction.

You must attach a statement to your tax return (similar to the one in the example below) if the rule causes you not to have to file Form 8283. Also

attach it if it causes you to be able to complete Section A instead of Section B.

Example. You donated clothing from your inventory for the care of the needy. The clothing cost you \$5,000 and your claimed charitable deduction is \$8,000. Complete Section A instead of Section B since the excess of the deduction over what would have been your COGS deduction is \$3,000 (\$8,000 - \$5,000). Attach a statement to Form 8283 similar to the following:

Form 8283—Inventory	
\$8,000	contribution deduction
-\$5,000	COGS (if sold, not donated)
=\$3,000	for Form 8283 filing purposes.

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 claims a contribution deduction of over \$500 must file Form 8283 with Form 1065 (1120S). If the total deduction 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) must give a completed copy of Form 8283 to each partner (shareholder) who receives an allocation of the contribution deduction shown on the partnership's (S corporation's) Section B.

Partners and Shareholders

The partnership (S corporation) will provide information about your share of the contribution on your Schedule K-1 (Form 1065 or Form 1120S).

In some cases, the partnership (S corporation) must 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. 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 Form 8283, combine the amount of noncash contributions shown on Schedule K-1 with your noncash contributions to see if you must file. 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 more detail than pots and pans.

For securities, include the following:

- name of the issuer,
- kind of security,
- whether it is regularly traded on a stock exchange or in an over-the-counter market, and
- whether it is a share of a mutual fund.

Note: Columns (d), (e), and (f) do not have to be completed if the amount you claimed as a deduction for the item is \$500 or less.

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

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

Column (f).—Do not complete for:

- Publicly traded securities; or
- Property held 12 months or more (6 months or more if donated in tax years beginning after December 31, 1982, and before June 7, 1988).

Keep records on 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.

Column (g).—Enter the fair market value (FMV) of property on the date you gave it. If you were required to reduce the FMV of your deduction, or if you gave a qualified conservation contribution, you must attach a statement. FMV, reductions to FMV, and the type of statement you may have to attach are explained on page 1.

Column (h).—Enter the method(s) used to determine the FMV of your donation. FMV of used household goods and clothing is usually much lower than when new. For this reason, standard formulas or methods to value this kind of property are generally not appropriate.

A good measure of value might be the price that buyers of these used items actually pay in consignment or thrift shops.

Examples of entries to make include "Appraisal," "Thrift shop value" (for clothing or household goods), "Catalog" (for stamp or coin collections), or "Comparable sales" (for real estate and other kinds of assets). See Pub. 561.

Part II, Other Information

Attach a separate statement if Part II applies to more than one property. Give the required information for each property separately. Identify which property listed in Part I the information relates to.

Line 2

Complete lines 2(a)–2(e) only if you contributed less than the entire interest in the donated property during the tax year. Enter on line 2(b) the amount claimed as a deduction for this year and in any earlier tax years for gifts of a partial interest in the same property. If the organization that received the prior interest in the property is the same as the one listed on line 1, column (a), do not complete line 2(c).

Line 3

Complete lines 3(a)–3(c) only if you attached restrictions to the right to the income, use, or disposition of the donated property. Attach a statement explaining:

- The terms of any agreement or understanding regarding the restriction; and
- Whether the property is designated for a particular use.

An example of a "restricted use" is furniture that you gave only to be used in the reading room of an organization's library.

Section B

Part I, Donee Acknowledgment

The donee organization must complete Part I. Before submitting page 2 of Form 8283 to the donee for acknowledgment, complete at least your name, identification number, and description of the donated property (line 3, column (a)). If tangible property is donated, also describe its physical condition (line 3, column (b)) at the time of the gift. Complete the Taxpayer (Donor) Statement in Part III, if applicable, before submitting the form 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 Section B of this form must be provided to the

donee organization. You may then complete any remaining information required in Part II. Also, Part IV may be completed at this time by the qualified appraiser.

In rare and unusual circumstances, it may be impossible to get the donee's signature on the appraisal summary. The deduction will not be disallowed for that reason if you attach a detailed explanation why it was impossible.

Note: *If the donee (or a successor donee) organization disposes of the property within 2 years after the date the original donee received it, the organization must file Form 8282, Donee Information Return, with IRS and send a copy to the donor. An exception applies to items having a value of \$500 or less if the donor identified the items and signed the statement in Part III (Section B) of Form 8283. See the instructions for Part III.*

Part II, Information on Donated Property

You must have a written appraisal from a qualified appraiser that supports the information in Part II. **Exception:** You do not need a written appraisal if the property is:

1. Nonpublicly traded stock of \$10,000 or less;
2. Securities for which market quotations are readily available. See Regulations section 1.170A-13(c)(7)(xi); or
3. Property donated by C corporations (other than closely held corporations and personal service corporations) after June 6, 1988.

Use Part II to summarize your appraisal(s). Generally, you do not need to attach the appraisals, but you should keep them for your records.

Exception: *If your total deduction for art is \$20,000 or more, 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).*

Appraisal Requirements

The appraisal must be made not earlier than 60 days before the date you contribute the property. You must receive it before the due date (including extensions) of the return on which you first claim it as a deduction. 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 are required for each item of property except for an item which is part of a group of similar

items. Only one appraisal is required for a group of similar items contributed in the same tax year, if it includes 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 you gave similar items to more than one donee for which you claimed a deduction of more than \$5,000, you must attach a separate form for each donee.

Example. *You claimed a deduction of \$2,000 for books given to College A, \$2,500 for books given to College B, and \$900 for books given to a public library. You must attach a separate Form 8283 for each donee.*

See Regulations section 1.170A-13(c)(3)(i)–(ii) for the definition of a "qualified appraisal" and information to be included in the appraisal.

Line 3

Note: *You must complete at least column (a) of line 3 (also column (b) if applicable) before submitting Form 8283 to the donee. You may then complete the remaining columns.*

Column (a).—Describe the property in enough detail so that a person not familiar with it could tell that the property appraised is the property that was contributed.

Column (c).—Include the FMV from the appraisal. If one was not required, include the FMV you determine to be correct.

Columns (d)–(f).—If you have reasonable cause for not providing the information for any of these columns, attach an explanation so that your deduction won't be automatically disallowed.

Column (g).—A bargain sale is a transfer of property which is in part a sale or exchange, and in part a contribution. Enter the amount received ("consideration") for bargain sales after June 6, 1988.

Column (h).—Complete column (h) only if you were not required to get an appraisal, as explained earlier.

Column (i).—Complete column (i) only if you donated securities for which market quotations are considered to be readily available because the issue satisfies the 5 requirements described in Regulations section 1.170A-13(c)(7)(xi)(B).

Part III, Taxpayer (Donor) Statement

If you (the donor) complete Part III, the donee is relieved of filing Form 8282 for items valued at \$500 or less. (See

the **Note** in Part I instructions of this section for more information on the filing of Form 8282 by the donee.)

Complete Part III only for items included in Part II that have an appraised value of \$500 or less per item. Be sure to clearly identify these items in Part III. This is necessary because the donee may not know the value of the donated property, since you are not required to show it in Part II on the donee's copy of Form 8283.

The amount of information you give in Part III depends on the description of the donated property you enter in Part II. If you separately show a single item as "Property A" in Part II, and that item is appraised at \$500 or less, then the entry "Property A" in Part III is enough. However, if "Property A" consists of several items and the total appraised value is over \$500, list in Part III any item(s) you gave that is (are) valued at \$500 or less.

All shares of nonpublicly traded stock, or items in a set, are considered one item. For example, a book collection by the same author, components of a stereo system, or six place settings of a pattern of silverware are one item for the \$500 test.

Example. *You donated books valued at \$6,000. The appraisal states that one of the items, a collection of books by author "X" is worth \$400. On the Form*

8283 that you are required to give the donee, you decide not to show the appraised value of all of the books. But you also don't want the donee to have to file Form 8282 if the collection of books is sold. If on line 3 of Part II your description of Property A includes all the books, then specify in Part III the "collection of books by X included in Property A." But if in Part II your Property A description is "collection of books by X," the only required entry in Part III is "Property A."

In the above example you may have instead chosen to give a completed copy of Form 8283 to the donee. The donee would then be aware of the value. If in Part II you include all the books as Property A, and thus enter \$6,000 in column (c), you may still want to describe the specific collection in Part III so the donee can sell it without filing Form 8282.

Part IV, Certification of Appraiser

If you had to get an appraisal, the appraiser **MUST** complete Part IV to be considered qualified. See Regulations section 1.170A-13(c)(5) for a definition of a qualified appraiser.

Persons who cannot be qualified appraisers are listed in the Certification of Appraiser (Part IV) of Form 8283. Usually, a party to the transaction will not qualify to sign the certification. But

a person who sold, exchanged, or gave the property to the donor may sign the certification if the property is donated within 2 months of the date the donor acquired it and the property's appraised value does not exceed its acquisition price.

An appraiser may not be considered qualified if the donor had knowledge of facts that would cause a reasonable person to expect the appraiser falsely to overstate the value of the property. An example of this is an agreement between you and the appraiser about the property value when you know that the agreed amount exceeds the actual FMV.

Usually, appraisal fees cannot be based on a percentage of the appraised value unless the fees were paid to certain not-for-profit associations. See Regulations section 1.170A-13(c)(6)(ii).

Failure To File Form 8283, Section B

If you donate property required to be reported in Section B and you fail to attach the form to your return, the deduction will be disallowed unless your failure was due to a good faith omission. If IRS asks you to submit the form, you have 90 days to send a completed Section B of Form 8283 before your deduction is disallowed.