

Use Your IRA to Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution to Protect the Ocean

You can make a gift to Ocean Conservancy directly from your IRA with a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). A QCD can offer you many benefits:

Your Benefits:

1. Avoid paying income taxes on the amount you donate.*
 2. Fulfill part or all of your required minimum distribution for the year.
 3. Transfer up to a total of \$100,000 each year or \$200,000 for married couples.
 4. Make a meaningful gift to preserve our ocean and protect marine wildlife.
- You must be 70 ½ years old or older at the time of your gift.
 - Your gift must be transferred directly from your IRA to Ocean Conservancy.
 - You can use a QCD to satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution for the year. A QCD can exceed your RMD amount for the year as long as your QCD gift to all organizations do not exceed the \$100,000 (for individuals) or \$200,000 (for married couples) annual limit.
 - Complete your transfer before December 31 for tax benefits this year. You should initiate your year-end transfer prior to December to ensure that the transfer is completed by December 31. Gifts made by IRA checkbook and received by Ocean Conservancy after December 15 may not arrive in time for the IRA custodian to count the gift as a distribution for the current year.

**Please be aware that under the 2019 SECURE Act, people who turned age 70.5 after December 31, 2019 can delay taking their Required Minimum Distribution until age 72. However, they may still make a Qualified Charitable Distribution starting at age 70.5. In addition, people may continue to contribute to their IRA after age 70.5 under certain circumstances. Both of these situations impact the tax benefits available with a QCD. Please consult your financial advisor to discuss how this may impact your tax benefits.*

We provide the following letters as examples for your use. The first is an IRA distribution request letter to send to your IRA Administrator. We hope you will also use the sample letter to write your own letter informing us of your forthcoming charitable IRA distribution. Notifying us of your intention enables us to provide proper acknowledgement to you — acknowledgement the IRS requires.

1. Sample Request Letter from Plan Owner to Administrator for a Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA

Re: Request for Qualified Charitable Distribution from Individual Retirement Account

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please accept this letter as my request to make a direct charitable distribution in the amount of \$ [amount] from my Individual Retirement Account # [account number] as provided by the Internal Revenue Code, Section 208, regarding qualified gifts from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA).

Distributions should be made payable to:

Ocean Conservancy, 1300 19th Street NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20036, taxpayer ID 23-7245152.

My contact at Ocean Conservancy is Rick Wells, who can be reached by calling 800-519-1541 or by e-mail at oceanlegacy@oceanconservancy.org.

In your transmittal to Ocean Conservancy, please memorialize my name and address as the donor of record in connection with this transfer. Please copy me on your transmittal. If you have any questions or need to contact me, I can be reached at [telephone #].

Sincerely,

(Your signature)

Your name

2. Sample Letter of Intent Informing Ocean Conservancy of a Forthcoming Qualified Charitable Distribution from IRA

Rick Wells
Director, Planned Giving
Ocean Conservancy
1300 19th Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Rick,

It is my pleasure to inform you that I have requested a qualified charitable distribution from my Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to Ocean Conservancy in the amount of \$ [amount] from my plan trustee/administrator, [name of IRA trustee/administrator]. It is my intention to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, Section 408(d)(8), regarding qualified gifts from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) in connection with this gift.

Accordingly, upon your receipt of payment from my trustee/administrator, please send me a written acknowledgement that states the amount of my gift, that no goods or services were transferred to me by Ocean Conservancy in consideration for this gift, and that my gift will not be placed in a donor advised fund or supporting organization. Even though I receive an acknowledgement of this distribution, I understand that there is no federal charitable income tax deduction for this distribution.

If you have any questions or need to contact me, I can be reached at [telephone #].

Sincerely,

(Your name)

***We would be happy to answer any questions you may have about this material.
Please call us at 800-519-1541.***