2026 · CAN I DO A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION FROM MY IRA?

RETIRE RIGHT FINANCIAL PLANNING

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Do you have a traditional IRA, inherited IRA, inherited Roth IRA, SEP IRA, or SIMPLE IRA?

- No → Sorry, you are not eligible for a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).
- Yes → Will you be at least 70.5 at the time you plan to make the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)?
  - No → Sorry, you must be at least age 70.5 before you can make a QCD.
  - Yes → Is the IRA actively receiving any employer contributions (SEP IRA or SIMPLE IRA)?
    - Yes → Sorry, you are not eligible for a QCD if you are still receiving employer contributions.
    - No → Are you married and do you file a joint income tax return?
      - Yes → The dollar amount of your total QCDs cannot exceed $222k (limited to $111k per taxpayer).
      - No → The dollar amount of the QCD cannot exceed $111k.
        - This can satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), if you are subject to one. Be mindful of the "first dollars out" rule.
        - The QCD will be reduced by the cumulative amount of any deductible IRA contributions made after you turned age 70.5.
        - Is the recipient a private foundation or donor-advised fund?
          - Yes → Sorry, these charitable recipients do not qualify to receive a QCD.
          - No → You are eligible for a QCD. Distributions to scholarship funds, designated funds, charitable remainder trusts (CRTs), and charitable gift annuities (CGAs) are qualified as well. CRTs and CGAs are subject to limitations.
            - Here's the process for doing a QCD:
            - Communicate with your IRA's custodian.
            - Make the request in writing.
            - Specify the dollar amount.
            - Request the check be made payable to the charity, but mailed to you.
            - Forward the check to the charity and request a receipt.
            - Maintain the records in your tax file.
            - Report the QCD on your Form 1040. Your taxable IRA distributions (but not your gross IRA distributions) will be reduced by the amount of the QCD.

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