

Are you looking to leave a bequest to the University of Mary Washington?

Thank you for considering a bequest to our organization! We'd like to help make it as easy as possible for you. Here are some suggestions for how to proceed:

1. Make your estate plan at no cost, through our partnership with FreeWill (www.freewill.com/marywashington). It takes about 20 minutes to create a legally valid will. You'll be prompted during the process to enter the details of your bequest.
2. If you'd prefer to work with a lawyer, here is some suggested language that will ensure your gift is carried out as you intended. If there is a specific program or purpose you'd like your bequest to support, we encourage you to speak with our development staff to determine what would be most impactful for UMW.

Most bequestors choose to either leave a fixed dollar amount, or a percentage of their residual estate.

Sample language

Bequest with a specific designation.

[Number]%/[Amount] shall be distributed to University of Mary Washington Foundation, a nonprofit organization, EIN 54-0169627, with an address at 1119 Hanover Street, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401, or its lawful successor, to be used in support of [Program/Purpose]; provided, however, that if the preceding instruction should become impossible or impractical to fulfill as determined by the Board of Directors (or equivalent governing body) of the beneficiary, the beneficiary may use this gift as determined by its Board of Directors (or equivalent governing body).

Bequest without a specific designation.

[Number]%/[\$Amount] shall be distributed to University of Mary Washington Foundation, a nonprofit organization, EIN 54-0169627, with an address at 1119 Hanover Street, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401, or its lawful successor, to be used as determined by the Board of Directors (or equivalent governing body).

Residual Bequest

I hereby give and bequeath all (or a percentage) the rest, residue and remainder of my property of every kind and description and wherever located unto the University of Mary Washington Foundation, Inc. 1119 Hanover Street, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401, to provide funding for the _____ (program, department or endowment) at the University of Mary Washington OR the program in need determined by the administration and Board of Directors of the University of Mary Washington Foundation.”

Contingent Bequest

If my brother John Doe survives me, I devise and bequeath ____% of the remainder and residue of property owned at my death, whether real or personal, and wherever located to John Doe. If John Doe does not survive me, then I devise and bequeath ____% of my residuary estate, whether real or personal property and wherever located to University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA.