



What is a bequest?

A bequest is the simplest and most common planned gift. A bequest in your will or revocable trust can complement your lifestyle and commitments today while supporting the National WWI Museum and Memorial tomorrow.

A bequest from a will or a trust distribution to the Museum and Memorial is fully deductible for federal estate tax purposes, and there is no limit on the deduction your estate can claim. In addition, the gift is usually exempt from state inheritance taxes. Donors often choose a bequest because:

It is not payable until death, so it does not affect your assets or cash flow during your lifetime.

It is revocable — you can change the provisions in your will or trust at any time.

It is private — your will is not filed or made public until your death. What if I already have a will or trust? You can amend a will or trust to make a gift without rewriting the entire document. Your attorney can prepare a simple document, called a codicil, which adds a new bequest to the Museum and Memorial, while reaffirming the other terms of your will. Similarly, an attorney can prepare an amendment to a revocable trust to add the National WWI Museum and Memorial as a beneficiary.

What is the difference between a will and a trust?

A will is your instruction manual to survivors about how you want your property distributed. It is a revocable, private document that only takes effect after your death. A revocable trust is an entity that holds assets during your lifetime, then transfers ownership of them — or benefit from them — upon your death. There is no difference between wills and trusts in how they make charitable transfers.

Legal Designation

If you wish to name The National WWI Museum and Memorial in your will or estate plan, we should be named as: The National WWI Museum and Memorial, a nonprofit corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Missouri, with principal business address of 2 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, MO 64108.

Tax ID:

Our tax identification number is: 43-6052673.

Date of Incorporation:

October 1920

The National WWI Museum and Memorial is tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a 509 (a) (2).