



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

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1. What is Phil?

“Phil” is short for *philanthropy*. We use the nickname “Phil” to refer to anyone who makes a gift to support the university, as well as those who benefit from private support. Philanthropy has far-reaching effects on campus—donations help provide scholarships to deserving students, recruit and reward the best and brightest professors, and make cutting-edge technology available for researchers and clinicians. It also strengthens our athletic programs, enhances our libraries collections, and so much more. Private support touches everyone on this campus. We all are Phil, in one way or another.

2. What is We Are Phil?

We Are Phil is the faculty/staff giving program at the University of Iowa, and it is an annual effort to involve UI employees in advancing our university. The program provides ongoing support to the university from our own faculty and staff, who give to the UI area they care about most.

3. What are the goals of the We Are Phil faculty/staff giving program?

- Raise awareness about the importance of philanthropy at Iowa
- Strengthen the culture of philanthropy among UI employees and show that we support our university
- Increase annual giving participation, year after year, to not only provide support for the university but also demonstrate our exemplary commitment to the university's mission

4. What are the We Are Phil crowdfunding opportunities?

This is the second year faculty and staff can give to specific causes through "micro" crowdfunding campaigns. Areas across campus will submit ideas for initiatives that will be featured on the We Are Phil, Powered by GOLDrush site (goldrush.uiowa.edu/g/wap), and volunteers will help execute a two-week crowdfunding campaign, from Sept. 24 to Oct. 5, 2018, which overlaps with the 2018 We Are Phil week. If your area is interested in submitting an idea, you should complete an [application](#) by Friday, Aug. 10, 2018. Please contact Theresa Jubert, at theresa.jubert@foriowa.org, for more information.

5. Why is Phil (private support) so important to the University of Iowa?

Philanthropic support from our alumni, friends, faculty, and staff helps fund vital initiatives throughout campus that enhance the University of Iowa and ensure its success. Although the UI is a proudly public institution, legislative appropriations now provide a decreasing percentage of the UI's total budget. Only through increased levels of philanthropy can the UI retain its position among the nation's top universities. Philanthropy will help the UI continue to serve its students and the society they will someday lead.

6. Where can I see Phil around campus?

The positive impact of philanthropy is visible throughout campus. Gifts from alumni, friends, faculty, and staff have provided resources to help the university cover a wide range of expenses such as these:

More than 2,800 UI **students** receive support directly from privately funded scholarships, and more than 200 **faculty members** hold named professorships, chairs, or deanships made possible by gifts from generous donors. Many of them would not be on this campus without that extra support.

Philanthropy also plays a major role in building and updating university **facilities** in every area of campus—including University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital, the Beckwith Boathouse, Voxman Music Building, and the Adler Journalism and Mass Communication Building on the main campus, to name just a few.

Everything that costs money on this campus, helps you do your job, or enhances your life as a community member—**laboratory equipment, dance costumes, classroom technology, scholarly travel, library collections, medical research, continuing education**—can be, and often is, supported by gifts from donors at all levels.

7. Why is it important for faculty and staff to give back?

In addition to the resources your gifts help make available, your participation also demonstrates—to students and their parents, alumni, friends, donors, public officials, and others who support Iowa—that UI faculty and staff believe in the UI's mission and in the power of higher education. That's a powerful endorsement and can enhance our ability to garner support (financial and otherwise) from potential supporters outside the university.

8. Other employers do not ask their employees to give part of their paycheck back. Why should I do this for the university?

The University of Iowa has no stakeholders more important than the dedicated people who work here, and no one understands more deeply the value of the work being done on this campus. While giving back is by no means a requirement, it is your opportunity to invest in the university in the same way that external donors—our devoted alumni and friends—give back to show their appreciation for the difference that the UI has made in their lives. **By giving of yourselves every day through your work, you help make the UI a remarkable institution.** But many faculty and staff want to do more—and giving back is one way to go above and beyond what the university requires. In fiscal year 2018, more than 2,700 UI faculty and staff members chose to support the university with monetary gifts.

9. When will faculty/staff be asked to give?

During We Are Phil week (Oct. 1–5, 2018), volunteers across the university will plan events and activities to encourage giving within their colleges, departments, and units. This annual effort—combining an intense, campuswide communication effort—coupled with volunteer-led activities throughout campus, places an emphasis on participation and collective impact. Each year, We Are Phil will ask faculty and staff to make gifts to the colleges, programs, or areas they find most meaningful.

Many UI faculty and staff already are being asked to make annual gifts by the college or program from which they graduated, or by areas they have supported in the past. Each fall, all regular, permanent UI employees who work half-time or more will be asked to give, specifically because they are faculty and staff of the university. All gifts made between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019, will be counted toward this year’s faculty/staff participation rates—whether you respond to We Are Phil mailings or activities or another donation request.

10. What if I already gave this year?

Thank you for already being Phil! Every gift you give to the university is greatly appreciated and makes a difference. If you made a gift to any area of the university on or after July 1, 2018—or if you have an ongoing payroll deduction—your contribution will be counted in the fiscal year 2019 We Are Phil campaign. We hope you will continue to give annually to support the UI causes you believe in.

11. How do I make my gift?

You can make a gift in several different ways—accessible via our website:

foriowa.org/facultystaff

Payroll withholding—Have your contribution taken out of your UI paycheck by establishing an ongoing monthly pledge or by designating a total gift amount divided over a specified number of pay periods. Activate payroll giving online (foriowa.org/facultystaff), or return a Payroll Withholding form (wp.foriowa.org/facultystaff/giving) to us. Payroll deductions also can be made by phone, by calling Gift Accounting at 319-467-3838.

Credit Card—Make a credit card gift online (givetoiowa.org), mail it in with a contribution form (available at wp.foriowa.org/facultystaff/giving) or call us at 319-467-3838 to arrange a gift.

Check—You may print a contribution form at wp.foriowa.org/facultystaff/giving and mail it to us with your check. Make checks payable to “University of Iowa Center for Advancement” and mail to:

WE ARE PHIL

UPDATED JULY 2018

P.O. Box
4550
Iowa City, IA
52244-4550

12. May I designate my gifts to a particular area of the university?

Yes! You can give to any UI area(s) or program(s) you are passionate about. **Hundreds of university causes can accept donations online**—from libraries to labs; medical research to student organizations; faculty fellowships and professorships, continuing-education resources for staff, and scholarships for students; and any college on campus. Find your philanthropic interest at givetoioowa.org, or contact us by calling 319-467-3838.

13. Am I allowed to give to my own college/department/research fund?

Yes. It is perfectly permissible for you to direct your We Are Phil contributions to the colleges or departments where you work—or to support a fund that directly empowers the work you and your colleagues do.

14. Do I have to give to my own department?

No. Where you give is entirely up to you. You may give to a fund in your area or to a fund that is completely unrelated to the work you do. There are thousands of funds that are accepting gifts on behalf of UI colleges, organizations, and programs. Please make a contribution to an area that matters to you, in an amount that feels right for you.

15. How much should I give?

The amount of your gift is entirely up to you. No gift to the University of Iowa is too small. Your participation in We Are Phil—and your dedication to the UI’s bright future—is what’s most important.

16. Is my gift confidential?

We recognize that when you give, you are entrusting us with personal, private information. We respect this act of trust and strive to maintain the confidentiality of our giving records. Some information may be subject to disclosure upon request pursuant to Iowa’s public-records law.

We maintain, for our internal use in fulfilling our mission, a database system of alumni and friends of the university. More detailed information about our policy on safeguarding information is available at: foriowa.org/accountability/safeguarding.php.

17. Is my gift tax deductible?

We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. You will receive a receipt from us for tax purposes.

18. How will I know my gift is used for its intended purpose?

Fulfilling donor intent is central to our mission. Our policies, practices, and procedures exist to assure that gifts to the university will be used as donors have directed. Our Donor Intent Policy (foriowa.org/accountability/donor-intent.php) details our past and ongoing commitment to fulfilling donors’ gift intent.

19. How do I learn more about including the University of Iowa in my retirement or estate plans?

You can find basic information about your options for planned giving on our website: uifoundation.planningyourlegacy.org. If you have questions about including the university in your long-term plans, or would like to let us know about a bequest, please call 335-3305 and ask for Susan Hagan or another member of our Planned Giving team. Your planned gift will count as participation in We Are Phil for the fiscal year in which you make the designation.

20. Is there a minimum gift amount?

We will accept gifts of any size, however, a couple of our contribution methods do have minimum gift levels:

- Online giving: Minimum \$10 gift
- Payroll withholding: Minimum of \$5 per fund, per month
- Crowdfunding: \$10 gift

21. What is the UI Center for Advancement?

Our mission is to advance the University of Iowa through engagement and philanthropy. A nonprofit IRC Sec. 501(c)(3) organization, the UI Center for Advancement is an independent organization and the preferred channel for private contributions that benefit all areas of the University of Iowa. Located in the Levitt Center for University Advancement, we are governed by a volunteer [board of directors](#) that elects our officers and appoints our leadership. Our work is also guided by our volunteer [Alumni Leadership Council](#), which serves as the university's alumni advisory body and includes alumni representing areas across campus.