

## LEAVE YOUR LEGACY THROUGH ENDOWMENTS



While all gifts benefit WMU, endowments are particularly meaningful as they offer an ongoing source of funding, providing ongoing support that makes a lasting impact for our students and those who serve them.

### **Leave your legacy**

Imagine making a contribution that makes an impact for generations to come. This lasting legacy can easily be made through the establishment of an endowed fund at Western Michigan University Foundation. Endowments enable WMU to attract excellent students, support exceptional faculty and expand and develop new programs by providing a steady, consistent and perpetual source of income. This steady stream of funding ensures access for the best and brightest students, allows us to recruit and retain outstanding faculty, and provides access to an outstanding education.

### **Ensure your Bronco Legacy or honor a loved one**

Endowments are an excellent way to continue your Bronco connection beyond your lifetime or honor a member of your family, a mentor or a loved one. Once you have created a named endowment, your gift becomes part of WMU's heritage and tradition.

## How endowments work

Endowed funds differ from others in that the total amount of the gift is invested. Each year, only a portion of the income earned is spent while the remainder is added to the original gift or “principal” for growth. In this respect, an endowment is a perpetual gift. WMU endowments begin at \$30,000, funded fully at once or pledged over a period of up to five years. Endowments may also be established or increased with a planned gift in a will or trust or otherwise arranged for in an estate plan.

### Example:

- A WMU alumna makes a \$30,000 gift to establish a named endowed scholarship in memory of her mother.
- A gift agreement is drawn up between WMUF and the donor to define the endowment’s purpose and restrictions.
- The gift is invested, along with other endowed funds, to maximize long-term total return within acceptable levels of risk within the investment policy approved by the WMUF Board of Trustees.
- A portion of the income earned (currently 4.5%) is allocated annually for the purpose the donor intends. The fund’s principal remains intact.
- The remainder of the income earned is reinvested in the named fund’s principal for growth.
- The named fund continues to grow, ensuring future support.

**Your Support Helps Tomorrow’s Broncos Thrive!**

### Connect with us:

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**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
Gift Planning

*Western Michigan University Foundation (Federal Tax ID Number: 38-2138856) is a tax-exempt charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. The Office of Gift Planning does not provide legal, tax or financial advice. When considering planning matters, seek the advice of your own legal, tax or financial professionals.*