



Comparing Personal Approaches to Giving

	SDF Donor Advised Funds	Private/Family Foundation	Supporting Organization	Commercial Gift Fund
Starting the Fund or Foundation	Established at SDF	Nonprofit corporation created by donor	Nonprofit corporation created with SDF assistance	Established at Commercial Brokerage Firm
Start-up Costs	No cost to donor	Similar to establishing a new corporation: substantial legal, accounting and operational start-up costs	Minimal costs through collaboration with SDF	Varies
Tax Status	Shares the public charity tax exempt status of SDF	Applies for private fdn. tax exempt status from the IRS	Obtains public charity tax exempt status via SDF	Shares the public charity tax exempt status of gift fund
Charitable Deductions				
• Cash Gifts	Tax deduction of up to 50% of adjusted gross income	Tax deduction is limited to 30% of adjusted gross income	Tax deduction of up to 50% of adjusted gross income	Tax deduction of up to 50% of adjusted gross income
• Appreciated Property	Tax deduction available for full market value and up to 30% of adjusted gross income	Tax deduction limited to 20% of adjusted gross income and in some cases is limited to donor's cost basis	Tax deduction available for full market value and up to 30% of adjusted gross income	Tax deduction available for full market value and up to 30% of adjusted gross income
Privacy	Availability of information is at donor's discretion	Tax returns are public records, they are compiled into grantseeker directories and available on the internet	Similar to a private foundation	Varies within brokerage firms
Fiduciary Responsibility	SDF fulfills the associated fiduciary responsibilities	Board has full fiduciary responsibility	Administrative guidance provided by SDF	Similar to SDF
Payout Requirements	Do not apply	Must pay out 5% of asset value annually regardless of annual income	Do not apply	Do not apply
Self-Dealing Rules	Private foundation self-dealing rules do not apply	Strict regulations prohibit most transactions between a private fdn. and its donors (including related persons or corp.)	Private foundation self-dealing rules do not apply	Similar to SDF
Donor Involvement	Donor makes advisory grant recommendations - final decisions rest with SDF	Donor retains control over investments and grantmaking, subject to IRS requirements	Donor holds significant organizational influence, may appoint minority of the board	Similar to SDF
Administrative Concerns (Personnel, facility, gift and grant management)	Services provided by SDF with personalized services available	Must establish and/or obtain these services	Affiliation with SDF provides access to existing services	Varies, minimal personalization
Grantmaking Support	Full service grantmaking research, analysis monitoring, and follow up	Must hire staff or consultant	Full service available at SDF (negotiated)	Not available
Administrative Costs	Minimal (0.5% - 2.0%)	Administration can be costly	Shared by SDF and therefore fees are competitive	Varies
Annual Taxes	None	Subject to excise tax of up to 2% of net investment gain including net capital gains	None	None
Annual Tax Filings and Returns	Not required (reported as part of SDF's annual reporting)	Required with supporting schedules	Prepared and filed by TSDf (applicable filing cost)	Not required (reported as part of Gift Fund)
Investments	Fund assets are professionally invested through SDF	Must research and secure its own investment vehicles	May use professional investment services offered by SDF or outside services	Through Brokerage Firm