



## **Gift Acceptance Policy**

### **General Philosophy Regarding Gifts and Purpose of this Policy**

University of Silicon Andhra, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation (the “University”) welcomes and relies on gifts of all sizes to provide programs, courses, financial aid, faculty development, research, facilities, and other aspects of a world-class university. We take pride in the generosity of the University’s supporters, and we would not exist without them.

Accordingly, to protect the University as well as its donors, the University strives to ensure that all gifts it accepts are appropriate and reflect the University’s values. The purpose of this policy is to set forth the basic principles by which the University will solicit and accept gifts.

### **General Policy**

In general, all gifts should be handled as required for a tax-exempt institution, gifts should be in amounts appropriate to carry out their specified use, gifts should not compromise the University’s mission or reputation, and the process for making and accepting a gift should follow all relevant University policies and ethical standards.

If the University’s President determines that a proposed gift may not comply with these guidelines or is otherwise not in the best interests of the University, the President shall refer the proposed gift to the Board of Trustees for review, and a recommendation for a final decision.

### **Reasons for Rejecting Gifts**

A gift will not be accepted if any of the following apply/applies:

- The funds or property donated were acquired by other than legal means, or that clear title to the donated asset does not flow directly from the donor to the University.
- The funds or property donated were acquired by means that, in the judgment of the University, exploited workers or certain groups of people in a manner (whether unlawful or otherwise) that conflicts with the University’s values.
- The gift, in the judgment of the University, is too restrictive in purpose, requires expenditures beyond the University’s resources, or compromises the academic freedom of the University community.
- The gift, in the judgment of the University, is not aligned with the University’s mission, priorities, or values.
- The gift, its intended purpose, or its association with its donor, in the judgment of the University, could inflict damage on the University’s reputation, standing or integrity.

- The gift is deemed reciprocal (i.e., given with the expectation of an exchange for something of value from the University).
- The gift is in a foreign currency, is comprised of foreign securities, or has a highly speculative value such that it would be overly burdensome for the University to accept or make use of the gift.

### **Anonymous Gifts**

At the request of a donor, the University may treat a gift as anonymous, but a gift may not be treated as anonymous for the purpose of hiding the identity of the donor or the gift's origins, either for the benefit of the donor or with the intent to attempt to shield the University from damage to its reputation.

### **Restricted Gifts**

The University may accept a gift restricted for a specific program or purposes, provided that it is not too restrictive. Gifts that are too restrictive include those that interfere with the University's discretion and use of the donated funds by, among other things, earmarking the gift for the benefit of specific individual(s), requiring the donor's approval regarding use of the gift, and/or restricting the University's ability to use, sell, or otherwise transfer the gift as it deems appropriate.

### **No Endorsements**

The acceptance of a gift does not imply nor mean that the University endorses or approves of a donor's views, religion, opinions, businesses, or activities.

### **Due Diligence**

Before any major gift to the University is accepted, the University shall conduct due diligence to ensure the gift complies with this policy. The University's Board of Trustees will adopt due diligence procedures for major gift acceptance.

### **Corporate Matching Gifts**

Gifts received in cash from companies or other organizations to match gifts of cash or securities by individuals associated with such companies or organizations will be allocated to the same purpose as the donor's gift, unless certain rules prohibit such allocation. The University books matching gifts on the record of the matching company or organization and issues receipts to the matching companies and organizations. Matching gifts could be counted towards a donor's pledge if requested by the donor and approved by the President. In the event any gift that has been matched is returned to the donor, the matching gift will also be returned to the company or organization that issued the matching gift.

### **New Information about Accepted Gifts**

There may be circumstances in which the University has accepted a gift but later learns new information that, if such information were known at the time of acceptance, would have made the gift ineligible for acceptance. There may also be circumstances in which the University

learns that it erred in accepting a gift. In such circumstances, the University may, in its judgment, decide to take action that may include returning the gift to the donor. The specific action taken, if any, will depend on the specific circumstances of the case and any legal restrictions.

### **Gift Repurposing and Redirecting**

The University may repurpose an unspent or endowed gift to a new use if, due to changes in university programs or applicable laws and regulations, the gift cannot be used as originally intended. In repurposing gifts, the University will strive to direct a gift to a new use that conforms as closely as possible to the donor's intent. Depending on the terms of the gift agreement, the University may need donor permission before repurposing a gift, and it will seek to repurpose gifts pursuant to the terms of the original agreements. Similarly, there may be circumstances that require a gift to be redirected to another non-profit organization, and in such cases, the University will follow any terms of the gift agreement in doing so.

### **Gift Documentation**

The University will document gifts in accordance with all applicable laws and rules for non-profit organizations.

### **Donor Bill of Rights**

The University endorses the Donor Bill of Rights that was created by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP), the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), and the Giving Institute: Leading Consultants to Non-Profits. The Donor Bill of Rights can be found at:  
<https://afpglobal.org/donor-bill-rights>