



Charity Navigator's Guide To Workplace Giving

Each year, billions of dollars are donated to America's charities through workplace giving campaigns. Chances are that if you work at a corporation or for the federal government, you've had the opportunity to participate in one of these programs.

While workplace giving was designed to improve America's charities' efficiencies, benefits exist for both the employee and participating charity. For the employee, these programs offer the convenience of automatic payroll deductions without losing the tax benefits of charitable giving. Since employers often match employee contributions, workplace giving provides the employee with the opportunity to directly influence their company's philanthropic endeavors. For the charity, even a small pledge from an employee makes an impact when it is increased by the employer's matching funds.

Charity Navigator, America's largest evaluator of charities, offers the following 6 tips as a guide for employees who donate through workplace giving programs.

1. Examine your values to determine which causes you want to support.
2. Review your personal finances to determine how much you can afford to give.
3. Learn how the participating charities were pre-screened and back it up with your own research.
4. Find out what percentage of your donation is going to the charities you've chosen.
5. Maximize the amount of money going to charity by reviewing your employer's matching program.
6. At the end of the year, find out how your donations were put to use.

www.charitynavigator.org