November 2026

kopsa otte™

Giving Back and Making Your Charitable Donations Count

New Tax Rules for Charitable Giving

Beginning in 2026, new charitable deduction rules could affect both taxpayers who take the standard deduction and those who itemize deductions.

A New Deduction for Taxpayers Who Don't Itemize

Beginning in 2026, taxpayers who take the standard deduction may deduct qualifying cash charitable contributions of up to $1,000 for individuals or $2,000 for married couples filing jointly. The contribution must be a qualifying cash contribution made directly to an eligible charity, and certain gifts, including those to donor-advised funds, do not qualify.

A New Limitation for Taxpayers Who Itemize

Beginning in 2026, itemized charitable contributions are generally deductible only to the extent they exceed 0.5% of Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). For someone with $200,000 of AGI, that means the first $1,000 of contributions would not be deductible. Previously, there was no minimum AGI threshold.

Planning Your Giving Can Matter

These new rules make how and when you give more important. Consider whether you itemize, the timing and type of your gift, whether the charity qualifies, and proper documentation. For itemizers, bunching contributions into certain years may help overcome the new 0.5% AGI floor. Before making significant charitable gifts, talk with your tax professional about the strategy that makes sense for you.

Give Because It Matters. Plan Because It Matters, too.

The most important reason to make a charitable contribution is to support a cause you believe in. The tax benefit is secondary, but understanding the rules can help you make more informed decisions about your giving. Contact your tax advisor today to learn more about how charitable giving can benefit you.