

TAX-EFFICIENT GIVING FOR HONG KONG DONORS

The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) is a global leader in learning, enlightenment and research excellence.

Through the University of California Foundation Limited, a registered charitable institution under section 88 of the Hong Kong Inland Revenue Ordinance, charitable giving by individuals in Hong Kong may be claimed as a deduction on tax returns. Donors may claim up to 35% of total assessable income or profits for the tax year.

This provides substantial benefits for donors in Hong Kong. For example, if the assessable income is HK\$500,000 after allowable expenses, individuals may claim up to HK\$175,000 in approved charitable donations.

Married couples may also find it advantageous to file a joint assessment, especially if the spouse's income is less than the primary earner's tax allowance. A joint assessment will allow individuals to claim the spouse's unutilised tax allowances, after the two incomes and allowances are aggregated. For a detailed example of this particular tax advantage, please visit: gov.hk/en/residents/taxes/salaries/allowances/deductions/approveddonation.htm

Bequests in wills are also eligible to receive tax relief.

Upon receipt of a gift, the University of California Foundation Limited will acknowledge the contribution in writing. It is important that the acknowledgement letter be kept with the donor's tax records for seven years after the date of the donation. The charitable deduction may be disallowed if you are unable to provide the acknowledgement to the Hong Kong Inland Revenue Department upon request.

For more details on how to claim a tax deduction for charitable giving, see: ird.gov.hk/eng/tax/ach.htm

Note: The information above is provided as a general guideline. We recommend you seek independent tax advice when preparing your tax return.