WHY IS AN ENDOWMENT IMPORTANT?

In simple terms, an endowment is a financial reserve composed of individual funds where the principal is invested, a portion of which is used to support university priorities or donors’ designated purposes.

With management for long-term growth, a healthy endowment creates an enduring, predictable flow of funding and offers financial stability that in turn gives CMU the freedom to plan for the future and nimbly respond to a changing educational and research landscape.

HOW DOES CMU’S ENDOWMENT WORK?

Carnegie Mellon’s endowment is composed of thousands of individual endowed funds, created by alumni and donors throughout CMU’s history. These funds are invested to maintain growth and consistent resources over the long term.

The endowment’s earnings pay for a portion of the university’s everyday operating expenses and relieve pressure on other sources of revenue. A distribution percentage, which is set by the Board of Trustees, is used to support the priorities outlined by the donor, such as scholarships and faculty support or, if the funds are unrestricted, institutional initiatives. The principal and additional earnings are reinvested.

CMU’s endowment is stewarded by the university’s Investment Office.

CARNEGIE MELLON ENDOWMENT

BUILD A STRONG FOUNDATION TODAY FOR CARNEGIE MELLON’S FUTURE SUCCESSES

Carnegie Mellon University’s rise has been nothing short of meteoric, growing from a regional technical and arts school to a research university ranked among the best in the world in just over 50 years. This rapid rise is a testament to the unique and powerful culture of collaboration and fearless innovation that has placed CMU in the same circle as many of the world’s most respected and oldest academic institutions. Today, Carnegie Mellon is competing for students, faculty and research grants with these extraordinarily well-funded universities — which have endowments vastly larger than CMU.

The CMU endowment plays a critical role in ensuring resources are available to advance our mission. Increased support for our endowment today will give future CMU leaders the flexibility to respond to challenges and opportunities that will keep the university among the best in the world.

With your support, we can grow the Carnegie Mellon endowment to give the university the financial stability and freedom to help students afford their education; competitively recruit the world’s best researchers and educators; and invest heavily in the programs, facilities and resources that are the hallmark of a CMU education.
MAKING A GIFT TO FUND YOUR ENDOWMENT

Endowment gifts may be designated to support any long-term purpose of the university, such as student support (scholarships and fellowships); faculty support (professorships, faculty fellowships); and institutional initiatives (special programs, educational innovations, research funds, etc.). They can also be unrestricted, allowing Carnegie Mellon to allocate these resources where they are most needed.

Regardless of what they support, endowment gifts support those efforts in perpetuity, extending your impact far into the future. The university can help you work through the details of your philanthropic vision to set up an endowment fund to support the CMU people, programs and places that matter to you.

- A minimum gift of $50,000 will establish a **named undergraduate scholarship**, generating about $2,000 per year for a student’s financial aid package.

- **Graduate fellowships for doctoral students** may be created with gifts of $100,000 or higher, generating about $4,200 per year for students.

- **Faculty support opportunities**, such as research or teaching fellowships, begin at $250,000, with options for visiting professorships, professorships, headships and deanships beginning at $1 million.

- **Other endowed support opportunities** include research centers, program and innovation funds, endowed lectures, and directorships and coaches in athletics, among others.

**EXPERIENCE YOUR IMPACT**

Endowment donors receive annual reports on the financial results of their fund and details on how CMU has used the income.

In the case of **scholarships**, you will receive a report on the student receiving support from your fund.

If your fund supports **professors or research initiatives**, you will receive reports on those efforts as well.

Upon request, a personal meeting between you and your fund recipients can be arranged.

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