Donor Advised Fund vs. Private Foundation



The Comerica Charitable Trust (CCT) exists to help you fulfill your philanthropic goals with ease. After the initial funding of your donor-advised fund account, the adviser's role is to simply recommend grants to your favorite charities. The administrative and investment team handles the rest. Check out the ways in which a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) could meet your needs.

	Donor-Advised Fund	Private Foundation
Initial set up	Can occur within a week	May take weeks or months
Involvement of legal counsel	Generally no legal counsel required unless unique assets are used to fund the DAF	Could require significant legal fees to establish and file appropriate regulatory documents
Tax deduction to donors	Market value on date of contribution- subject to 60% of AGI	Deduction depends on assets types contributed and is subject to either 20% or 30% of AGI limitation
Control	CCT has legal authority over all assets, thus simplifying the donor's role	Board or Trustee retains full control, authority and responsibility over investing and grant making
Investing	CCT responsible for investing	Foundation board or trustees responsible for investing or hiring agents to do so
Flexibility in minimum annual distributions	No annual requirement	5% per year regardless of earnings
Administration	Recommend grants to your favorite public charities using easy online portal	Fully responsible for grant making, due diligence and record keeping
Confidentiality	Names of donors can be kept confidential and all grants can be made anonymously	Regulatory institutions require publication of grants made, trustee names, board members, staff salaries, etc.
Ease of including next generation	Recommending grants is simple and paperless using the online portal	Managing the entire grant-making process could seem overwhelming to the next generation if they have not been regularly involved in the operations
Tax and Regulatory Reporting	None-except for any deduction the donor may take on their personal income tax return	Responsible for financial and tax reporting, state and federal regulatory filings
Excise taxes	None	1.39% excise tax on net investment income

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