WTS FOUNDATION
LEGACY FORWARD
INVESTING TODAY. INSPIRING TOMORROW.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Legacy Forward?

Legacy Forward is the WTS Foundation's premier Major and Planned Giving program. It provides opportunities to support the Foundation's efforts to invest in future generations of women transportation leaders.

Why is Legacy Forward launching now?

As WTS International prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2027, the Foundation is introducing Legacy Forward to recognize the community that helped shape WTS and invite supporters to invest in its future. Legacy Forward will be an ongoing program beyond the anniversary year.

Who can participate?

WTS members, former and retired members, longtime supporters, and others who support WTS International and WTS Foundation's shared mission are welcome to explore giving opportunities.

What is the difference between a major gift and a planned gift?

A major gift supports the Foundation during the donor's lifetime. A planned gift generally involves arranging a future charitable contribution, for example through a will, revocable trust, or beneficiary designation. The Foundation welcomes conversations about both approaches.

What is the 1977 Founders Circle?

The 1977 Founders Circle is a special inaugural recognition opportunity associated with the launch of Legacy Forward and WTS International's upcoming 50th anniversary. It recognizes qualifying major gifts and documented planned giving commitments made between November 2026 and November 2027.

How do I qualify for the 1977 Founders Circle?

Individuals who make a major gift of $5,000 or more, or document a planned giving commitment of $10,000 or more, during the November 2026–November 2027 inaugural period are eligible.

What recognition do Founders Circle participants receive?

All qualifying donors will receive a personalized 1977 Founders Circle certificate of recognition and a letter of appreciation, regardless of their public recognition preferences. Donors who opt into public recognition may also be acknowledged through Foundation publications, events, or other communications.

Can I choose whether my name is publicly recognized?

Yes. Donors may opt in to or opt out of public acknowledgment. The Foundation respects donor preferences concerning recognition, confidentiality, and anonymity, subject to applicable legal requirements.

Do I have to make a commitment before contacting the Foundation?

No. An initial conversation is simply an opportunity to learn about Legacy Forward, discuss your interests, and ask questions. There is no expectation of an immediate commitment.

Can I designate my gift for scholarships or another purpose?

The Foundation may consider gifts designated for particular charitable purposes, consistent with its Gift Acceptance Policy. Restricted, endowed, or other specialized gifts may require review and a written gift agreement.

Where can I obtain sample language for a gift through my estate?

The Foundation has prepared sample bequest language that may be shared with donors and their attorneys. Please contact the Legacy Forward team to request it. Donors should consult their own legal, tax, and financial advisors before making decisions.

Can I support the Foundation with a gift below the Founders Circle threshold?

Yes. The Founders Circle thresholds determine eligibility for that specific inaugural recognition opportunity; they do not limit broader support of the WTS Foundation. Contact the Foundation to learn about available giving options.

How do I learn more or start a conversation?

Email legacyforward@wtsinternational.org. The Foundation welcomes inquiries about major gifts, planned gifts, the 1977 Founders Circle, and donor recognition preferences.

This FAQ provides general information and does not constitute legal, tax, or financial advice. Specific gift arrangements are subject to applicable Foundation policies and review.