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What You Need to Know about Car Donation

By Seth Scolack

What type of car can I donate?

This is perhaps the most common FAQ about car donation and the answer is: cars, trucks, boats, RV's, motor homes and motorcycles. Every charity has its own rules regarding what vehicles they accept, so as a rule, before choosing a charitable organization, find out what types of cars they accept.

My car failed the emission test, can I still donate it?

Even if your car did not pass the emission test, your donation is still greatly appreciated! Cars can be repaired and if you are generous enough to give your car away to a good cause, most organizations will ensure that it gets properly fixed up!

Do I need any documents to donate my vehicle?

This is a car donation FAQ that is often overlooked by generous individuals who are eager to help someone else. Before donating your car to a charity, you need a clear title for the vehicle. If you cannot find this document, other official DMV paperwork may be accepted, as long as it proves that you are the rightful owner of the car.

Am I required to drop the vehicle off to my chosen charity?

Again, depending on which charity you choose, the procedure for car pickup will vary. Generally, most organizations will tow the car at no cost to you. If this is the protocol, you can expect to get a call from a towing company to arrange a convenient time for pickup. At this time, you will hand over the title and the keys to the car and complete all required paperwork. Of course, if you would like to drop off the car yourself, it will most certainly be appreciated!

What if you do not list my preferred charity?

What You Need to Know about Car Donation

We have compiled an extensive list of charities in both Canada and the United States, but of course, not all charities are listed here. If, for instance, you would like to donate to a church or another charitable organization that is not on our list, simply contact us and we will gladly make the necessary arrangements so that your car goes to a place you feel comfortable with.

Is my donation tax deductible?

Donations that are made to a not-for-profit organization classified under 501(c)(3) are usually tax deductible. To find out more information about tax deductions, consult an industry professional.

Will I be responsible for paying any fees after donating my car?

The simple answer is NO. Donating a car is a big deal and you will not be asked to pay any fees; your donation is money enough! However, should an "organization" ask you for money, you might want to

verify if the charity is actually legitimate.

Seth Scolack is an avid philanthropist who donates his time and experience in an effort to help others. He writes about nonprofit fundraising and provides other tips for making donations easy. Savvy Seth's Donate a Car to Charity –

<http://www.savvyseth.com/>

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Should You Give Your Car Away?

By J Schipper

You can give your car to charity and deduct the gross proceeds from the sale if the proceeds are for more than \$500.

If the claimed value of the donated motor vehicle, boat or plane exceeds \$500 and the item is sold by the charitable organization, the taxpayer's claimed value is limited to the gross proceeds from the sale.

The charitable organization must notify the donor within 30 days of the sale of the amount of the gross proceeds. However, if the charity adds improvements to the vehicle, the charity must notify the donor within 30 days of the contribution. If the charity betters the vehicle then the donor may deduct the vehicle's market value.

Actually, it is much better if the Taxpayer can deduct the vehicle's market value, because there normally is quite a gap between perceived market value and actual proceeds, and this difference can literally be thousands of dollars.

What You Need to Know about Car Donation

One car donation center states that it has processed over 500,000 car donations since 1992, which adds up to about 30,000 cars a year.

Did you know that you can also donate boats and RV's? So if aunt Dora dies, and leaves her jalopy in the driveway then maybe this is an attractive way to get rid of the car especially since it does not start anyway.

But wait! It is not that easy. Where is the Title to the car? Not in the glove compartment? You may have a problem. You may also have a problem if the title is joint, say Aunt Dora and Uncle Nick. If Aunt Dora died and UncleNick is still alive there will be all kinds of problems.

How about vehicle emission controls, was the car equipped with them, were they disabled?

When you make a charity car donation: You get free vehicle pick-up whether your car to donate is running or not. In some cases the company will actually put a new battery in the car to get it running again. You avoid confusing Department of Motor Vehicles paperwork or Smog hassles.

How it works: Call a reliable Vehicle Donation company. They'll take your information over the telephone, they'll handle all the DMV documents, they'll pick up your vehicle , arrange an auction sale and distribute the proceeds to the charity.

If your donated vehicle/vessel sells for under \$500 the receipt you receive at the time the vehicle is picked up is all you need for filing your taxes.

The actual net proceeds of a donated car seem to range around the \$400 figure In all cases, a charity car donation is sold to the highest bidder by a well-established charity vehicle auction.

You must have a certificate of title.

Some companies will also guarantee that if your donated car gets a ticket after your donation date, they'll take care of the ticket for you and they zealously will fight it so you don't have to worry about it.

The reason cars are sold by public auction is that people simply will pay more at an auction for your car than they will pay at a dealer.

Also, if the car is running at the time of the auction people will pay more so it is advisable to get it to running condition when reselling it.

J Schipper is very interested in Car Donations

<http://car-donations-charitable-donations-aacharity.info>

<http://www.tax-attorney.biz>



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