ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON

Policy Title: Gift Acceptance			
Reviewed by:	Donor Development Committee	Date:	April 21, 2026
Approved by:	Donor Development Committee	Date:	April 21, 2026
Approved by:	Board of Directors	Date:	September 23, 2026

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) encourages the solicitation and acceptance of gifts for purposes that will help the organization further and fulfill its mission. ARL urges all prospective donors to seek the assistance of personal legal and financial advisors in matters relating to their gifts, including the resulting tax and estate planning consequences. The following policies and guidelines govern acceptance of gifts made to ARL for the benefit of any of its operations, programs, or endowment.

ARL seeks the advice of legal counsel as appropriate in matters relating to acceptance of gifts. Review by counsel is usually sought for:

a. Gifts of closely held stock that are subject to restrictions or buy-sell agreements.
b. Gifts requiring ARL to assume financial, legal, or other obligations.
c. Transactions with potential conflicts of interest.
d. Gifts of property, which may be subject to environmental or other regulatory restrictions.

ARL holds all communications with donors and information concerning donors and prospective donors in strict confidence, subject to legally authorized and enforceable requests for information by government agencies and courts. All other requests for or releases of information concerning a donor or prospective donor will be granted only if permission is first obtained from the donor.

To be counted as revenue, all gifts must be received by ARL outright, or documented in writing. Written confirmation should be signed by the donor, or a qualified representative, state that the gift will be allocated to ARL, and indicate the approximate date(s) when the gift will be sent. Acceptable forms of written confirmation may include a signed letter, written agreement, trust document, or other legal notification. Verbal commitments will not be recorded as revenue until payment or written confirmation is received.

Unrestricted gifts and gifts for specific programs and purposes may be accepted provided they are consistent with ARL's mission, purposes, and priorities. ARL will not accept gifts that are

inconsistent with its mission, purposes, or priorities, are judged too difficult or expensive to administer, or would result in any unacceptable consequences for ARL.

The ARL Gift Acceptance Committee will review all gifts to ARL subject to review and those gifts referred to it by the President. The Gift Acceptance Committee consists of the Chair of the Board of Directors, the Chair of the Donor Development Committee, the President, the Chief Advancement Officer, and the Chief Financial and Operating Officer (CFOO), or equivalent. Additional staff representatives may be included for discussion of gifts as appropriate.

Gifts generally accepted without review:

a. Cash. Cash gifts are accepted in any amount and in any negotiable form, including by check, money order, credit card, or online.
b. Publicly Traded Securities. Marketable securities may be transferred electronically to an account maintained at one or more brokerage firms or delivered physically with the transferor's signature or stock power attached. As a general rule, all marketable securities will be sold upon receipt unless otherwise directed by ARL's Investment Committee. In some cases, marketable securities may be restricted by applicable securities law; in such instances acceptance of the restricted securities shall be decided by the Gift Acceptance Committee.
c. Bequests. Donors are encouraged to make bequests to ARL under their wills and trusts.
d. Charitable Remainder Trusts. ARL encourages donors to name the organization as a remainder beneficiary of charitable remainder trusts. However, ARL will not serve as trustee of charitable remainder trusts and instead encourages donors to use a professional fiduciary.
e. Charitable Lead Trusts. ARL will accept designation as an income beneficiary of charitable lead trusts. ARL will not accept appointment as trustee of a charitable lead trust and instead encourages donors to use a professional fiduciary.
f. Revocable Trust Agreements. ARL encourages donors to name the organization as a beneficiary of all or a portion of revocable trust agreements. However, ARL will not serve as trustee of a revocable trust agreements and instead encourages donors to use a professional fiduciary.
g. Life Insurance. ARL will accept gifts of life insurance where ARL is named as both beneficiary and irrevocable owner of the insurance policy. The donor must agree to pay, before due, any future premium payments owing on the policy.
h. Life Insurance Beneficiary Designations. Donors are encouraged to name ARL as beneficiary or contingent beneficiary of their life insurance policies.
i. Retirement Plan Beneficiary Designations. Donors are encouraged to name ARL as beneficiary of their retirement plans.
j. Donor-Advised Funds. ARL encourages donors to recommend grants to ARL from donor- advised funds.
k. Vehicles. ARL will accept cars, trucks, ATVs, boats, or any other motorized vehicle through our partnership with a third-party vendor.
l. Tangible Personal Property. ARL will accept supplies for animals including sheets,

towels, blankets, cat or dog beds, unopened and unexpired pet food or treats, pet toys, and cages, crates, or carriers in good condition. ARL will not accept pillows, medications or medical supplies, opened or expired pet food or treats, and cages, crates or carriers in poor condition. Other personal property valued under $10,000 including office supplies, furniture, computers, and equipment will generally not be accepted.

m. Endowment Gifts. A permanent endowment may be established with a minimum gift of $250,000.

Certain forms of gifts or donated properties may be subject to review prior to acceptance. Examples of gifts subject to prior review include, but are not limited to:

a. Closely Held Securities. Proposed gifts of closely held securities will be reviewed by the Gift Acceptance Committee.
b. Tangible Personal Property. The Gift Acceptance Committee shall review and determine whether to accept any gifts of marketable tangible personal property including jewelry, artwork, collections, and other personal property valued at $10,000 or greater.
c. Real Estate. ARL will consider real property gifts with a market value of $50,000 or greater. All gifts of land and/or buildings are subject to review by the Gift Acceptance Committee and approval by the Board of Directors. Prior to acceptance of any gift of real estate, ARL requires an initial environmental review. In the event that the initial review reveals a potential problem, ARL may retain a qualified inspection firm to conduct an environmental audit. When appropriate, a title binder shall be obtained by ARL prior to acceptance of the real property gift. Prior to acceptance, ARL also requires an appraisal by a party chosen by ARL who shall have no business or other relationship to the donor. The cost of the environmental review, environmental audit, title binder, and appraisal will be borne by the prospective donor. Unless otherwise stated by ARL, gifts of real estate will be accepted only with the intent that they will be sold as soon as possible.

ARL will not accept the following gift types:

a. Options and other rights in securities
b. Charitable gift annuities
c. Bargain sales
d. Life income arrangements or life estate gifts
e. Oil, gas, and mineral interests
f. Timeshares, partial or remainder interests in real estate, or easements
g. Business interests
h. Intellectual property rights
i. Royalties
j. Mortgages or notes
k. Pooled income funds
l. Cryptocurrency

ARL may decline or return gifts under certain circumstances that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. Gifts that are not aligned with the terms outlined in the gift acceptance policy.
b. Gifts that are restricted and would support or create programs peripheral to existing programs of ARL or that are not aligned with the mission of ARL.
c. Gifts that could injure the standing or reputation of ARL or encourage activities that are in conflict with the mission of ARL.
d. Gifts that could put ARL's status as tax-exempt organization at risk.
e. Gifts that may have been accepted but under further review by ARL are subject to concerns.
f. Gifts that may have been accepted but ARL determines that it is unable to fulfill the donor's philanthropic interests.

Recognition of gifts:

a. Tax Receipts. Gifts will be receipted based on eligibility for charitable tax deductions under Internal Revenue Service standards.
b. Gift Acknowledgments. Gifts will be acknowledged with letters or electronic notification from ARL.
c. Naming Opportunities. Under special circumstances, ARL's President may approve a schedule of gift levels for naming opportunities. Naming opportunities will not be confirmed until 50% of the required gift has been received, unless special dispensation is provided by ARL's President.
d. Matching Gifts. Matching gifts will be acknowledged toward donors' recognition levels.

The Donor Development Committee will review the Gift Acceptance Policy at least annually. ARL reserves the right to update, edit, change, or make additions to the Gift Acceptance Policy. These changes must be approved by ARL's Board of Directors.