

Purpose

The NEC Society relies on and is grateful for financial contributions, in-kind gifts, and volunteer support from individuals, families, corporations, foundations, organizations, and government agencies that share our vision of a world without necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC).

This policy provides guidance to ensure that all gifts:

- Support the NEC Society's mission and strategic priorities
- Uphold our commitment to integrity, transparency, and equity
- Avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest
- Protect the organization's independence and reputation

Acceptance of any gift does not influence the NEC Society's mission, values, priorities, research agenda, or projects.

Guiding Principles

All gifts are accepted on a **case-by-case basis**. The NEC Society will consider gifts from donors who align with the organization's:

- Mission and vision
- Commitment to avoiding real and perceived conflicts of interest
- Social justice and equity
- Transparency and ethical partnership

Approval of Gifts

- Gifts of **\$10,000 or more** require review and approval by the Executive Director or the Board of Directors in the absence of the Executive Director
- Gifts from corporations of **\$5,000 or more** will be publicly disclosed
- Individual or family donors contributing **\$5,000 or more will be named in the NEC Society's annual audit and filed 990 for the organization**
- NEC Society may decline or return any gift that does not align with our organizational values

Types of Acceptable Gifts

NEC Society may accept the following types of contributions:

- **Cash gifts:** Monetary contributions not made in exchange for goods or services
- **Non-cash gifts:** Assets of value that may be converted to cash, including:
 - Publicly traded securities
 - Closely held securities
 - Tangible personal property

- **Deferred gifts:** Future gifts established through legal instruments, including:
 - Bequests
 - Charitable trusts
 - Life insurance
 - Retained life estates
 - Gift annuities

If a donor requires appraisal or legal counsel to complete a donation, related costs are the donor's responsibility.

Restricted Gifts

NEC Society may accept **restricted gifts** when:

1. The restriction aligns with the NEC Society's mission, and
2. The use of funds advances priorities outlined in the organization's strategic plan

NEC Society **will not** accept restricted gifts that:

1. Directly benefit a specific person or company
2. Benefit an individual member of the Board, staff, executives, or Advisory Councils
3. Create conflicts of interest or compromise independence

Donor Influence and Endorsement

Acceptance of a gift does **not** imply endorsement of any company, product, or service. Donors may not use the NEC Society's name, logo, or intellectual property without written permission. All use of NEC Society branding must comply with the organization's Word Mark and Licensing Policy.

Compliance

All accepted gifts must:

1. Comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws
2. Be usable without undue financial or administrative burden
3. Align with the NEC Society's Conflict of Interest Policy

Policy Review

This Gift Acceptance Policy will be reviewed annually by the Executive Director and Board of Directors to ensure continued alignment with the organization's values, strategic priorities, applicable laws, and nonprofit best practices.