

Guidelines for responsible giving

Everence Foundation will normally consider disbursements to charitable organizations that give reasonable evidence of compliance with the following guidelines:

1. The organization's programs appear consistent with a clear statement of purpose.
2. The purposes and programs of the organization are in harmony with the beliefs and biblical principles generally held by Anabaptists.
3. The organization has a board that is an active and responsible governing body, that holds regular meetings, and whose members have no material conflicts of interest.
4. The organization discloses upon request a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service that verifies its tax-exempt status.
5. The finances of the organization are independently audited at least once a year according to generally accepted accounting practices.
6. The organization makes available upon request an annual report, which contains detailed information on program activities and finances.
7. The organization responds promptly to reasonable questions asked by prospective donors.
8. General administrative and fund-raising expenses do not exceed 30 percent of contributions. In other words, at least 70 percent of the contributed dollars goes into programs that carry out the stated charitable purposes.
9. Promotion is ethical without exaggerated claims, misleading statements or deceptive photographs.

Note: Even though Everence Foundation encourages donors to consider disbursements to church organizations, these guidelines are not intended to exclude non-church organizations.

