

## Tax Time Tips from Lifeworks - 2021

Again this year, Americans who donate to charity will receive a charitable tax deduction whether they itemize or take the standard deduction. Plus, if you itemize, you can deduct more for 2021 donations than what's normally allowed.

Please keep these giving tips in mind:

- **Universal deduction.** For the 2021 tax year, individuals can claim a charitable deduction for *cash* gifts up to \$300 even if they do not itemize their deductions. This allows donors to take advantage of recently increased standard deductions and get tax benefits for smaller charitable gifts.
- **Itemized deductions.** If you are seeking a Schedule A charitable deduction for gifts of \$250 or more, you must get a written acknowledgment from the charity stating (1) the amount of any cash donation and a description (but not value) of any donated property, and (2) whether the charity gave you any goods or services in return for your contribution. (Lifeworks provides this information automatically when you make a gift. There are other requirements that need to be satisfied, so make sure you read the Schedule A instructions carefully and review with your preparer before claiming a charitable deduction.

If you have questions, please contact Lori-Anne Williams at [lwilliams@lifeworks.org](mailto:lwilliams@lifeworks.org) or 651-587-4267!

For more information, the IRS has a helpful website at <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-organizations/charitable-contribution-deductions>