

Signet In-Kind Donations Program FAQs

Q: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE SIGNET IN-KIND DONATION PROGRAM?

A: The purpose of the Signet In-Kind Donation Program is to recognize the importance and value of local, charitable non-profit organizations and support their work in the communities where we live and work.

Q: WHAT IS AN IN-KIND DONATION?

A: An in-kind gift is any donation that does not consist of donating cash directly to an organization (i.e., pair of earrings, necklace, bracelet, watch, etc.). In-kind donations help nonprofits access goods that would otherwise be unaffordable, or free up resources to be spent on something else. Charities may utilize in-kind donations in fundraising activities (i.e., auctions, raffles, etc.).

Q: WHAT ORGANIZATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR AN IN-KIND DONATION?

A: To be eligible to apply for an in-kind donation:

- The organization must be a non-profit, tax-exempt entity recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)3.
- The charitable organization must be based in the U.S.
- The organization ***must focus its efforts on underserved women and children and/or social change advocacy.***
- The organization must be aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Q: WHAT'S AN EIN NUMBER AND HOW DO I FIND IT?

A: It is an Employer Identification Number (EIN) and is also known as a Federal Tax Identification Number. An organization's EIN tax id number must be listed on the application to be considered for an in-kind donation.

Q: WHAT DOES SOCIAL CHANGE ADVOCACY MEAN?

A: The ideas behind social advocacy relate to social justice: that idea that there is value to the society as a whole when that society defends and upholds the rights of people in the community who are not afforded the same dignity due to disadvantage or discrimination. The themes that relate to social change advocacy may include:

- Civil Rights
- Individual Rights
- Community Building
- Communication and Awareness
- Human Rights and Equal Rights Advocacy

Examples of social change advocacy include organizations that support:

- Racial Justice and Equality
 - i.e., Equal Justice Initiative, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and Legal Defense Fund (LDF)
- LGBTQ+
 - i.e., Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)
- Gender Parity, Women and Girls
- Transforming Inclusivity Diversity Equality (TIDE)
- Veteran's Associations
- Young Professionals

Q: WHO IS INELIGIBLE?

Signet's In-Kind Donation Program does not provide community impact support for:

- Organizations that are not public charities and/or trade organizations – tax-exempt under paragraph 501(c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

- Organizations that discriminate against people because of their age, race, creed, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, or national origin.
- Organizations that could harm the reputation of the Foundation, Signet Jewelers, and/or its Banners.
- Religious organizations (churches, synagogues, mosques, and other houses of worship), or other organizations primarily promoting religious purposes. Other faith-based community service organizations may be considered eligible if their programs:
 - Are open to all individuals in the community regardless of religious belief;
 - Serve a secular purpose, such as homeless shelters, soup kitchens, or other social services and/or social change advocacy;
 - Do not require participation in prayer, worship, or other religious activities as a condition of receiving service(s) offered; and
 - Do not use the individual donation or resulting match for promoting a particular religion, faith, creed or religious doctrine.
- Organizations/events associated with suppressing individuals who have experienced gender-based violence.
- Political or partisan organizations.
- Political contributions for candidates, committees, or organizations.
- Schools (unless registered with the IRS as 501(c)3 and meets all other eligibility criteria. ***Gift must be designated for a specific program serving underserved women and children and/or social change advocacy.***)
- Athletes, teams, sporting events or tournaments of any kind (amateur, professional), including charity golf tournaments.
- Organizational operating funds of any kind.
- Conferences and seminars.
- Memberships, dues, and sponsorships.
- Event tickets and goodwill advertising.
- Individual benefits.

Q: ARE SCHOOLS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

A: Schools that are registered with the IRS as 501(c)3 are eligible to apply for an in-kind donation. ***A specific program must be listed on the Application and must support underserved women and children and/or social change advocacy to qualify.***

Q: DO PRIVATE SCHOOLS QUALIFY?

A: The school must be a 501(c)3 nonprofit. The donation must be in support of a specific program that ***benefits underserved women and children and/or social change advocacy*** and listed on the Application to qualify for an in-kind gift.

Q: WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS INELIGIBLE FOR AN IN-KIND GIFT?

A: Charitable fundraisers raising funds for the PTO/PTA, membership drives and dues, after-prom activities, tuition, student fees, school trips, fun runs, marathons, spring fairs/carnivals/festivals, playground equipment, concerts, athletics, booster, and misc. fund drives are ineligible for an in-kind gift.

Q: WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AN IN-KIND GIFT?

A: The school must be a 501(c)3 nonprofit. Donations that support funding of scholarships, new technologies, empowerment programs, and mentoring programs. A specific program must be listed on the Application and ***must support underserved women and children and/or social change advocacy to qualify.***

Q: WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF RELIGIOUS DONATION REQUESTS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AN IN-KIND DONATION?

A: The following are some examples of religious donations that are ineligible.

- Religious programs publicizing a particular religious faith, creed or doctrine (i.e., ministries, missions, schools whose primary purpose is to prepare students for ministry, etc.)
- Charitable contributions supporting religious activities (i.e., vacation bible school, youth group, outreach ministry programs, missionary programs, Sunday School, services, pledges, or tithes, etc.)

Q: WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF RELIGIOUS DONATION REQUESTS THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AN IN-KIND DONATION?

A: The following are some examples of religious donations that are eligible.

- A raffle supporting a homeless shelter.
- A silent auction raffle supporting a domestic violence shelter.
- An auction supporting a soup kitchen.

Q: CAN I REQUEST A DONATION FOR AN AUCTION BENEFITTING AN INDIVIDUAL?

A: No, individuals are not eligible, only organizations. All organizations must be a non-profit, tax-exempt entity recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)3, must be based in the U.S., and the organization/program ***must focus its efforts on underserved women and children and/or social change advocacy.***

Q: ARE ANY OF SIGNET'S BUSINESS RESOURCE GROUPS (BRGS) ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR AN IN-KIND DONATION?

A: No. All organizations must be a non-profit, tax-exempt entity recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)3.

Q: HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN IN-KIND DONATION?

A: 3 Easy Steps:

- **STEP 1:** Applicant reviews the In-Kind Donation Program guidelines and eligibility requirements in this document and reviews the In-Kind Policy and Procedures.
- **STEP 2:** Applicant completes all sections of the In-Kind Donation Program Application and attaches any documentation. (i.e., fundraiser brochure, gala pamphlet, etc.)
- **STEP 3:** Applicant clicks submit.

Applicant will receive a confirmation that application was submitted successfully.

Please be aware:

- Incomplete forms will not be processed.
- Applicant must have listed on the Application the specific program ***that benefits underserved women and children and/or social change advocacy.***

If additional information is needed, they will be contacted.

Q: HOW DO I ATTACH A BROCHURE OR FLYER TO THE IN-KIND DONATION APPLICATION?

A: The form is an electronic application. Near the bottom of the form, there is a designated box for documentation. Drag and drop a copy of your documents into that box. Files accepted: Pdf, jpeg, Word Docs.

Q: WHEN SHOULD I EXPECT TO RECEIVE A RESPONSE FROM MY APPLICATION SUBMISSION?

A: Due to time constraints and the amount of submissions, it may take up to 90 days for processing. When applying, please allow for plenty of time to receive merchandise before your event.

Q: IS THERE A DOLLAR LIMITATION FOR ASKING FOR SUPPORT?

A: Retail range of in-kind merchandise is \$249.99 to \$3999.99.

Please note: We are unable to take part in all opportunities; an Application does not guarantee an in-kind donation. All in-kind donations are subject to approval and availability.

Q: HOW CAN I CHECK ON THE STATUS OF MY APPLICATION?

A: You will be contacted if we need additional information. After your Application has been reviewed, the Community Impact Coordinator will notify you of the decision.

Q: WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

A: Please contact Signet's Community Impact Coordinator at communityimpact@signetjewelers.com