



Gift Aid FAQ

What is Gift Aid?

Gift Aid means Cats Protection can claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated. It won't cost you or your sponsor any extra.

A donation is eligible if it is from an income that has been subject to UK income tax or capital gains tax.

What counts as a donation?

- ✓ Cash
- ✓ Cheques
- ✓ Direct debit/standing order
- ✓ Credit/debit card
- ✓ Any currency

What doesn't count as a donation?

- ✗ In kind donations – when someone gives you something for free eg lends you a bingo calling machine for your event
- ✗ Donation of goods
- ✗ Most purchases of goods or services (eg jumble sale)
- ✗ Raffle or lottery tickets
- ✗ Donations already receiving tax relief (eg payroll giving)

What is the 'benefit rule'?

A basic principle underlying Gift Aid is that the gift should be freely given with nothing substantial provided in return.

This means if someone and persons connected to them claims Gift Aid on a donation to you, they must not receive anything substantial in return.

Below is a list of what can be referred to as possible benefits.

- Any item or service provided, to the donor or a connected person*
- Gifts that come with a condition about repayment
- Gifts that come with a condition that the charity buys goods or services from the donor
- A 'minimum donation' where there is no choice about payment

*Connected persons

If you are taking part in an event where the sponsorship is contributing to the cost of the event, then connected persons to you should not claim gift aid.

A person is connected if they are:

- the participant
- wife, husband, civil partner
- brother or sister
- parent or grandparent
- child, grandchild
- married to a connected person
- company under control of above
- business partners

These events are most commonly:

- overseas treks
- skydiving
- trekking events
- long-distance bike rides

If you receive a benefit, such as accommodation, food or travel, connected persons are deemed to also benefit from this, rendering their donation ineligible for a Gift Aid claim.

Please note JustGiving and our other online fundraising platforms do ask these questions when a person donates to your fundraising page.

If you would like more information about Gift Aid and who is eligible to tick to claim gift aid then get in touch with the Events team on 01825 741 960 or events@cats.org.uk

For a longer more detailed explanation please visit the Chartered Institute of Fundraising website [here](#)

Or GOV.co.uk [here](#)