



Matching Gift Program

February 16, 2007

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Program Guidelines

Through the Matching Gift Program, the Company helps to serve as a catalyst for progress by giving eligible participants the opportunity to increase their personal contributions to qualified nonprofit organizations. In the United States, HSBC matches, dollar for dollar, personal donations made by eligible employees, up to \$10,000 per year, to the eligible nonprofit organizations of their choice. In the case of higher education, the first \$500 of eligible yearly contributions are matched on a two-for-one basis. Beyond \$500 and up to the \$10,000 limit, gifts are matched on a one-for-one basis. Unless otherwise indicated, gifts are matched in the order they are received. Although participant gifts may be restricted to a particular program, corporate matching gifts are made to organizations for their unrestricted use within the United States.

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Who can participate

U.S.-based regular employees who are scheduled to work 20 or more hours per week at the time the request is received.

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Which organizations are eligible

U.S.-based nonprofit entities with tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code at the time the gift is made.

What service areas are supported

Education:

- Accredited educational organizations such as public and private colleges and universities (except theological or religious institutions limited to a specific group)
- Education foundations and scholarship programs
- Economic/consumer education; adult financial education
- Programs supporting literacy, financial education, diversity and cultural awareness

Environment:

- Environmental, ecological and animal-related activities from pollution control programs to zoos
- Conservation and preservation of the environment

Community:

- Disease/disability related education, prevention, rehabilitation or treatment
- Basic human services available to the general public (such as emergency shelter, clothing or food disaster relief)
- Senior citizen; family counseling; youth community services
- Community revitalization; housing and economic development
- Public radio and television
- Museums; libraries; botanic gardens; historical or preservation societies; music; dance; theatre

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What is not eligible for matching

- Gifts made between 11/16 and 12/31
- United Ways or any non-profit organization that is part of United for Hope
- Collected funds, group gifts, entry fees or sponsorships for participants in fundraising activities
- Elementary or secondary schools
- Payments for which donors receive a direct benefit, including payment for services, tuition, books, insurance premiums, tickets or events, or bequests
- Gifts to fulfill pledges, tithes or other religion-related financial commitments, legal commitments, or legal obligations
- Gifts given to or through a third party; gifts to individuals
- Religious groups who do not serve the community at large
- Organizations that are membership-based (booster clubs, fraternities/sororities, alumni groups, social, fraternal, or political)
- Athletic programs and scholarships, tournaments, marching bands
- Gifts to organizations that may create an actual or perceived conflict of interest to the Company

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What contributions are eligible

- Personal gifts of \$25 or more are eligible and must be made directly to the organization.
- Gifts must be paid, not merely pledged, and must be in cash, check, credit card or securities publicly traded on a national exchange with a quoted market value. The last sale or published bid price on or before the date the gift was made shall determine the value of any securities.
- For gifts of installments, each installment must be submitted on a separate form and meet the \$25 minimum gift requirement.
- The donor's annual limit is based on the date of the gift.

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How the program works

Matching gift requests can be submitted via the internet through an online web-based process or by paper.

By Internet:

Requests can be submitted electronically at www.easymatch.com/hsbc. Program related information such as Guidelines, FAQs, Personal Giving History and Charitable Organization information is available.

By Mail:

The employee should:

- Complete Part 1 of the original application form and mail it with their gift to the eligible nonprofit. Faxed copies will not be accepted.

The recipient organization should:

- Complete Part 2 of the original application form.
- An authorized official of the nonprofit must verify the donation, sign the application form and return the original application form to the HSBC Matching Gift Program, P.O. Box 2325, Princeton, NJ 08543-2325.

Eligible requests are processed and matched to organizations on the following schedule.

Received By: 2/1 4/1 6/1 8/1 10/1 12/1

Processed By: 3/5 5/5 7/5 9/5 11/5 1/5

Match requests must be registered within three (3) months of the date the gift is made by an eligible participant. Requests received after that time will not be honored.

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Administrative conditions

HSBC's Community and Philanthropic Services Department is responsible for the administration of this program, final determination of the eligibility of participants and nonprofits, the value of securities contributed, and all related issues. The corporation reserves the right to amend, revoke, suspend or terminate this program at any time or request the return of a contribution. It will not match previously eligible donations after the effective date of the amendment, revocation, suspension or termination of this program.

For more information, please contact the Matching Gift Program via email at HSBC@easymatch.com or by phone at 1-866-298-7841.

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