

TEN QUESTIONS DONORS SHOULD ASK WHEN MAKING GIFTS TO UNIVERSITIES WITH MEDICAL SCHOOLS OR HEALTHCARE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

DONORS MUST BE AWARE OF WHAT BENEFICIARY UNIVERSITIES ARE DOING IN ORDER TO HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE* FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN TRAINING FUTURE DOCTORS AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS. HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT QUESTIONS DONORS MUST ASK THE LEADERS OF THESE SCHOOLS.

1. I am very interested in supporting your work, but must receive assurances that my resources aren't going toward supporting programs and initiatives that are based on politicized ideologies. How can I add stipulations to my gift agreement?
2. Medical school applicants who are invited to proceed to a secondary interview are required to complete the secondary application. What are the questions or essay topics this school uses for the interview?
3. What types of training related to "diversity, equity, and inclusion" or "implicit bias" concepts does this school require of students, faculty, or staff? What is the current budget for DEI programs at this institution?
4. Does this institution promote "anti-racism" in medical education? How much curricular time is spent on social justice or non-medical topics?
5. Does this program sponsor scholarships or fellowships that are based on demographic characteristics (such as race or sex) instead of merit?
6. Does your school plan to add or expand any of the above initiatives in the future?
7. What is your process for notifying donors of changes in leadership or key parties in the programs and initiatives they are giving to?
8. What types and amounts of fees and expenses do you levy on gifts such as endowments?
9. How frequently does your institution provide reports to donors regarding progress toward the stated goals of the program I am considering making a gift to?
10. What is the institution's process for accepting gifts through an intermediary funder?



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* Florino J. Top ten tips for higher education funders. Philanthropy Roundtable, December 2023. <https://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Top-Ten-Tips-for-Higher-Ed-Funders.pdf>.