

Annual Gift Tax Exclusion

CONCEPT APPLIED:

The annual gift tax exclusion shields gifts, up to the exclusion amount, from the federal gift tax. These gifts reduce the size of the donor's estate without incurring transfer taxes.

HOW IT WORKS:

The gift must be complete, voluntary, and of a present interest (not a future interest or conditional gift).

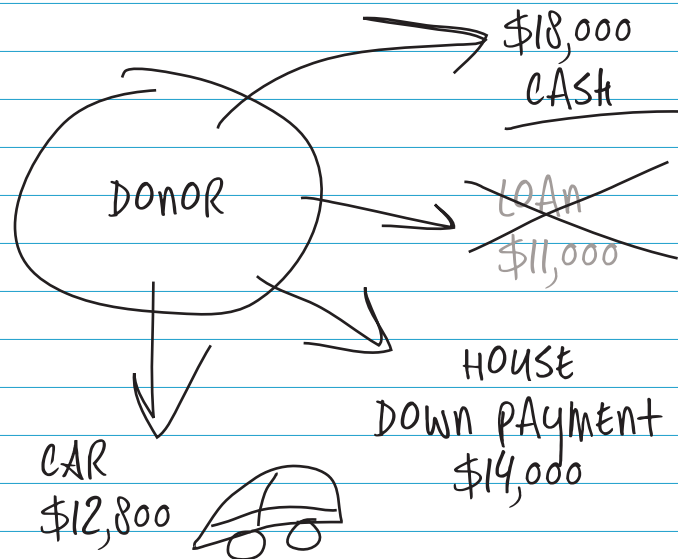
A married couple can double their exclusion amount by each making a gift up to the annual limit to the same donee or by "splitting" a gift. Gift splitting occurs when only one spouse owns the gifted property and the other spouse agrees in writing to use their own exclusion amount for half the gift.

WHY IS IT USEFUL?

Lifetime giving reduces the taxable estate by transferring wealth tax free. It also provides donors with the opportunity to enjoy helping family members by paying off an adult child's loan, contributing to a down payment on a house, purchasing a car for a relative, and so forth.

50 WORDS OR LESS

Every year, individuals can give gifts equal to the exclusion amount (\$18,000 in 2024) to as many people as they choose without paying gift tax. A yearly gifting program can provide a systematic and progressive transfer of wealth.



ALL THE GIFTS MADE BY THE DONOR IN THIS EXAMPLE ARE COVERED BY THE ANNUAL GIFT TAX EXCLUSION.

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