



# Best Practices for Charity Donations

- Don't donate to a charity that doesn't have a professional-looking website or won't send you a brochure.
- Scammers ask for donations to organizations that sound like well-known charities. Contact the charity directly to verify.
- Ask what percentage of your donation goes directly to the cause. Legitimate charities give full details on how your donation will be used.
- Verify a charity through trusted watchdog sites like [Give.org](https://www.give.org), [CharityNavigator.com](https://www.charitynavigator.com), or [GuideStar.org](https://www.guidestar.org).
- Ask the charity for their address, phone number, and a copy of their IRS tax-exempt status.
- Don't give money to a charity that claims you owe money you never promised.
- Don't donate to a charity to claim a prize.
- Don't assume all crowdfunding efforts on sites like [GoFundMe](https://www.gofundme.com), are legitimate. Watch out for copycat fundraisers that may be illegitimate.