



## Administrative Procedure 4490 WATERLOO EDUCATION FOUNDATION INC.

Responsibility: Superintendent of Business Services and Treasurer of the Board

Legal References: *Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2*  
*Broader Public Sector Expenses Directive (Effective April 1, 2011)*  
*Ministry Memo 2006:B15 – School Board Expenditure Guidelines*  
*Ministry Memo 2009:B8 – Trustee Expense Guideline*  
*Canada Revenue Agency Guidelines*

Related References: *Board Policy 4017 – Fundraising*  
*Administrative Procedure 4380 - Travel, Meals and Hospitality Expenditures*  
*Administrative Procedure 4570 - Procurement*  
*Administrative Procedure 4650 – Donations: Computers, Equipment and Other Items*  
*FS-26-PS8 Donate Computer and AV Equipment*  
*FS-19-PS9 Gift in Kind Donation Form*

Revisions: May 2016, November 2017, October 2019, May 2023

Reviewed: September 2026

### 1. Preamble

- 1.1 The Waterloo Education Foundation Inc. (WEFI) is a registered non-profit charity dedicated to enhancing the quality of public education in the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB). WEFI accepts donations from individuals, corporations, and organizations interested in furthering excellence in public education and issues charitable tax receipts. An independent Board of Directors whose membership includes representatives of the community and educators governs it.
- 1.2 The following procedure outlines the various operations of WEFI and provides guidelines and expectations for those looking to set up school accounts or donate.
- 1.3 Please visit our website at: <http://www.wrdsb.ca/wefi>.

### 2. Tax Receipts

- 2.1 WEFI is an independent, non-profit charitable organization registered with Revenue Canada - Reg. No. 13411 4446 RR0001. Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued for donations of \$15.00 or more.
- 2.2 Canada Revenue Agency requires the following information be included on income tax receipts: the date the gift was received; the full name, including middle initial, and address of the donor. All information must be provided in order to issue an income tax receipt

- 2.3 Eligible Donations
  - 2.3.1 Receiptable gifts include cash and donations of equipment and educational materials. Equipment and educational materials require approval from the school and Board prior to acceptance.
  - 2.3.2 Receipts will be issued only for gifts that benefit the student body in general, not a particular student.
  - 2.3.3 Donations may be accepted from parents/guardians for use within the system or school as long as the intent is to benefit a group of students or the whole student body. For example, a parent/guardian will receive a charitable tax receipt for a donation towards a "general school" or "system functions" fund that benefits all students. A tax receipt will not be issued to cover the cost of an individual student's trip.
  - 2.3.4 When an *in-kind* contribution of educational value is donated, fair market value of the donation must be determined by a third party valuation (refer to AP 4650 Donations: Computer and AV Equipment and Miscellaneous Items), The Gift in Kind Form (FS-19-PS9) or Donate Computer AV Form ([FS-26-PS8](#)) must be completed and submitted with the third party valuation. The donor is responsible for obtaining item appraisals if a tax receipt is requested.
  - 2.3.5 Donations of services are acceptable if the provider of the services is paid directly and then that provider makes a voluntary donation to WEFI. The donation cannot be a condition of contracting the provider's services.
- 2.4 No tax receipt can be issued when:
  - 2.4.1 The donation results in direct personal gain for the donor or the donor's family.
  - 2.4.2 The donation is a gift certificate. (The school or system should purchase the gift certificate and then the company/retailer could donate the purchase price back as a cash donation and be entitled to a tax receipt.)

### 3. **Waterloo Education Foundation Inc. Accounts**

- 3.1 WEFI accepts donations from individuals or organizations and monies can be for a specific purpose (restricted fund) or for a general (undesignated) fund. Each year WEFI distributes undesignated accumulated funds through Board motion.

### 4. **The Waterloo Education Foundation Inc. Payroll Deduction Campaign**

- 4.1 The ***Waterloo Education Foundation Inc. Payroll Deduction Campaign*** offers employees a method of giving through payroll deduction to a specific school or fund and can be cancelled at any time. Receipts for income tax purposes will appear on the donor's annual T-4 slip.
- 4.2 The goal of the payroll deduction campaign is to create a fund to provide enhancements to programs offered by the WRDSB. The focus will always be on student ***needs*** and ***enhancements*** to programs.
- 4.3 For more information regarding the ***Waterloo Education Foundation Payroll Deduction Campaign***, please contact [wefi@wrdsb.ca](mailto:wefi@wrdsb.ca)

### 5. **Planned Giving**

- 5.1 Through WEFI, it is possible to have a positive impact on public education through Planned Giving. Planned Giving is a philanthropic program by which a donor can arrange a substantial future gift that will benefit children within Waterloo Region and potentially provide significant immediate tax benefits to the donor. The emphasis is on

planning, and is focused on matching the objectives of WEFI with the needs and objectives of the donor.

- 5.2 WEFI is authorized to encourage donors to make both outright and deferred gifts. The types of deferred gifts to be offered include bequests, gifts of life insurance policies and proceeds, re-insured gift annuities, gifts of residual interest, charitable remainder trusts, and such other gift arrangements as the Board of Directors may from time to time approve. All programs, solicitation plans and activities shall be subject to the oversight of the Board of Directors.

- 5.3 For more information, please visit our website at: <http://www.wrdsb.ca/wefi>

## 6. School Accounts

- 6.1 Schools wishing to take advantage of WEFI's tax receipting capabilities may use their designated schools' WEFI fund.

6.1.1 Schools may have more than one account if deemed necessary (i.e., for a specific department in a secondary school). In this case, the Principal should request a new account by submitting, in writing to [wefi@wrdsb.ca](mailto:wefi@wrdsb.ca), the specific purpose of the account.

6.1.2 Once approved and created, Financial Services will inform the school of the account's name and number.

## 7. How to Donate

### 7.1 Cheque Donation

7.1.1 Make the cheque payable to the Waterloo Education Foundation Inc.. The donor's full name, home address and phone number should be on the cheque or attached.

7.1.2 Designate the desired system project, school or priority program in the bottom left-hand corner of the cheque.

7.1.3 Forward the cheque to WEFI, Financial Services at the Education Centre.

7.1.4 The cheque will be deposited into the appropriate account and a tax receipt will be sent directly to the donor, if applicable.

### 7.2 Cash Donation

7.2.1 It is best to send cash in a sealed money bag through the WRDSB Courier indicating WEFI on the outside of the money bag. **Do not send cash via inter-departmental courier or Canada Post.**

7.2.2 Along with the cash, the information must include:

- full name(s) of donor(s);
- home address(es) of donor(s);
- amount of each person's donation;
- school account to which money should be deposited.

7.2.3 The cash will be deposited into the appropriate account and a tax receipt will be sent directly to the donor, if applicable..

### 7.3 CanadaHelps Online Donation

Donations can be made online through the WRDSB's website by selecting "Donate Online" or by logging onto CanadaHelps website <https://www.canadahelps.org> and entering WEFI as the charity name. Select the appropriate fund, from the drop down box, enter the amount and continue through the remainder of the fields. The funds will be deposited into the appropriate account (less the applicable fees) and the donor will receive a tax receipt directly from CanadaHelps.

## **8. School Account Bookkeeping**

Account balances can be obtained in the WEFI financial reporting system by the Principal, or designate. It is the responsibility of the school to check their balances. Please contact [wefi@wrdsb.ca](mailto:wefi@wrdsb.ca) if there are discrepancies.

## **9. Accessing Funds from the School Account**

- 9.1 Funds from WEFI may be accessed by the Principal, or designate, only.
- 9.2 Withdrawals from the account must conform to Canada Revenue Agency regulations. Expenditures must be for materials or services to enhance the educational programs offered by the WRDSB, must follow the WRDSB's Policies and Procedures and be in line with the Ministry Broader Public Sector Procurement Directive.
- 9.3 To access the fund, send a completed and electronically approved WEFI Request for Reimbursement Form to [wefi@wrdsb.ca](mailto:wefi@wrdsb.ca).