

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Donating

# There are so many NGOs... why should I support Educate Girls?

Girls' education is known to have a phenomenal multiplier effect and improve a wide range of socio-economic parameters (income, health, inclusion, etc.) in the life of the girl but also of her family and community members. As the saying goes, educate a girl and you'll educate a nation!

There are still millions of out-of-school girls in India. Educate Girls endeavours to bring the exclusion of India's most marginalized girls from the education system to an end and gives them better life chances.

The strengths of Educate Girls' program model are its depth of impact coupled with its demonstrated ability to scale. Furthermore, by leveraging existing community and government resources, Educate Girls maintains its program implementation at a very low cost. The organization's professional and experienced team constantly strive for learning and improvement. Educate Girls' achievements have been hailed by several prestigious awards, like the 2015 Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship, the 2014 USAID Millennium Alliance Award and the 2014 Stars Impact Award.

# How can I help?

You can support us in our mission of offering marginalized girls access to quality education by making a donation <u>here</u>. Our donation page provides several options tailored to your capabilities and wishes, be it a one-time donation, a recurring donation, a fundraiser if you want to crowdfund for us, etc. Apart from that, you can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and our Blog and spread the word about Educate Girls! Read the other questions of the FAQs for more detailed information about donations.

# Will an individual's small contribution help?

Every contribution irrespective of its size is important and goes a long way towards enabling Educate Girls to implement its programme and bring girls back to school. You are welcome to contribute according to your capacity and help us reach out to more girls and create equal opportunities for all.

However, we urge you to avoid making a donation of less than INR 250 as the processing costs make it unviable for us.



#### What happens with my donation?

Once you have finalized and confirmed the donation process, your donation will be wired to Educate Girls' Foreign Currency or Non-Foreign Currency bank account. Your donation will contribute to improving girls' access to quality education in India's educationally most backward areas.

You will get an acknowledgment of your donation within a few hours after completion. Should that not happen, please write an email to <u>donate@educategirls.ngo</u> and we will check on the status of your donation.

#### What percentage of my donation will reach directly the beneficiaries?

Out of every money coin (in whichever currency) we receive from our donors, 83% is allocated to program expenses. The rest of it covers administration and support costs (13%) and capital expenditure (4%), which are essential to uphold high quality standards in our mission towards girls' education.

# Will I get a tax deduction?

Donations are tax-exempt under Section 80G of the Indian Income Tax Act, 1961. Therefore, Indian taxpayers can claim tax deduction by using the donation receipt automatically sent to all donors.

# Can I get a refund after making a donation?

Once a donation has been confirmed and completed, a refund or cancellation is not possible; nor can the end purpose be changed.

# Is it safe to donate online?

Yes, it is perfectly safe to donate online. We use a secured donation portal (HDFC BANK Payment Gateway). However, it is recommended to proceed with the donation from your own PC and to avoid doing it from a public area.

# What happens with the personal data I enter to make the donation?

We enforce a strict data protection policy and will never give nor sell any information regarding our donors to third parties.



# Why do I need to share my ID details (passport number / PAN card or passport number for Indian donors)?

As per Government regulations, it is mandatory for recipient organisations to maintain records of donors' identity.

# I'm a marathon-runner / an artist / etc. Can I hold a fundraiser for Educate Girls?

#### Yes, you can!

Such initiatives are most welcome, whether you compete in a race, want your school or company to raise funds before Christmas, or wish your friends to give to a charity instead of buying gifts for your birthday. You can use Crowdrise, which is a perfectly safe and widely used online donation platform.

Setting up a fundraiser is a piece of cake: all you need to do is go on Educate Girls' profile on <u>Crowdrise</u>, click on "Fundraise for this charity" and start a new fundraiser. Then, speak as much as possible about your project / initiative by picking up your phone, sending emails, posting on your social media, etc. We think that contacting your friends and relatives directly and personally, asking them for a small contribution, is the most successful way to get funds. You can also consider tagging us on Facebook (facebook.com/educategirls) or using our Twitter handle (@educate\_girls) when you promote it on social media so that we get to know about it. Thank you for thinking of us!

# In what currencies can I donate?

You can donate for the cause in any currency and from any country. Your contributions will be subject to the current conversion rates.

# I don't have a credit card? Can I still make a donation?

It is quicker, simpler and more convenient to make a donation through a credit card. In case you do not hold a credit card, you can make a cheque and courier it to our Head Office in Mumbai (# 201, Durolite House, Above Renault Showroom, Opp. Citi Mall, New Link Road Andheri (W), Mumbai – 400053), where it will be processed by our accounting staff. Include on a note your contact information (name, ID proof (PAN card if you wish to avail tax exemption), email ID and phone number) so that we can properly acknowledge your donation. Important: the option of sending a cheque is only available for donors from India.



# Can I contribute in-kind donations?

Our program model essentially delivers non-material items (e.g., enrollment of girls, facilitation of community meetings, CLT training and implementation, etc.). Therefore, in-kind donations (material goods such as clothes, etc.) do not match our program needs. They would require extra resources and capabilities to be administered, which we are unable to provide. Although we are grateful for any support offered by our generous donors, we have to decline in-kind gifts. Partnerships that aid our existing activities are welcome.

# My company would be interested in developing a CSR partnership with Educate Girls. How should I proceed?

Educate Girls is open to exploring new partnership opportunities with Indian or international corporations, foundations or other institutions. You can visit our page about CSR opportunities and write us an email using the provided contact information. Thank you for your interest!

# Is there a gift donation policy?

Yes, Educate Girls has a gift donation policy.

# Where can I find information on how to leave a bequest to Educate Girls?

People who wish to leave a bequest to Educate Girls can write to us at <u>donate@educategirls.ngo</u>.

# How does Educate Girls get funded?

Educate Girls is an Indian non-profit under Section 8 of the Indian Companies Act, 2013 and, hence, does not generate any profit itself. It relies completely on external grants and donations. Our pool of donors includes a large number of institutional funders, corporates, foundations, venture philanthropists as well as individual donors. To read more about our main funders, click <u>here</u>.

# I've read all the FAQs but my question is still unanswered...

FAQs are split into three different sections: *About Us, Our Program,* and *Donating*. You can also find plenty of useful information by visiting our Website. However, in case you couldn't get hold of what you were looking for, you can get in touch with us by writing to us at <u>info.in@educategirls.ngo</u> for general queries or at <u>donate@educategirls.ngo</u> for donation-related questions.