



## **Bless Students With Your Harvest**

# WHY DONATE YOUR HARVEST?

By contributing commodities to Sterling College, you are benefiting students with the full cash value of your crop donation.

Example: You donate \$3,000 worth of your harvest to Sterling College, which then sells it for \$3,000. The College then receives as a gift the entire \$3,000. However, if you sell the crop first and donate that revenue after taxes, you donate approximately \$1,940 to the College. Amount may vary based on the current market.

You save self-employment, federal and state tax.

### **HOW TO DONATE**

- 1. Deliver your grain donation to an elevator, request the storage receipt be made out to Sterling College. Or, if you store your grain on the farm, prepare a notarized letter of transfer to Sterling College.
- 2. Inform the College that they can market the commodity as they see fit.
- 3. Mail or email the storage receipt or notarized letter of transfer to:

Sterling College Sheila Bird Director of Planned Giving 125 W. Cooper, Sterling, KS 67579 sbird@sterling.edu.

### **YOUR GIFT**

A Sterling College advancement gift officer will work with you to ensure that your harvest gift goes to your preferred use. Or, you may simply indicate on your letter of transfer which department or program benefits from your gift.

#### **Scholarship Endowment:**

To establish an endowment benefiting student scholarships, contact SC Advancement at 620-278-4247.

See specific IRS guidelines on the back of this brochure.

#### **GIFTS OF FARM CROPS**

There are a number of ways you can benefit from a gift of grain to Sterling College: tax savings, avoid including the sale of a cash crop in your income, and your tax deduction remains the same for the production costs of crops. This results in direct savings in self-employment taxes, federal income tax, and state income tax.



OTHER GIFT OPTIONS	BENEFITS
Outright gift to Sterling College	Charitable deduction and tax savings
Charitable remainder trust	Income, charitable deduction and tax savings
Charitable gift annuity	Fixed income, charitable deduction and tax savings
Gift and sale plan	Cash, charitable deduction and tax savings

## **Harvest Gifting Guide**

1 TIMING

It is best to donate grain grown in a previous tax year. Make the donation early enough in the year so that there is no question that it came from the prior year's crop.

2 UNSOLD COMMODITY

The gift should be from unsold inventory with no sale commitment made prior to the gift.

3 PHYSICAL DELIVERY

The gift must be in the form of farm commodities, not warehouse receipts, which may be considered a cash equivalent. The charity (Sterling College) must be able to demonstrate "control and dominion" over the gifted property.

4 RETENTION OF CONTROL

The grower shall provide no guidance in the transfer agreement as to the retention or sale of the gifted commodity.

5 DOCUMENTATION

Provide either a properly executed warehouse receipt in the name of "Sterling College" or a notarized letter of transfer for crops stored on the farm. The original sales invoice should list the charity (Sterling College) as the seller.

6 STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS

After the transfer, Sterling College will assume costs of storage, marketing, or transportation.\*

7 CROP SHARE LEASES

Gifting will not work for a crop share landlord. A share of a crop received as a rental payment is considered the equivalent of rental income.

8 DONOR GIFT VALUE

Sterling College will provide you with a donor receipt for the net settlement amount for your records. You do not need to declare a deduction or sale to the IRS.

\*It is Sterling's policy to sell any grain or commodity donation as soon as we know you have made the gift.