APPRAISEITNOW

Form 8283 Section B and Qualified Appraisal Terms: A 2026 Glossary for Donors of Noncash Gifts Over $5,000

AppraiseItNow Inc.

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Educational material, not an appraisal.

How to use this glossary of Form 8283 and qualified appraisal terms

This is the 2026 edition of AppraiseItNow's glossary for donors and advisers who are arranging a qualified appraisal for a noncash gift over $5,000. It defines the words that appear on Form 8283 Section B, in the appraisal report, and in the paperwork that passes between donor, charity and appraiser.

How each entry is built

- The term appears in bold, followed by a plain-language definition.
- Where a published rule covers the term, the rule is quoted as written, with its source in parentheses.
- Practical steps follow the definition. These describe what a donor gathers or checks. They do not state any additional rule.
- "See" points to related entries in this glossary.
- Worked examples are labeled hypothetical and involve no real person or organization.

What this glossary leaves to the donor's tax adviser

Several questions turn on judgment that belongs to the donor's tax adviser. These include which items count as similar items, whether a particular artwork crosses the art attachment figure, whether a deduction is allowed, and how much is deductible. The entries below flag these points instead of answering them.

Terms A to Z for a qualified appraisal and Form 8283 Section B

A

Appraisal designation. A credential that a recognized organization awards for appraising a particular type of property. It is one route to meeting the qualified appraiser standard. The other route is relevant coursework combined with experience. The standard refers to "that type of property," so a donor checks that the designation matches what is being given. See Qualified appraiser.

Appraisal report. The written document in which the appraiser sets out the description, dates, method, basis and value conclusion, and then signs and dates the work. A donor keeps a complete signed copy with the tax records for the gift. See Qualified appraisal; Signature date.

Asset class. A category of property, such as vehicles, boats, machinery and equipment, fine art, household contents, inventory or business interests. AppraiseItNow's appraisers specialize by asset class rather than by geography. By asset class, the same 1,226 appraisals included 377 vehicles, 323 general personal property, 174 machinery and equipment, 54 boats, 45 business inventory, 40 fine art and 39 business valuations. See Appraisal designation.

Attachment to the return. A copy of the appraisal filed with the tax return instead of kept only in the donor's records. Two thresholds appear in the instructions (Instructions for Form 8283 (Rev. December 2025)). For a deduction over $500,000 (similar items combined), the appraisal is attached to the return. For art of $20,000 or more, a complete copy of the signed appraisal is attached. The donor's tax adviser decides whether a particular artwork crosses the art figure and how items are combined. See Similar items.

C

Charity. The organization that receives the gift, also called the donee. AppraiseItNow gathers specific details about the charity at intake. For a donation appraisal, AppraiseItNow requires, once the gift has happened, the charity's legal name and street address, the date of each contribution, which items went to which charity, and whether anything was received in return or attached as a condition; the charity's EIN and its written acknowledgment help but are not required. See Excluded appraiser; Part V.

Charity's signature. The signature that an authorized person at the receiving organization places in Part V of Section B. A donor arranges this signature directly with the charity, usually by sending the partly completed form to the charity's gift office. The entry for Part V explains what the signature does and does not mean.

Closely held business interest. An ownership stake in a company whose shares are not traded on a public market. Examples include shares in a family company, a membership interest in an LLC and a partnership interest. AppraiseItNow appraises closely held businesses. See Privately held stock.

Condition. The physical state of an item at the valuation date, including wear, damage, repairs, missing parts and whether it works. Photographs, maintenance records and a short written list of known defects let the appraiser describe condition accurately. See Good used condition; Qualified appraisal.

Conditions on the gift. Restrictions or requirements the donor attaches to the gift. Examples include a limit on resale, a required display or a stated use. A donor discloses any condition at intake and supplies the gift agreement if one exists. The donor's tax adviser addresses how a condition affects the deduction. See Charity; Received in return.

Contribution date. The date of each contribution, meaning the day the gift was made. A donor records it from the transfer paperwork, such as a signed title, a delivery receipt or the charity's letter. Where delivery and paperwork show different days, the donor's tax adviser confirms

which date to use. For a completed donation, the contribution date drives the effective date of AppraiseItNow's appraisal. See Effective date; Valuation date.

Cryptocurrency. Digital assets held in a wallet or exchange account. Chief Counsel Advice addresses this property directly (IRS Chief Counsel Advice 202302012). Cryptocurrency is not readily valued; an exchange price is not a substitute, so a deduction over $5,000 needs a qualified appraisal. A donor gathers the asset name, number of units, wallet or transfer records and the transaction identifier for the transfer to the charity. See Qualified appraisal.

D

Description of the property. The part of the appraisal that identifies exactly what was given. It covers the make, model, artist, title, dimensions, serial numbers, quantity and other details that let a reader match the report to the item. A precise description also lets the donor fill in Form 8283 consistently with the report. See Identifier.

Donor. The person or entity that gives the property and claims the deduction. The donor cannot be the appraiser. The donor supplies facts, documents and photographs, but the value conclusion belongs to the qualified appraiser. See Excluded appraiser.

Due date of the return. The filing deadline, with extensions, of the return that first claims the deduction. It is the latest date on which the appraiser may sign and date the appraisal. The donor must also have the appraisal by this date. The donor's tax adviser confirms the actual calendar date. See Signature date.

E

Effective date. The date to which the appraised value applies. USPAP defines it (USPAP, 2024 edition). An appraisal's effective date is the date the value applies to. It can be current, past (a date of death or donation) or future, and the report states both the effective date and the report date.

AppraiseItNow follows a fixed set of choices. AppraiseItNow sets the effective date by purpose: for insurance coverage and personal use, the report date; for estate and probate, the date of death; for a donation, the contribution date, or the report date for a future gift signed no more than 60 days before it; for a gift, the date of the gift; for an insurance claim, the date of loss; for a divorce, the date counsel sets; for an IRA conversion, the conversion date. See Valuation date.

EIN. The charity's employer identification number, a nine-digit federal tax identifier. It helps AppraiseItNow identify the charity correctly, but it is not required at intake. A donor can usually find it on the charity's acknowledgment letter or by asking its gift office. See Charity.

Excluded appraiser. Shorthand in this glossary for any person who cannot serve as the qualified appraiser. The excluded parties are the donor, the charity, whoever sold or gave the donor the property, and anyone related to or employed by them. A donor confirms independence before engaging anyone. See Qualified appraiser; Related party.

Extraordinary assumption. An assumption about an uncertain fact that the appraiser treats as true for the analysis. USPAP limits its use (USPAP, 2024 edition). An appraiser may assume an uncertain fact is true (an extraordinary assumption) only when it's needed for credible results, there's a reasonable basis for it and the analysis stays credible, and the report must say so clearly.

Hypothetical: a donor of a packaging machine reports that its motor was rebuilt the prior year but cannot find the invoice. The appraiser weighs the three conditions. If the appraiser relies on the rebuild, the report says so clearly. See Scope of work.

F

Fair market value. The value conclusion that the qualified appraisal reports for the donated property, supported by a stated method and basis. The donor's tax adviser can explain how tax law defines the term and how the figure relates to the deduction. See Method and basis; Qualified appraisal.

Form 8283. The IRS form for reporting noncash charitable contributions (Form 8283). Donors of property claimed at more than $5,000 work mainly in Section B. Section B carries the appraiser's signature in Part IV and the charity's signature in Part V. See Section B.

G

Good used condition. A condition standard that applies to donated clothing and household goods (26 U.S.C. § 170(f)(11) and (f)(16)). Used clothing and household items must be in good used condition or better, unless a single item is claimed at more than $500 with a qualified appraisal and Section B. Clear photographs of each item or group document the condition. See Condition; Household items.

H

Household items. In everyday use, the contents of a home, such as furniture, appliances, linens and decorative objects. The donor's tax adviser confirms which items fall into the category for tax purposes. For household items, AppraiseItNow asks for one clear photo per item or group. See Good used condition; Photographs.

I

Identifier. A unique number that ties a report to one specific object. Examples include a vehicle identification number (VIN), a boat's hull identification number (HIN) and a machine's serial number. A donor photographs the plate or tag where the identifier appears and also types the number out. See Description of the property; Missing-details request.

In-person inspection. A visit by the appraiser to see the property physically. The regulation addresses inspection directly (Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-17). IRS rules do not require the appraiser to inspect the property in person. USPAP leaves the decision to the appraiser (USPAP, 2024

edition). USPAP does not require an in-person inspection in every assignment. The appraiser decides the scope of work, including how much inspection credible results need, and the report describes that scope. Most AppraiseItNow appraisals are completed remotely from photographs and documents; when an inspection is needed, an appraiser visits the asset in person. See Remote appraisal; Scope of work.

Intended use. The purpose for which an appraisal is prepared. The purpose determines the effective date and the reporting the appraisal must satisfy. A donation appraisal is prepared for the donor's tax filing. Of the 1,226 appraisals AppraiseItNow opened between November 8, 2025 and November 8, 2026, 521 were for charitable donations, 175 for insurance (102 claims and 73 coverage), 144 for estates (61 probate, 46 estate tax and 37 estate settlement), 50 for divorce and 15 for Roth IRA conversions. See Effective date.

M

Method and basis. The valuation approach the appraiser uses and the evidence behind it. A sales comparison approach looks at prices of comparable items. A cost approach starts from replacement cost less depreciation. An income approach looks at earnings a business or asset produces. The report names the method and identifies the data relied on. See Fair market value; Qualified appraisal.

Missing-details request. A formal request from AppraiseItNow to the client for information the appraiser needs before or during the work. AppraiseItNow collects what the appraiser needs before the appraisal starts, and asks only for what the appraiser needs.

Of 867 appraisals AppraiseItNow reviewed between October 27, 2025 and September 23, 2026, 31% needed something more from the client and 24.6% went through a formal request for missing details. In 162 requests for missing details that AppraiseItNow sent between August 2025 and September 2026, the median first reply from the client came in 0.1 days; 55% were resolved within a day and 89% within a week. Identifiers such as a VIN or serial number took a median 0.6 days to arrive, receipts 0.7 days, donation documents 1.7 days and photos 2.0 to 3.7 days. 93% of the 363 questions appraisers sent back to AppraiseItNow between November 2024 and September 2026 asked for something the client could have provided at the start.

The practical lesson is that donation documents and photographs are the items most worth assembling before intake. See Identifier; Photographs.

N

Noncash charitable contribution. A gift to a charity of property other than cash. Examples include a vehicle, a boat, machinery, artwork, business inventory, household contents, a business interest or cryptocurrency. Form 8283 carries this phrase in its title. See Form 8283.

P

Part IV. The part of Form 8283 Section B that the qualified appraiser signs. In practice, the donor sends the form to the appraiser after the appraisal is complete. The donor then checks that the property described on the form matches the report. See Part V; Qualified appraiser.

Part V. The part of Form 8283 Section B that the receiving charity signs. The form sets out both signatures (Instructions for Form 8283 (Rev. December 2025)). The qualified appraiser signs Part IV of Section B and the charity signs Part V. The charity's signature does not mean it agrees with the value. See Charity's signature; Written acknowledgment.

Photographs. Images that let the appraiser identify the property and judge its condition remotely. AppraiseItNow's photo requirements by asset type: for vehicles, the outside and inside, plus the mileage for anything motorized; for boats, the outside with the cover off, the helm, the engine and the inside, plus the HIN and engine hours; for machinery, a few photos of each machine, the hours and whether it runs; for fine art, the front, back, signature and frame; for household items, one clear photo per item or group. Photos taken close to the contribution date best show condition at that date. See Remote appraisal.

Privately held stock. Shares in a company that are not publicly traded. The regulation treats such interests like other property (Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-16). Privately held stock, LLC interests and partnership interests follow the same rule as other property: a deduction over $5,000 needs a qualified appraisal and Section B. The old $10,000 rule for nonpublicly traded stock ended for gifts after July 30, 2018. A donor gathers the operating or shareholder agreement, recent financial statements and the transfer document. See Closely held business interest.

Q

Qualified appraisal. The appraisal document the tax rules call for when a noncash gift is claimed at more than $5,000. Its contents are prescribed (Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-17). A qualified appraisal describes the property and, for physical property, its condition; gives the donation date (or expected date), the valuation date, the method and basis used, and the fair market value; and follows USPAP. See Appraisal report; Qualified appraiser; USPAP.

Qualified appraiser. The individual who prepares and signs the qualified appraisal and Part IV of Section B. The regulation sets the qualifications (Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-17). A qualified appraiser has an appraisal designation for that type of property from a recognized organization, or relevant coursework and at least 2 years' experience valuing it, and regularly does paid appraisals. The donor, the charity, whoever sold or gave the donor the property, and anyone related to or employed by them can't be the appraiser. Between them, AppraiseItNow's appraisers hold ASA, ISA, AAA, CAGA, NACVA, NEBB Institute, ABV and CFA credentials. See Appraisal designation; Excluded appraiser.

R

Received in return. Anything the charity gives the donor in connection with the gift. Examples include goods, services, event tickets or a discount. A donor lists each item at intake, even when it seems minor. The donor's tax adviser addresses how it affects the deduction. See Charity; Conditions on the gift.

Related party. A person or entity connected to the donor, the charity or the person who sold or gave the donor the property. Anyone related to or employed by those parties cannot be the appraiser. The facts here do not define "related," so the donor's tax adviser determines whether a particular connection disqualifies a proposed appraiser. See Excluded appraiser.

Remote appraisal. An appraisal prepared from photographs, documents and records without a site visit. Of the 1,226 appraisals AppraiseItNow opened between November 8, 2025 and November 8, 2026, 1,137 were done from photographs and documents and 27 in person; the method was not recorded for the other 62. See In-person inspection; Photographs.

Report date. The date the appraiser signs and issues the report. It is separate from the effective date, and the report states both. For a future gift signed no more than 60 days before it, AppraiseItNow uses the report date as the effective date. See Effective date; Signature date.

Return that first claims the deduction. The first income tax return on which the donor reports the deduction for the gift. The appraiser's signing deadline and the donor's deadline for having the appraisal both refer to this return's due date, with extensions. See Due date of the return.

S

Scope of work. The type and extent of research and analysis an appraisal requires, including how the property is inspected. Under USPAP, the appraiser decides the scope of work, and the report describes it. A donor reading a report can find there how the property was examined and what records were relied on. See In-person inspection.

Section B. The part of Form 8283 for donated property that needs a qualified appraisal. The regulation sets the threshold (Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-16). A deduction of more than $5,000 for one item, or for a group of similar items, generally needs a qualified appraisal and Form 8283 Section B. Similar items count together even when they went to different charities. See Part IV; Part V; Similar items.

Signature date. The date on which the qualified appraiser signs and dates the appraisal. It must fall inside a defined window (Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-17). The appraiser must sign and date the appraisal no earlier than 60 days before the donation and no later than the due date, with extensions, of the return that first claims the deduction. The donor must have it by that due date too. See Sixty-day window.

Similar items. A tax term for property that is grouped together when the dollar threshold is applied. The facts in this glossary do not define the term, so the donor's tax adviser decides which items are similar. Once that decision is made, similar items count together even when they went to different charities.

Hypothetical: a retired machinist gives three lathes to one trade school and a fourth to a different school. The tax adviser decides whether the four are similar items. AppraiseItNow's intake records which items went to which charity, so the report can follow whatever grouping the adviser applies. See Section B.

Sixty-day window. The period of 60 days before the donation that governs both the earliest signature date and, for an appraisal signed before the gift, the valuation date.

Hypothetical: a donor plans to give a fishing boat to a maritime school on a set date. The appraiser signs and dates the appraisal 45 days before that date, which is no earlier than 60 days before the donation. Because the appraisal is dated before the donation, its valuation date must fall within the 60 days before the donation. The donor must also have the appraisal by the due date, with extensions, of the return that first claims the deduction. Whether the deduction is allowed, and in what amount, is for the donor's tax adviser. See Signature date; Valuation date.

T

Tax adviser. The accountant, enrolled agent or attorney who prepares or reviews the donor's return. In this subject, the adviser decides questions the appraisal does not answer. These include similar items, the art attachment figure, deductibility and amount. See Attachment to the return; Similar items.

U

USPAP. The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice, the professional standards a qualified appraisal follows (USPAP, 2024 edition). AppraiseItNow prepares every appraisal in accordance with USPAP, the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. See Extraordinary assumption; Scope of work.

V

Valuation date. The date as of which the appraiser measures fair market value. Its placement depends on when the appraisal is dated (Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-17). If the appraisal is dated before the donation, its valuation date must fall within the 60 days before the donation. If it is dated on or after the donation, the valuation date is the donation date.

Hypothetical: a farmer gives a tractor to an agricultural college, and the appraisal is signed several weeks afterward. Because the appraisal is dated after the donation, the valuation date is the donation date. Photographs and hour-meter readings from around that date help the appraiser describe condition as of that date. See Contribution date; Effective date.

W

Written acknowledgment. A letter, receipt or email from the charity confirming the gift. It typically names the charity, describes the property and gives the date received. It is a separate document from the charity's signature in Part V. AppraiseItNow finds it helpful at intake, but it is not required for the appraisal to begin. See Charity; Part V.

Forms, rules and standards referred to in this Form 8283 glossary

- 26 U.S.C. § 170(f)(11) and (f)(16): Internal Revenue Code section 170, charitable contributions, covering qualified appraisal requirements and clothing and household items. Referred to under Good used condition.
- Form 8283: IRS Form 8283, Noncash Charitable Contributions. Referred to under Form 8283.
- Instructions for Form 8283 (Rev. December 2025): IRS Instructions for Form 8283, Noncash Charitable Contributions. Referred to under Attachment to the return and Part V.
- IRS Chief Counsel Advice 202302012: Chief Counsel Advice on the appraisal of donated cryptocurrency. Referred to under Cryptocurrency.
- IRS Publication 526 (2025): Charitable Contributions. A general IRS reference on charitable contributions, including the qualified appraisal threshold.
- IRS Publication 561 (Rev. December 2025): Determining the Value of Donated Property. A general IRS reference on valuing donated property.
- Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-16: Substantiation and reporting requirements for noncash charitable contributions. Referred to under Section B and Privately held stock.
- Treas. Reg. § 1.170A-17: Qualified appraisal and qualified appraiser. Referred to under In-person inspection, Qualified appraisal, Qualified appraiser, Signature date and Valuation date.
- USPAP, 2024 edition: Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice. Referred to under Effective date, Extraordinary assumption, In-person inspection and USPAP.

About the publisher, AppraiseItNow

What AppraiseItNow does

This glossary is published by AppraiseItNow Inc. AppraiseItNow is a tech-enabled appraisal company headquartered in New York City that prepares USPAP-compliant appraisals of personal property, fine art, machinery and equipment, vehicles, boats, inventory and closely held businesses for clients in all 50 states, remotely and in person (www.appraiseitnow.com).

AppraiseItNow is an appraisal company that prepares appraisals itself; it is not appraisal software and does not manage appraisal orders for lenders. AppraiseItNow does not appraise real estate.

How AppraiseItNow's donation work is organized

Clients request an appraisal from AppraiseItNow online and receive a fixed-fee quote before any work begins; AppraiseItNow does not bill hourly. Common uses of AppraiseItNow's appraisals include charitable donations, gift and estate tax, estate settlement, divorce, insurance and lending. AppraiseItNow delivered more than 1,100 appraisals in the 12 months to November 2026.

Ownership of AppraiseItNow

AppraiseItNow was founded in October 2021. Joe Kattan became involved as a co-owner in 2022 and acquired full ownership in November 2024. Joe Kattan is the owner and chief executive officer of AppraiseItNow.

AppraiseItNow's website is www.appraiseitnow.com.