Even though Mike Smeltzer grew up on the West Coast, once he came to Columbus, he became a Buckeye for life. During his Ohio State education and career in public health, Mike learned the importance of a solid educational foundation. Today, he is dedicated to supporting the next generation of public health professionals.

Mike’s career in public health started in microbiology because of a petri dish. While attending Ohio State, Mike’s roommate came home with several petri dishes from one of his classes. Mike was fascinated by the colonies in the dishes and decided to pursue a major in microbiology.

“I became familiar with public health during my first job working in a lab at the Ohio Department of Health,” he says. “I witnessed the impact of their efforts and how everyone worked together to accomplish their goals. I knew pursuing a career in public health was the best fit for me.”

Upon earning his degree in public health from the University of North Carolina, Mike returned to Columbus and began working for the Columbus Public Health Department.

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You, like Mike, can help Ohio State students pursue their dreams. Contact John Woods, Assistant Vice President, Office of Estate and Gift Planning, at 800-327-7907, 614-292-2183 or giftplan@osu.edu to learn how.
An IRA is an appealing way to save for retirement: Make a contribution and enjoy tax savings. But eventually, that tax bill comes due—when you take your annual distributions and again when you leave your assets to heirs. If you want to avoid the tax bite and make an impact on future Buckeyes, then consider a gift to The Ohio State University Foundation from your IRA.

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY
If you are 70½ or older, you can use the IRA charitable rollover to make a tax-free gift to Ohio State. This law allows you to transfer any amount up to $100,000 annually directly to a qualified charitable organization without paying income tax on the distribution. Additional benefits include:
- You will see the difference you are making today.
- The transfer does not generate taxable income or an income tax charitable deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your tax deductions.
- Your gift can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution.

MAGNIFY YOUR IMPACT AFTER YOUR LIFETIME
Regardless of your age, you can give from your IRA by naming The Ohio State University Foundation as a beneficiary of your account. This is a great option for extending support from your IRA beyond your lifetime.

Here’s how:
1. Decide what percentage (1–100) you would like us to receive.
2. Contact your IRA administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form, or simply download a form from your provider’s website.
3. Name The Ohio State University Foundation and the gift percentage on the form.
4. Return the form to your IRA administrator.
5. Let us know about your plans so we can thank you.

Whether you make your impact at Ohio State today or after your lifetime, your gift matters. Please contact John Woods to discuss your plans. Or, to explore other ways you can make a lasting impact at Ohio State, visit us online at giveto.osu.edu/giftplanning.

Discover a Dozen Ways to Make a Difference
We can help find the right giving option for you. Learn more about how you can meet your charitable goals with our complimentary guide 12 Ways to Make a Meaningful Difference. Simply return the enclosed reply card to request your copy today.
HELP STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS

You can change lives and help Ohio State students achieve their dreams. How? Through a scholarship gift.

With the cost of a college education seeming to climb higher every year, the dream of earning a degree can move out of reach for deserving students. A scholarship can help ease the financial burden students face and put a degree back within their reach.

A FLEXIBLE WAY TO GIVE
When you create a scholarship at Ohio State, you can tailor it to meet your preferences. You decide who receives the gift, what qualifications must be met for a student to qualify and the type of support you want your scholarship to provide.

Some things to consider:
+ Will the scholarship support full- or part-time students?
+ Does the student need to be an undergraduate or graduate student?
+ Will it provide full or partial support to the recipient?
+ Can it be used to purchase books, or will it cover tuition costs only?
+ Will the scholarship be awarded based on merit or need?

You can also name your scholarship. This is a heartfelt way to honor a loved one or someone who had a significant impact on your life.

Take the First Steps
You can change a life with a gift that establishes, or contributes to, a scholarship. To get started, contact John Woods at 800-327-7907, 614-292-2183 or giftplan@osu.edu.

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He worked in a diverse group of areas throughout his career, including AIDS response, violence prevention, injury prevention and much more. He retired four years ago as the Director of the Division of Planning and Peak Performance, responsible for earning national accreditation for the department.

Mike continues to make an impact on the community through his volunteer work and mission trips around the globe. He has traveled to places such as Vietnam, Cambodia, Russia and Bolivia to help build schools, churches and health clinics.

Mike is committed to supporting graduate students in the College of Public Health. His scholarship gifts will help create a link for students to the community of public health professionals at an earlier point in their education so that they can get a head start on their careers.

“I hope my gift will make a difference in a student’s ability to successfully complete a program in public health who in turn will make the world a better place for the communities they serve,” says Mike.

Using the IRA charitable rollover, Mike is able to support scholarships today while also enjoying tax benefits. He will be able to sustain the scholarship support for future students through a gift from his estate plan.

“It is beyond gratifying to know that I am helping someone pursue their dreams,” he says. “I urge everyone to support an area that they’re connected to and matters to them. There are so many giving options to consider and the university makes the whole process simple to understand.”
When you created your will, did you focus exclusively on family? It is not unusual. Ensuring our loved ones are cared for after we are gone is one of the top reasons we craft this important legal document.

But what about the other people and places that matter to you? Those that help shape the futures of young people and the world— institutions like The Ohio State University.

It is not too late to give back to the places you are passionate about, like Ohio State, while still putting family first. Simply update your estate plan with this easy strategy.

PERCENTAGE GIVING
Instead of a fixed amount, you can gift The Ohio State University Foundation a percentage of your estate or of specific assets. Your gifts to The Ohio State University Foundation, loved ones and other institutions you care about remain proportional, regardless of how the value of your estate fluctuates.

Here are three ways to put family first and support future Buckeyes:
1. Gift a percentage of your estate to The Ohio State University Foundation in your will.
2. Leave us a percentage of your residual estate (the portion of your estate that remains after all gifts have been made and all claims of the estate are satisfied).
3. Name The Ohio State University Foundation as a beneficiary of a percentage of your life insurance policy or retirement account.

Honor Someone With Your Gift
Is there someone special in your life who shares your connection to Ohio State, such as a professor, former classmate or family member? You can honor that relationship with a gift to support Ohio State in their name. Contact John Woods for help planning your perfect gift.