



In Australia, trusts and foundations can be categorised as the following:

## 1a. Private foundations

- Established by an individual, often by bequest
- Administered by trustees who distribute annual grants based on the donor's priorities.
- Grants can be limited to particular geographic or interest areas.

Examples: The Ian Potter Foundation, The William Buckland Foundation, The Helen M. Schutt Trust

## 1b. Family foundations

- Family foundations are private foundations established by a family, administered by family members or by members of the original donor's family.

Examples: The Myer Foundation, the Lance Reichstein Foundation, The Besen Family Foundation

## 2. Community foundations

- Community foundations aim to create an endowment by fundraising from a variety of sources (individuals, companies and groups) with a common interest in the welfare of a particular geographic area.
- Community foundations provide grants for designated geographic areas, such as a town, region or state.
- Contributions come from a number of donors.
- Community foundations usually have a board of local people who act in a voluntary capacity.

Examples: The Melbourne Community Foundation, The Queensland Community Foundation, The Mumbulla Foundation

## 3. Corporate foundations

- Corporate foundations are established as entities separate from the parent company.
- Funds are derived primarily from the contributions of a profit-making business organisation.
- The company sponsored foundation usually maintains close ties with the donor company, but it is an independent organisation with its own endowment and is subject to the same rules and regulations as other foundations.

Examples: The RACV Foundation, The AMP Foundation



#### **4. Government initiated foundations**

Gain their income from government directed funds, via various routes, from the general public or sections of it (eg funds from gambling, levies on cigarettes, etc).

Contributions may come from legislated levies, government grants, community donors, depending on the type of foundation and its areas of interest

Examples: The Victorian Womens' Trust, the Law Foundation of New South Wales, Lotteries Commission of Western Australia

#### **5. Trustee Companies**

- Trustee companies were created in the late 19th century to offer total management of money and risk averse investment, offering a low but steady return.
- The use of trustee companies to manage charitable trusts and donations flowed naturally from the companies' tax advice and will-making services.
- Trustee companies are for-profit businesses that, among other activities, offer management services to foundations. They can legally administer estates, the property of minors, or the affairs of those needing assistance to manage their own financial affairs.
- Trustee companies carry out the instructions of the donor in perpetuity. Generally, the trustee receives advice on the distribution of funds from expert committees.
- Trustee companies receive a management fee (varying from state to state and usually based on the capital value of the trust/fund) for managing the trust.

Examples: ANZ Trustees, Perpetual Trustees, State Trustees