

Cisco Technology Grant Program (TGP)

Program Overview & Application Process Guidelines



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Cisco donates our own technology to qualified non-profit organizations to help them realize significant gains in productivity, security, scalability, and cost-efficiency



What is a Cisco Technology Grant?

Technology Grants are charitable donations of Cisco-branded and manufactured hardware, software, subscriptions and/or licenses.

Technology Grants ARE NOT:

- A donation of 3rd party equipment, goods or services (tablets, laptops, ISP costs, trainings, food, clothing, etc.) or used equipment of any kind
- Linked to anything that provides a direct benefit to Cisco
- To support an existing customer relation or provide any kind of discount
- To individuals or for-profit organizations

Technology Grants DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Design, installation, or training
- Any kind of monetary donations

Eligibility

- Only registered non-profit (NPO) or non-governmental (NGO) organizations can apply
 - For the US, organizations must be recognized by the IRS as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) and classified as a public charity
 - Outside the US, organizations must provide information and documentation to prove the organization is the equivalent of a US public charity
- Organization must serve the community at large
- Organization's overhead must not exceed 25%
- Focus must be aligned with Cisco's social impact investment sectors (Crisis Response, Education, Economic Opportunity, and Climate Resilience)
- Cisco's [Grant Giving Policies](#) must be adhered to
- No sales conflicts or 'quid pro quo' allowed

Examples of Ineligible Organizations

- Schools & scholarships:
 - Public, charter, or private schools or school systems
 - School foundations
 - Booster clubs or other fundraising organizations affiliated with a school
 - Colleges or universities
 - Scholarships/stipend programs of any kind
- Libraries or museums
- Sports clubs
- Healthcare clinics / hospitals
- Arts programs

Avoiding Sales Conflicts

Active Cisco customers are NOT eligible for TGP donations!

- A customer in this context is defined as any organization that:
 - Purchased or intended to purchase Cisco products 6 months before a TGP request
 - Intends to purchase Cisco products 6 months after a TGP request
 - Has an ongoing sales relationship with Cisco
- Conversely, sales to a TGP grantee are not permitted until 6 months after a charitable donation
- Both direct and indirect sales via a Cisco partner or distributor are considered a sale
- Participating in a trial or try-and-buy program is considered an intent to purchase
- In case of doubt, please check with your TGP contact

Application Pathways for TGP

Cisco offers two primary pathways for technology grants.

1. For smaller, more routine requests, use the simpler process managed by our partner [TechSoup](#)

TechSoup manages the application process and is the point of contact for this program. Learn more about [TechSoup grants](#)

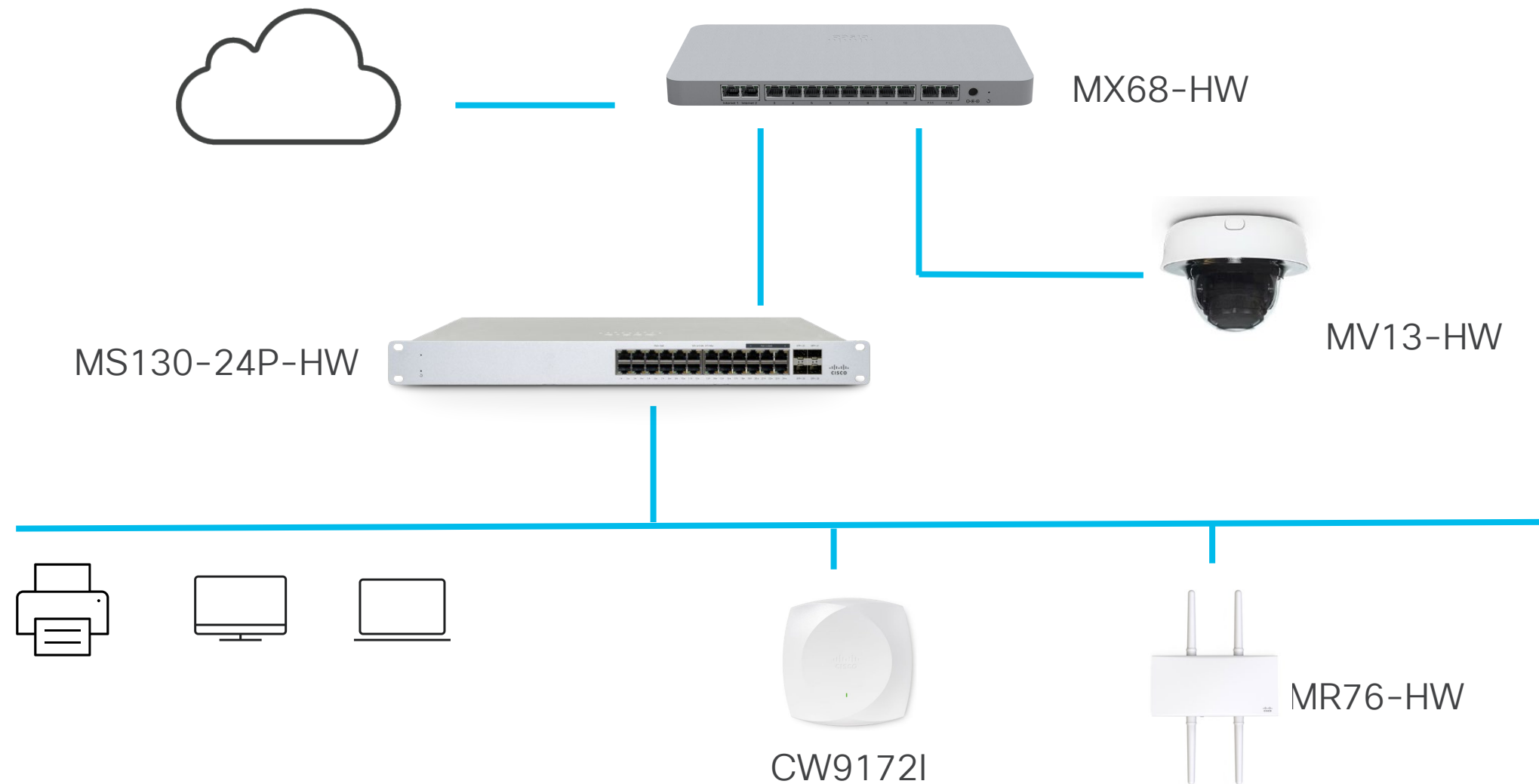
2. For larger, more complex requests, use the customized process managed directly by Cisco

To inquire about a larger or more complex TGP grant request from Cisco, use the [TGP contact form](#) to send us a message

TGP Donations Managed by TechSoup

- Since 2003, Cisco has partnered with TechSoup to provide smaller TGP donations in select countries
- TechSoup manages the application process and is the point of contact for this program
- Must comply with specific eligibility and restriction rules
- Limited to certain countries:
Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, UK, US
- Only supports certain products (select models from the Meraki portfolio)
- Limited to \$50K (US Global List Price) per year per grantee
- Subject to an administrative fee payable to TechSoup or its affiliate
- Does not follow a quarterly grant review cycle

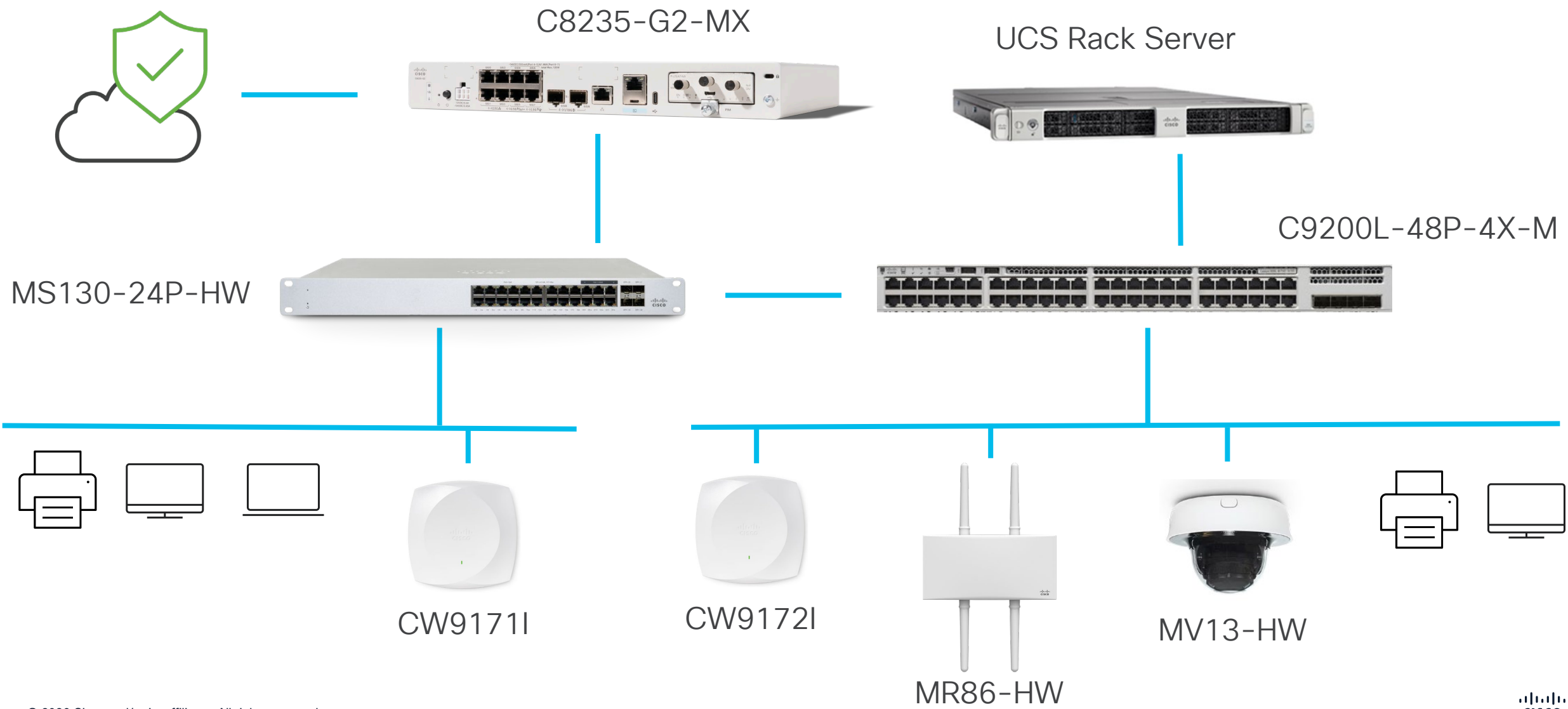
Example TechSoup Managed Donation



TGP Donations Managed by Cisco

- By invitation only
- Direct grant application process with Cisco via online application form
- No upfront commitments are ever made
- Follows a quarterly review cycle
- Fewer restrictions on supported products, support for custom-built product lists
- Usually larger and more complex grants
- Limited to \$100K (US Global List Price) for a first-time grant
- Program web page: [Technology Grant Program](#)

Example Cisco Managed Donation



Application Process for Cisco Managed Donations

1. Introductory conversation
2. Finalize requested product list
3. Submit the grant application
4. Work with Cisco TGP team on refining the grant application for review
5. Grant decision
6. Donation agreement
7. Ordering and logistics
8. Post grant follow-up

Introductory Conversation

- Submit a question or request via the [TGP Contact Form](#)
 - Be specific in your request
- If invited to a call:
 - The TGP program rules will be reviewed
 - Expectations, logistics, and timelines will be clarified
 - Initial product list is reviewed to verify if the technology is supported by the TGP program
 - High-level eligibility review is done
 - An initial assessment of the request will be made
- TGP contact will provide the non-profit with advice on what next steps they can take
- If both the non-profit and Cisco determine a TGP grant application is viable, Cisco will share instructions on how to apply for a grant

Product List, Design, and Implementation

- Before a non-profit can submit a TGP grant application, a final product wish list needs to be compiled. The wish list should contain exact Cisco part numbers, quantities and pricing (Global US list price)
- The maximum request amount for first-time grant recipients is \$100,000 (US Global List Price)
- If needed, the non-profit can obtain pricing from the TGP grant contact
- TGP team does not provide design, installation, or consultancy (only limited advice based on grants made in the past)
- If the non-profit is in discussions with any third-party or Cisco sales resources, the non-profit needs to make it clear to those sales resources that no product sales will be possible if the technology grant is approved (see section on Sales Conflicts).
- Cisco always reserves the right to substitute parts, even after the donation agreement is signed. Only items on Cisco's Global List Price are supported in the program and no used or second-hand equipment is donated

Submit the Grant Application

- TGP grants are submitted online
- Only the non-profit or their grant writer is allowed to submit a grant request
- Cisco employees, third parties, and/or any IT consultants involved cannot submit on behalf of the non-profit
- Minor missing information can be uploaded or corrected later by the TGP team. In case of large scope changes, the grant will be returned to the applicant for modification
- Be specific:
 - Include measurable metrics when available
 - Share floorplans and topology maps when possible
 - Provide information on installation plans
 - Avoid vague statements

Submit the Grant Application (continued)

- Follow the TGP grant flow:
 - What is your current situation?
 - What do you want to change, or what technology do you want to implement?
 - Why do you want to do this (i.e. what is the problem you are addressing)?
 - What is your timeline?
 - How will you implement this? How will you fund implementation?
 - What will be the situation after deployment?
 - How will you know you reached your goals?
- Don't hesitate to reach out to your TGP contact for advice

Work with Cisco TGP Team

- Once submitted, independent due diligence and non-profit validation are conducted by [CAF America](#)
- TGP team will:
 - Work with the non-profit to ensure all required information for the review committee is present
 - Confirm the non-profit understands and will assume the responsibility for any logistics and applicable customs clearance requirements, duties and taxes, any in-country delivery costs, and installation
 - Confirm the final requested product list, with no more changes allowed after this moment

Grant Decision

- We accept proposals for direct technology grants on an ongoing, year-round basis, but we review grants on a quarterly cycle:
 - Fiscal Year Q1: August – October; Q2: November – January;
Q3: February – April; Q4: May – July
- Decision could be *Approved*, *Declined*, or *Postponed*
- Multi-phase grants are never committed to
- Grant decisions are usually based on (but not limited to):
 - Non-profit focus areas and people served
 - Grant request justification and metrics
 - Grant request size
 - Clear installation and deployment plans
 - Grant history of the non-profit with Cisco
 - Compliance with Cisco granting policies

Donation Agreement

- Donation agreements are signed via DocuSign
- Donation agreements are non-negotiable
- Only after grantee countersignature will orders be placed
- Only product numbers and quantities will be included (no product values)
- In case the non-profit is not the Importer of Record (applicable for certain countries), the entity acting as Importer of Record needs to be documented in the donation agreement
- Any special terms will be documented in Exhibit B

Ordering and Logistics

- For Australia, Canada, EU, India, Mexico, the UK, and the US:
 - Cisco ships to end-destination and acts as Importer of Record (IOR)
 - Cisco covers the duties and taxes
 - Cisco pays for all shipping costs
 - Orders will ship when ready and released by manufacturing
 - There may be multiple shipments – every item might ship separately

Ordering and Logistics (continued)

- For all other countries:
 - Cisco ships to Port of Entry (usually the airport)
 - Cisco typically only covers shipping cost to the Port of Entry
 - Grantee needs to:
 - Act as Importer of Record (IOR), can be delegated, but cannot be Cisco
 - Pay applicable duties and taxes
 - Apply for any licenses or approvals needed to import and use the technology
 - Assume responsibility for **ALL** import procedures (or delegate to their broker)
 - To maximize the license term, licenses will be ordered separately and closer to the onsite delivery date
 - Cisco tries to combine shipments when possible
 - Shipments are only released when all import preparations are confirmed as completed

Post-Grant Follow-Up

- Cisco can request installation status updates and impact reports
- If it is discovered that products are missing from the design to fully implement the grant, contact the TGP team (e.g., missing an extra access point to fully cover an office)
- Any technical issues, questions, or problems need to be routed to Cisco or Meraki post-sales support

Splunk Global Impact



Splunk helps nonprofits be proactive instead of reactive—and even predictive—in their missions, eliminating issues before they occur and allowing managers more control of their time and resources. In turn, nonprofit teams can focus on innovating for the benefit of humanity and inspiring the world through their mission success

- A product donation program committed to research, education and community service
- Includes software licenses, training and support
- Different offerings
 - Splunk for Nonprofits
 - Splunk for Workforce Development
 - Splunk for Academic Institutions
 - Splunk for Research Institutes
- Program website and applications: [Splunk Product Donation Program](#)

FAQs

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How can I email or call the grant team?

Please use the [TGP Contact Form](#) to get in touch.

Does Cisco donate licenses or support contracts with donations?

Yes – we want every donation to be done in a sustainable way, without forcing a grantee to immediately purchase Cisco licenses to deploy a donation. Most charitable TGP donations come with either 5-year licenses or 5-year support contracts.

What are common products granted via the TGP program?

The vast majority are Meraki products, followed by Webex endpoints. Security subscriptions and select server hardware are supported upon justification.

FAQs (continued)

My grant application is very large. Can I offset this by buying some remaining items at a discount?

No – we do not allow mixing of sales and charitable donations in any way.

Are all Cisco products donated via the TGP program?

No – there are limits to this program. Examples of non-supported technology: Webex (Calling), Training Credits, or any OEM products. Please check with your TGP contact for the latest guidelines.

I don't know what products I need. Can you help?

It is the primary responsibility of the applicant to create a design and product list. We can only offer limited help.

FAQs (continued)

We are not a registered non-profit (NPO) or non-governmental organization (NGO). Can we still apply?

No – the program is only open to eligible registered non-profits.

Does the TGP program fund some of the installation costs?

No – the TGP program is limited to Cisco technology and does not provide any monetary funding.

Are TGP donations available worldwide?

Yes, in most cases. However, [General Export Compliance](#) rules must be followed.

FAQs (continued)

I no longer need the donated products. Can I hand them over to another organization or sell them?

No – TGP donations are not to be transferred or sold. If you no longer need the equipment, we advise you to review the [Cisco Takeback and Reuse Program](#). In some cases, and upon approval, a donation can be transferred. For more information, reach out to us via the [TGP Contact Form](#).

Thank you



