FOUNDERS' PLEDGE

Unite your charitable goals with your business success.


Making the pledge is easy. Simply fill out our signature form.

Enjoy exclusive events and networking opportunities. Let us invest in you.

When the time is right, like a liquidity event or a successful quarter, donate a percentage of your success.

Founders simply commit to donating to Columbia Business School a portion of any wealth resulting from their venture.

Signatories have full control over the timing, amount, and designation of their gift.

Your pledge is a statement of intent only. Tax benefits come into play at the time of your gift.

For more information on the Founders' Pledge at Columbia Business School, please contact Jennifer E. Cole, Senior Associate Director of Major Gifts, at jec2233@gsb.columbia.edu or 212-851-1808.
What is the Founders’ Pledge?
The Founders’ Pledge is an innovative way for our alumni entrepreneurs to pledge a percentage of their venture’s future proceeds and help solidify our position as a top-ranked business school.

Who can make a Founders’ Pledge?
Anyone who holds equity in a company such as founders, investors, and institutional investors.

Is there a cost to participating in the Founders’ Pledge?
There is no cost. No commission, transaction fee, or hidden costs.

Is the Founders’ Pledge legally binding?
Your pledge is an indicator of your intentions to fulfill the commitment and is not legally binding.

What happens if I never exit or the business fails?
Your pledge is based only on the success of your venture.

Is there a minimum pledge percentage?
The percentage that you give is completely up to you.

What tax benefit do I receive by participating in the Founders’ Pledge?
Columbia University is a not-for-profit or 501 (c)(3), allowing your gift to count against your taxes as a charitable gift. The tax benefit will come at the time of your gift.

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FOUNDERS’ PLEDGE FORM

Name: ________________________________ Degree Year: ____________________

Address: ________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

YES, I would like to join fellow alumni entrepreneurs in stating my intention to support Columbia Business School with a portion of future proceeds from my venture.

I understand that the Founders’ Pledge is meant to provide entrepreneurial alumni like myself, the opportunity to have a meaningful early start in philanthropic planning. While this form sets forth my present intention, it is not intended to be legally binding. I will contact Columbia Business School once I am ready to make a gift.

Additionally, I understand that Columbia is not bound to accept an interest in any entity, and I will therefore make every effort to donate cash or readily marketable securities.

My company is: ____________________________________________

I am interested in supporting (e.g. the annual fund, financial aid, etc.): ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Percentage of future proceeds I intend to donate: _____________________________

☐ I wish to be included in published listings as a signer of the Founders’ Pledge.

-OR-

☐ I wish to remain anonymous.

__________________________________________  __________________________
Signature  Date

Please return completed forms to:
Jennifer E. Cole, Senior Associate Director of Major Gifts, Columbia Business School
33 West 60th Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10023
jec2233@gsb.columbia.edu