Spark Help Center – Updated October 2020 Content

**Category: Peer Matching**

**Section: Getting Started**

Articles to help you get started using Peer Match.

Article:

**What is Peer Matching?**

With Peer Matching, you use your own money to match the donations of your peers. Peers can join and match together, amplifying their passions and driving more impact!

Peer Match pledges get added to a pool. When people go to donate to the cause, their donations will be matched by the available funds in the pool.

There's no limit to how many peer matchers you can have. All the money you raise will go directly to the recipient cause.

Article:

**How do I create a Peer Match?**

1. Go to **Make a Donation > Create a Giving Opportunity**.

2. Fill in the details of your giving opportunity.

3. Make sure to attach the cause that you want to add your Peer Match funds to.

4. Under the Peer Matching section, select **Turn on Peer Matching for this Giving Opportunity**.

5. Enter the maximum donation amount that you would like to match. This amount will display in the Peer Match pool on the giving opportunity.

6. Select **Submit**.

Now, when people open the giving opportunity, they'll see that a peer match pool has been created, and that they can add a match of their own to the pool.

Article:

**How do I join as a Peer Matcher?**

1. Search for the giving opportunity you want to join. You can also select **Browse Giving Opportunities** and look for the PEER MATCHING text.

2. Open the giving opportunity and scroll to the Peer Match section, which shows how much is in the pool, how much has been matched so far, and who all has joined as Peer Matchers.

3. Select **Add Your Match**.

4. Fill in the amount of money you want to pledge.

5. Select **Add Your Match**.

Now, you'll see that your pledge has been added to the pool, increasing the total amount available for matching.

Article:

**How will I know when my Peer Match funds are used up?**

When your Peer Match funds are used up, or if the giving opportunity ends, you'll get an email and a dashboard notification. Both the email and the notification will provide you the link to pay for your pledge.

Article:

**How do donations multiply with Peer Matching?**

How donations multiply with Peer Matching can sometimes be a bit tricky. To help, here's an illustration on how three donations: **$10**, **$25**, and **$100** multiplied with Peer Matching. *Note*, the illustration includes a 1:1 company match, which may not be the same for all programs.

The total raised for the cause in this example is $540! Each donation received a company match and a Peer Match. And each Peer Match received its own company match.

Article:

**How are the matching funds in the pool disbursed across one donation?**

The disbursement is the proportion of what each Peer Matcher pledges divided by the total money in the pool.

As the amount of people joining the peer match increases, the math can get pretty complicated. But here's a simplified example to help:

A giving opportunity has two Peer Matchers and a total pool of $1000. The first person pledges $900. The second pledges $100. A donor's Peer Match will be covered 90% from the person and 10% from the second person.

**Section: Updating a Peer Match**

Articles on updating a Peer Match after publishing.

Article:

**Can I edit my Peer Match after I add it?**

No. But, if you made a mistake on the amount, you can reach out to Benevity at sparksupport@benevity.com and we'll be happy to help!

Article:

**My Peer Match funds were all used. Can I add more money to the pool?**

Yes! If the giving opportunity is open, and you've paid for your first pledge, you can add more money to the pool.

**Section: Paying for a Peer Match**

Articles on how to pay, when to fulfill your pledge, available payment methods, and more.

Article:

**How do I pay for my pledge?**

Once your funds have been used up, or the giving opportunity has ended, you'll need to pay for your pledge.

We'll send you an email to let you know it's time to fulfill your pledge. You'll also get a notification on your dashboard.

When you're ready to pay, here's how to do it:

1. Select **Pay Now** on the email or the dashboard notification.

2. Fill out the donation form. *Note*, credit card and payroll are the only supported payment methods at this time.

3. Confirm your details.

4. Select **Submit**.

Article:

**What are the supported payment methods?**

You can pay for your Peer Match with credit card or payroll.

Article:

**Can I make a recurring donation to a Peer Match giving opportunity?**

No. Donations must be one-time payments.

Article:

**When I pay for my pledge with payroll, when will the donation show in the progress bar?**

The payroll donation will appear immediately and NOT update once committed.

Article:

**Will the donation receipt list the Peer Match amount?**

No. The receipt will only show the company match. But when you complete your donation, using the donation form, you will see how much your estimated Peer Match is.

Article:

**How does the currency exchange work if Peer Matchers are located in different countries?**

The match amounts will always convert to the local currency of the user. When it's time to pay for the pledge, the currency will convert using the exchange rate of that day.

**Section: Supporting a Cause with Peer Match**

Articles on how causes are connected to Peer Match.

Article:

**Are Peer Match funds connected to the cause or the giving opportunity?**

The funds are connected to the cause. You'll always need to create a giving opportunity to use Peer Matching, but the peer match pool will link to the cause.

That means you can have different giving opportunities for the same cause, and they will share the same pool of Peer Match funds.

If you donate to the cause directly, you get a Peer Match. If you donate to the cause through the giving opportunity, you get a Peer Match.

Article:

**Can there be more than one Peer Match giving opportunity for the same cause?**

Yes! Every user can create their own Peer Match giving opportunity for the same cause. The Peer Match pool would be shared across all of those opportunities.

Article:

**Can I create a Peer Match for a cause that’s not eligible for a company match?**

Yes! You can create a Peer Match for any organization that's already in your program. If the cause isn't in your program, you'll need to nominate them.

Article:

**Does Peer Matching work for giving opportunities with multiple causes?**

No. Peer Matching is only available on giving opportunities with a single cause.