



## **2026 GIFT TAX EXEMPTION**

**If I want to gift money to my family members during my lifetime, will I have to pay taxes on it?** If your estate is close to being over the federal or state estate tax exemption amounts, there are tools to use to reduce your gross estate through lifetime gifting. Be aware of the amount you gift as it may result in having to report it to the IRS. Lifetime gifting is used to reduce the amount of an estate that may owe estate taxes.

**Illinois** = No Gift Tax (\*each state differs)

**Federal** = Gift tax exemption amount is \$19,000.00 for 2026. This means, that you can gift up to \$19,000.00 to as many people you choose and do not have to report it to the IRS. Any gift given to one person over \$19,000 must be reported on Form 709 – Gift Tax Return at tax time.

Also note that this amount will count against your unified lifetime gift and estate tax exemption of \$15 million.

