Rhode Island Foundation

Investment Pool Options

Generous Rhode Islanders have entrusted their philanthropy to the Rhode Island Foundation for more than a century. Donors to the Foundation have the option of investing in one of three pools that comprise our endowment.

The decision of which pool to invest in is typically driven by whether a donor has an interest in a specific mission-aligned investment strategy.

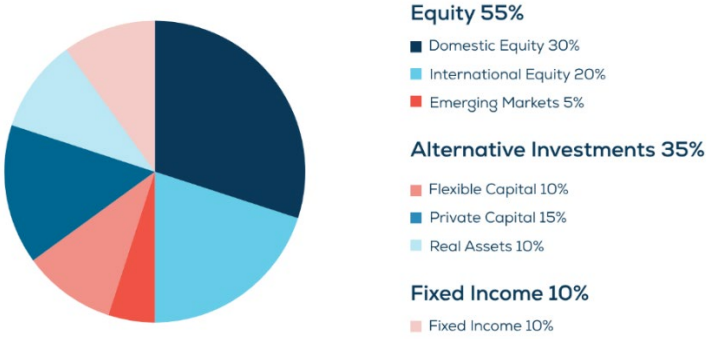
To better our communities and our state requires more than good intentions. It requires vision, strategy, and discipline. The Foundation deploys prudent, long-term financial strategies to have the most impact today while preserving and growing our endowment for the future.

Legacy Investment Pool

Comprised of more than 2,000 permanent funds, this is the Foundation's primary and longest-standing investment pool. Assets are invested to preserve and enhance the principal of the pool and provide a dependable source of spending for support of our donors' charitable goals and the Foundation's programs, initiatives, and operations. We minimize risk through broad diversification and set high-performance standards for investment managers.

Asset Allocation

For long-term growth and to help minimize volatility, the funds are broadly diversified across asset classes, investment styles, and economies. Target allocations as of 9/30/2026 are as follows:



Total Fund Return

Past Performance (as of 09/30/2026) *

	1 year	5 year	10 year	20 year
Total Fund	13.3%	8.7%	10.2%	7.9%

*Returns are net of all investment-related fees since 1/1/12. Prior to 1/1/12, returns are net of investment manager fees, but gross of investment advisor fees. Our investment advisor fees averaged 0.03% (3 bps) prior to 1/1/12.

Climate Action Investment Pool

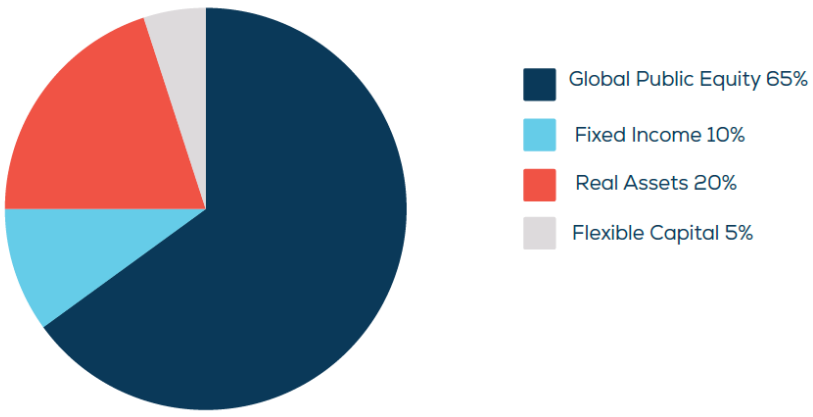
This is our newest investment pool, launched in 2024. The Climate Action Investment Pool is an option for donors that desire to invest their charitable contribution to the Foundation in a portfolio that factors environmental criteria into investment decisions.

The portfolio is comprised of strategies that intend to reduce exposure to the risks of climate change and increase exposure to sustainable investment opportunities.

In addition to investments in broad based global public equity market, the portfolio has dedicated exposure to the global carbon credit market, clean energy and clean water sectors, and investment grade fixed income securities with measurable environmental impact.

Asset Allocation

This pool seeks market rate financial returns over the long term to protect spending capacity and provide long-term growth. Currently our target allocations are as follows:



Socially Responsive Investment Pool

This investment pool option was initiated by the Foundation in 2004 and is invested in companies with positive performance on environmental, social, and governance criteria.

Asset Allocation

The pool consists of a blend of two mutual funds in the following 70/30 allocation: 70% in the Parnassus Core Equity Fund and 30% in the Nuveen Core Impact Bond Fund. This pool seeks market rate financial returns over the long term to protect spending capacities and provide for long-term growth.

Total Fund Return

Past Performance (as of 09/30/2026)

	1 year	5 year	10 year	20 year
Total Fund	7.8%	7.4%	10.0%	8.9%

More on our Investment Philosophy

The Foundation's investments are managed by a committee of directors and community members with expertise in the field, along with the support of an investment consultant and the Foundation's chief financial officer. The Investment Committee establishes the investment policy, selects investment managers, and monitors performance.



To learn more about our investment portfolio, please contact a member of our Development team at (401) 274-4564.