Example 11. Spouse's interest in trust in the form of an annuity. D died prior to October 24, 1992. D’s will established a trust funded with income producing property valued at $500,000 for estate tax purposes. The trustee is required by the trust instrument to pay $20,000 a year to S for life. Trust income in excess of the annuity amount is to be accumulated in the trust and may not be distributed during S’s lifetime. S’s lifetime annuity interest is treated as a qualifying income interest for life. If the executor elects to treat the entire portion of the trust in which S has a qualifying income interest as qualified terminable interest property, the value of the deductible interest is (assuming that 10 percent is the applicable interest rate under section 7520 for valuing annuities on the appropriate valuation date) $200,000, because that amount would yield an income to S of $20,000 a year.

Example 12. Value of spouse’s annuity exceeds value of trust corpus. The facts are the same as in Example 11 except that the trustee is required to pay S $70,000 a year for life. If the executor elects to treat the entire portion of the trust in which S has a qualifying income interest as qualified terminable interest property, the value of the deductible interest is $500,000, which is the lesser of the entire value of the property ($500,000), or the amount of property that (assuming a 10 percent interest rate) would yield an income to S of $70,000 a year ($700,000).

Example 13. Pooled income fund. D’s will provides for a bequest of $200,000 to a pooled income fund described in section 642(c)(5), designating S as the income beneficiary for life. If D’s executor elects to treat the entire $200,000 as qualified terminable interest property, the deductible interest is $200,000.

Example 14. Funding severed QTIP trusts. D’s will established a trust satisfying the requirements of section 2056(b)(7). Pursuant to the authority in D’s will and §20.2056(b)–7(b)(2)(ii), D’s executor indicates on the Federal estate tax return that an election under section 2056(b)(7) is being made with respect to 50 percent of the trust, and that the trust will subsequently be divided to reflect the partial election on the basis of the fair market value of the property at the time of the division. D’s executor funds the trust at the end of the period of estate administration. At that time, the property available to fund the trusts consists of 100 shares of X Corporation stock with a current value of $400,000 and 200 shares of Y Corporation stock with a current value of $400,000. D may fund each trust with the stock of either or both corporations, in any combination, provided that the aggregate value of the stock allocated to each trust is $400,000.


§ 20.2056(b)–8 Special rule for charitable remainder trusts.

(a) In general—(1) Surviving spouse only noncharitable beneficiary. With respect to estates of decedents dying after December 31, 1981, subject to section 2056(d), if the surviving spouse of the decedent is the only noncharitable beneficiary of a charitable remainder annuity trust or a charitable remainder unitrust described in section 664 (qualified charitable remainder trust), section 2056(b)(1) does not apply to the interest in the trust that is transferred to the surviving spouse. Thus, the value of the annuity or unitrust interest passing to the spouse qualifies for a marital deduction under section 2056(b)(8) and the value of the remainder interest qualifies for a charitable remainder unitrust described in section 664 (qualified charitable remainder trust) under section 2056(b)(7). For purposes of this section, the term non-charitable beneficiary means any beneficiary of the qualified charitable remainder trust other than an organization described in section 170(c).

(2) Interest for life or term of years. The surviving spouse’s interest need not be an interest for life to qualify for a marital deduction under section 2056(b)(8). However, for purposes of section 664, an annuity or unitrust interest payable to the spouse for a term of years cannot be payable for a term that exceeds 20 years.

(3) Payment of state death taxes. A deduction is allowed under section 2056(b)(8) even if the transfer to the surviving spouse is conditioned on the spouse’s payment of state death taxes, if any, attributable to the qualified charitable remainder trust. See §20.2056(b)–4(c) for the effect of such a condition on the amount of the deduction allowable.

(b) Charitable remainder trusts where the surviving spouse is not the only non-charitable beneficiary. In the case of a charitable remainder trust where the decedent’s spouse is not the only non-charitable beneficiary (for example, where the noncharitable interest is payable to the decedent’s spouse for life and then to another individual for life), the qualification of the interest...
as qualified terminable interest property is determined solely under section 2056(b)(7) and not under section 2056(b)(8). Accordingly, if the decedent died on or before October 24, 1992, or the trust otherwise comes within the purview of the transitional rules contained in §20.2056(b)(7)(e)(5), the spousal annuity or unitrust interest may qualify under §20.2056(b)(7)(e) as a qualifying income interest for life.

[T.D. 8522, 59 FR 9653, Mar. 1, 1994]

§ 20.2056(b)–9 Denial of double deduction.

The value of an interest in property may not be deducted for Federal estate tax purposes more than once with respect to the same decedent. For example, where a decedent transfers a life estate in a farm to the spouse with a remainder to charity, the entire property is, pursuant to the executor’s election under section 2056(b)(7), treated as passing to the spouse. The entire value of the property qualifies for the marital deduction. No part of the value of the property qualifies for a charitable deduction under section 2055 in the decedent’s estate.


§ 20.2056(b)–10 Effective dates.

Except as specifically provided in §§20.2056(b)–5(c)(3) (ii) and (iii), 20.2056(b)–7(d)(3), 20.2056(b)–7(e)(5), and 20.2056(b)–8(b), the provisions of §§20.2056(b)–5(c), 20.2056(b)–7, 20.2056(b)–8, and 20.2056(b)–9 are applicable with respect to estates of decedents dying after March 1, 1994. With respect to decedents dying on or before such date, the executor of the decedent’s estate may rely on any reasonable interpretation of the statutory provisions. In addition, the rule in the last sentence of §20.2056(b)–5(f)(1) and the rule in the last sentence of §20.2056(b)–7(d)(1) regarding the effect on the spouse’s right to income if applicable local law provides for the reasonable apportionment between the income and remainder beneficiaries of the total return of the trust are applicable with respect to trusts for taxable years ending after January 2, 2004.