Why is Alumni Fund participation important?

By participating in the cycle of regular alumni contributions, you are showing your support for Yale and its uncompromising standards. Increased participation statistics also figure prominently in the way Yale is evaluated by corporate and foundation donors.

Does a gift of $5, $10, or $25 make any difference?

All gifts are important, large and small. That’s partly because each gift increases Yale's alumni participation rate, which in turn affects our outside funding, as well as the reports of college-ranking organizations like U.S. News & World Report. Most gifts to the Alumni Fund are between $25 and $250. These gifts are a key part of our effort to raise $25 million.

Why is the alumni participation rate important?

Some corporations and foundations make funding decisions based in part on Annual Fund participation rates — so higher participation rates translate directly into increased outside funding for the College. Alumni participation is also a key factor (see below) in the reports of college-ranking organizations like U.S. News & World Report. (Per Randy Nelson ’85, think of your Alumni Fund gift, no matter what size, as a VOTE for Yale.)

According to US News & World Report:

Alumni giving participation rate constitutes 5 percent of the college’s overall rating. This reflects the average percentage of living alumni with bachelor's degrees who gave to their school during each current year, which is an indirect measure of student satisfaction.

For the full article about US News’ rating methodology: