



NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

Limitations on Contributions to Political Committees

	Term for PAC	Individual → PAC	Corporate/Union → PAC	Political Party → PAC	PAC → PAC Transfers
Alabama §10-2A-70.2	Political committee	Unlimited	\$500/election	Unlimited	Unlimited
Alaska §15.13.070	Group	\$500/year Only 10% of a PAC's contributions may come from non-Alaska residents	Prohibited	Unlimited	\$1,000/year
Arizona §16-90	Political committee	An individual may not contribute an aggregate amount in excess of \$3,530 per calendar year to candidates and committees that give to candidates.	Prohibited	?	?
Arkansas	Political action committee	\$5,000/calendar year	Same as individual limit	Same as individual limit	Same as individual limit
California	General purpose committee	For elections held on or after January 1, 2007: \$6,000/election To qualify as a "small contributor committee," a PAC may not accept more than \$200 from a single person in a calendar year	Same as individual limit	Same as individual limit	Same as individual limit

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Colorado Const. Art. 28	Political committee	\$500/2-year election cycle	Prohibited, except a corporation or labor organization may establish a political committee or small donor committee which may accept contributions or dues from employees, officeholders, shareholders, or members.	\$500/2-year election cycle	\$500/2-year election cycle
Connecticut §9-333s and 333t	Political committee	\$2,000/calendar year Individuals may not make contributions to any political committee formed by an “organization” that receives funds from its own treasury.	Same as individual limit	\$2,500/calendar year	Same as individual limit
Delaware §15-8012	Political action committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	\$20,000/election cycle	Unlimited
Florida §106.08	Political committee <i>and</i> committee of continuous existence (CCE) ^c	\$500/election to political committees Contributions to CCEs are unlimited, as long as the committee maintains 25% of its annual income, excluding interest, from dues or assessments by its membership.	\$500/election	Unlimited	\$500/election A CCE may contribute up to 25% of its aggregate income to a political committee
Georgia §21-5-41	Political action committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited

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Hawaii §11-204(b)	Noncandidate committee	\$1,000/election	\$1,000/election In the case of a corporation or company using funds from its own treasury, there shall be no limit on contributions or expenditures to the corporation or company noncandidate committee.	\$1,000/election	\$1,000/election
Idaho §67-6610A	Political committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Illinois 10 ILCS 5/9-1 et seq.	Political committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Indiana §3-9-2-4	Political action committee	Unlimited	Direct corporate and labor organization contributions to PACs must be “earmarked,” meaning designated by the corporation or labor organization to go to one or more of the following categories and are subject to the limitations of each category: Statewide candidates (\$5,000) Senate candidates (\$2,000) House candidates (\$2,000) State party central committees (\$5,000) Other political party committees (\$2,000) The limits listed in parentheses above are aggregate limits and may be apportioned in any manner among all candidates for that category.	Unlimited	Unlimited

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures
July 2005

For more information, contact Jennie Drage Bowser at 303-364-7700.

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Iowa §68A.503	Political committee	Unlimited	Corporate contributions are prohibited Union contributions are unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Kansas §25-4153	Political committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Kentucky §121.150(10)	Permanent committee	\$1,500/year in the aggregate to all permanent committees in any one year	Prohibited	Same as individual limit	Same as individual limit ^a
Louisiana §18:1505.2(K)	Political committee	\$100,000/4-year election cycle	\$100,000/4-year election cycle	Unlimited	Regular PAC: \$5,000/\$2,500/\$1,000 per 4-year election cycle Big PAC: \$10,000/\$5,000/\$2,000 per 4-year election cycle ^b
Maine 21-A MRSA §1001 et seq.	Political action committee	Unlimited	Unlimited Note: Funds that an organization earmarks or directs through a PAC to a specific candidate is considered to be a contribution by the organization to the candidate. Contributions to candidates are subject to limits.	Unlimited	Unlimited
Maryland Election Law §13-226	Political action committee	\$4,000/4-year election cycle	\$4,000/4-year election cycle	?	\$6,000/4-year election cycle
Massachusetts Ch. 55, § 6, 6A, 7A and 8	Political action committee	Regular PAC: \$500/calendar year	Prohibited	\$500/calendar year	\$500/calendar year

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		People's Committee: \$140/calendar year			
		Lobbyists limited to \$200/calendar year			

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Michigan §169.252a and §169.254	Independent committee <i>or</i> political committee	\$20,000/calendar year to a house or senate caucus committee Contributions to all other PACs are unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	A political or independent committee that is established as a separate segregated fund is not permitted to solicit or accept contributions from another PAC, or from any person who is not allowed to contribute to the separate segregated fund. Otherwise unlimited
Minnesota §10A.27	Political committee <i>or</i> political fund	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Mississippi §97-13-15	Political committee	Unlimited	\$1,000/calendar year	Unlimited	Unlimited
Missouri §130-032	Continuing committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Montana §13-37-216	Political action committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Nebraska §32-1608	Independent committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Nevada Const. Art. 2 §10	Political action committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
New Hampshire §664:4,V	Political committee	\$5,000/election	\$5,000/election	Unlimited	?

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New Jersey § 19:44A-11.3	Continuing political committee	\$7,200/year	\$7,200/year	\$7,200/year for national party committees Unlimited for state, county, municipal and legislative party committees	\$7,200/year
New Mexico §1-19-1 et seq.	Political committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
New York Election Law §14-116(2)	Political committees	PACs are subject to the same contribution limits as candidate committees. A portion of every contribution to a political committee authorized to support more than one candidate, shall be deemed contributed to every candidate supported by such committee. That portion shall be determined by allocating the contributions received by the committee among all the candidates supported by the committee in accordance with any formula based upon reasonable standards established by the committee.	Each separately incorporated corporation may spend \$5,000 on all political activity in each calendar year.	See explanation under Individual to PAC column.	?
North Carolina §163.278.13	Political action committee	\$4,000/election	Prohibited	Unlimited	\$4,000/election
North Dakota §16.1-08.1-03.3	Political action committee <i>or</i> multicandidate political committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited

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Ohio §3517.102		\$10,670/calendar year	Corporate contributions prohibited. Union contributions limited to \$10,670/calendar year	\$10,670/calendar year	\$10,670/calendar year
Oklahoma Ethics Cmsn. Rules §257:10-1-2(a)	Political action committee	\$5,000/calendar year *This limit applies to an entire family, defined as an individual, his spouse, and all children under 18 living in the same household.	Prohibited	?	?
Oregon	Political committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Pennsylvania 25 Pa. Stat. §3253	Political action committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Rhode Island §17-25-10.1	Political action committee	\$1,000/calendar year An individual's combined contributions to candidates, PACs and party committees cannot exceed \$10,000/calendar year	Prohibited	\$1,000/calendar year	\$1,000/calendar year
South Carolina §8-13-1322	Noncandidate committee	\$3,500/calendar year	\$3,500/calendar year	?	\$3,500/calendar year
South Dakota §12-25-1.1	Political action committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Tennessee §2-10-302 and 2-19-132	Multicandidate political campaign committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Texas Elec. §253	General purpose committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited

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Utah	Political action committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Vermont^d Tit. 17 §2805	Political committee	\$2,000/2-year election cycle	\$2,000/2-year election cycle	\$2,000/2-year election cycle	\$2,000/2-year election cycle
Virginia	Political action committee	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Washington §42.17.640		Unlimited During the last 21 days before an election, no contributor may donate more than \$5,000 to a candidate or political committee.	Unlimited 21-day rule applies (see left)	Unlimited 21-day rule applies (see left)	Unlimited 21-day rule applies (see left)
West Virginia §3-8-8	Political committee	\$1,000/election	Prohibited	Same as individual limit	Same as individual limit
Wisconsin §11.26	Political action committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	?
Wyoming §22-25-102	Political action committee	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited

- (a) An advisory opinion by the Registry for Campaign Finance determined that a PAC is a person under Ky. Rev. Stat. §121.150(11). Consequently, one PAC may not contribute to another PAC to avoid expenditure limits. AO 93-001.
- (b) In Louisiana, the applicable limit for PAC-to-PAC transfers is determined by the level of office sought by the candidates supported/opposed by the recipient PAC, e.g., a contribution by a PAC to another PAC supporting only major office candidates is subject to the \$5,000 limit (or the \$10,000 limit if the contributor is a Big PAC). If the PAC receiving the contribution supports candidates for more than one type of office, then the highest limit shall apply. (<http://www.ethics.state.la.us/laws/pacsum.htm>)
- (c) Under Florida law, a “committee of continuous existence” (CCE) must maintain 25% of its annual income from dues or assessments of its membership. CCEs may contribute only to candidates, political committees or political parties, and may not make independent expenditures without first registering as a political committee.
- (d) Note that Vermont’s limits on contributions to PACs were upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in the *Randall v. Sorrell* case in June 2006.

Updated June 2006: Alaska, California