

Federal Contribution and Spending Regulations

Recipient

Donor or Spender	Federal Candidates	National Party Committees	State Party Committees (federal accounts)	Federal PACs (non-connected and segregated funds)	Coordinated Expenditures (coordinated with candidate)	Independent Expenditures / Express Advocacy (not coordinated with candidate)	Electioneering Communications	“Levin” Accounts
Individuals* (excluding foreign nationals without greencards)	\$2,000 per election ⁵ ; \$37,500 per cycle	\$25,000 per year; \$57,500 per cycle	\$10,000 per year; \$37,500 per cycle	\$5,000 per year; \$37,500 per cycle	\$2,000 per election (considered contributions); \$37,500 per cycle	Unlimited, but must be disclosed to the FEC	Unlimited, but must be disclosed to the FEC	Whatever state law permits, up to \$10,000
National Party Committees	Senate candidates \$35,000 per election; Presidential and House candidates \$5,000 per election	Unlimited transfers of funds to other party committees	Unlimited transfers of funds to other party committees	\$5,000 per year	See spending formulas for types of candidates ^{6, 7, 4} ; coordinated expenditures are in addition to contributions	Unlimited (except to Presidential candidates) ⁸ Must be disclosed	Unlimited, but must be disclosed	Prohibited
State Party Committees (federal accounts)	\$5,000 per election	Unlimited transfers of funds to other party committees	Unlimited transfers of funds to other party committees	\$5,000 per year	Pres. candidates \$5,000 per election (are contributions); Senate candidate (see formula ⁷); House candidate (see formula ⁴) (for House and Senate, in addition to contributions)	Unlimited, but must be disclosed	Unlimited, but must be disclosed	Prohibited
PACs (multicandidate PACs)	\$5,000 per year	\$15,000 per year	\$5,000 per year	\$5,000 per year	\$5,000 per year (are contributions)	Unlimited, but must be disclosed	Unlimited, but must be disclosed	Whatever state law permits, up to \$10,000
PACs (non-multi candidate PACs)	\$2,000 per year	\$25,000 per year	\$10,000 per year	\$5,000 per year	\$2,000 per election (considered contributions)	Unlimited, but must be disclosed	Unlimited, but must be disclosed	Whatever state law permits, up to \$10,000
Corporations and Unions	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited (but may pay administrative costs of connected PACs)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Whatever state law permits, up to \$10,000

*Individuals are subject to a \$95,000 per two-year election cycle aggregate limit. Of that limit, there is a \$57,500 limit on federal non-candidate contributions, including no more than \$37,500 to PACs and state/local parties’ federal accounts, and a \$37,500 limit on federal candidate contributions.

⁵ With the “Millionaire’s Provision,” the contribution limits are increased (tripled to \$6,000 for a House candidate and up to \$12,000 for a Senate candidate). Where applicable, any amount over \$2,000 does not apply against the individual’s aggregate contribution limit.

⁶ Coordinated expenditure limits for national party committees to Presidential candidates is limited to \$.02 x Voting Age Population in the United States x the cost of living adjustment. For 2004, this figure is \$16,249,699.00.

⁷ Coordinated expenditure limits for party committees (both national and state) to Senatorial candidates is limited to the greater of \$20,000 or \$.02 x Voting Age Population of the state x the cost of living adjustment. [see state by state chart at www.fec.gov/pdf/record/2004/mar04.pdf. Coordinated Expenditure limit increases when the “Millionaire’s Provision” is triggered.

⁴ Coordinated expenditure limits for party committees (both national and state) to House candidates is limited to \$10,000 x the cost of living adjustment, which for 2004 is \$37,310. Coordinated Expenditure limit increases when the “Millionaire’s Provision” is triggered.

⁸ A national party committee cannot make independent expenditures for its presidential candidate if it is also designated as the authorized committee of its presidential candidate.

Section 527 Organizations not registered with the FEC	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited if incorporated	Prohibited if incorporated. If not incorporated, unlimited so long as using only funds contributed by individuals and disclosed to the FEC if over \$10,000	Whatever state law permits, up to \$10,000
501 (c)(4s) and (c)(6s)	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited except for qualifying 501(c)(4) MCFL corporations	Prohibited except for qualifying 501(c)(4) MCFL corporations	Whatever state law permits, up to \$10,000