

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION LIMITS PER CYCLE 2015-2016 ELECTION CYCLE

Effective July 3, 2015¹

These limits are subject to change by law and are current as of June 1, 2015.

	Candidate Committees			“PACs” ²		Parties
	Statewide Candidate ³	Legislative Candidate	Local Candidate ⁴	PACs that give to candidates ^{5,6}	PACs that do not give to candidates ^{6,7}	Political Parties / Political Organizations
Individual may give:	\$5,000 ⁸	\$5,000 ⁹	\$6,250 ¹⁰	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Partnership may give:	\$5,000 ¹¹	\$5,000 ¹²	\$6,250 ¹³	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Corporation, LLC or union may give:	Prohibited ¹⁴	Prohibited ¹³	Prohibited ¹³	Prohibited ¹³	Unlimited ¹⁵	Unlimited ¹⁶
“PAC” may give:	\$5,000 ¹⁷	\$5,000 ¹⁸	\$6,250 ¹⁹	Unlimited ²⁰	Unlimited	Unlimited
Multicandidate²¹ “PAC” may give:	\$10,000 ²²	\$10,000 ²³	\$12,500 ²⁴	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Political Party / Party Organization may give:	Unlimited, but party nominee may <i>accept</i> no more than \$80,000 ²⁵	Unlimited, but party nominee may <i>accept</i> no more than \$8,000 ²⁶	Unlimited, but party nominee may <i>accept</i> no more than \$10,000 ²⁷	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited



MICHELE REAGAN
*Secretary of State
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¹ Contribution limits were raised in April 2015 (HB2415). Although the Act is effective July 3, 2015, Section 7 of HB2415 applies the foregoing contribution limits retroactively to November 4, 2014.

² Political committees—other than candidates and political parties—are generically referred to as “PACs” (political action committees) in this Guide.

³ The statewide contribution limit applies over a four-year election cycle for candidates seeking election to a statewide office. *See* A.R.S. § 16-901(8) (effective July 3, 2015). The statewide limit will continue to be biennially-adjusted pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-905(H), therefore the statewide contribution limit in effect when the contribution is made will govern contributions to candidates seeking election to statewide office.

⁴ Local candidates include candidates for county, city, town, and school district offices.

⁵ PACs that give to candidates include: (1) committees organized in support or opposition to one or more candidates and (2) corporate/labor separate segregated funds. *See* A.R.S. § 16-901(20) (effective July 3, 2015); *see also* A.R.S. § 16-901(19) (2014).

⁶ PACs may operate as hybrid committees and therefore perform multiple functions—such as making direct contributions to candidates, making independent expenditures, and supporting/opposing ballot measures. Hybrid committees must be mindful of contribution limits/restrictions for particular activities and file separate reports for each type of activity.

⁷ PACs that do not give to candidates include: (1) independent expenditure committees, (2) ballot measure committees, and (3) recall committees. *See* A.R.S. § 16-901(20) (effective July 3, 2015).

⁸ A.R.S. § 16-905(B)(1). Contribution limit reduced by 20% pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(B).

⁹ A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(1). Contribution limit reduced by 20% pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(B).

¹⁰ A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(2).

¹¹ A.R.S. § 16-905(B)(4). Contribution limit reduced by 20% pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(B).

¹² A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(6). Contribution limit reduced by 20% pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(B).

¹³ A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(6).

¹⁴ A.R.S. §§ 16-919(A)-(B).

¹⁵ A.R.S. §§ 16-920(A)(5) (ballot measures) and (A)(6) (independent expenditures). Arizona law does not permit corporations, LLCs, or unions to make direct contributions to recall committees. A.R.S. § 16-920; Op. Atty. Gen. No. I 11-003, 2011 WL 2940576 (2011).

¹⁶ Corporate, LLC and union contributions to political parties cannot be used for purposes of influencing an election. A.R.S. § 16-901(5)(b)(viii); *Arizona State Democratic Party v. State*, 210 Ariz. 527 (2005).

¹⁷ A.R.S. § 16-905(B)(2).

¹⁸ A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(3).

¹⁹ A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(4).

²⁰ A candidate committee or exploratory committee may not contribute to another candidate committee or exploratory committee except under limited conditions. *See* A.R.S. § 16-905(F).

²¹ PACs authorized to give at higher limits pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-905(G), were formally known as “Super PACs.” In light of the fact that independent expenditure-only PACs are now popularly known as “Super PACs” at the federal level, the Secretary of State has determined it is no longer beneficial to refer to A.R.S. § 16-905(G) committees as “Super PACs” under state law. Accordingly, A.R.S. § 16-905(G) committees are referred to as “multicandidate PACs” in order to remain consistent with federal law. *See* 11 C.F.R. 100.5(e)(3).

²² A.R.S. § 16-905(B)(3). Contribution limit reduced by 20% pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(B).

²³ A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(5). Contribution limit reduced by 20% pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-941(B).

²⁴ A.R.S. § 16-905(A)(5).

²⁵ *See* A.R.S. §§ 16-905(B)(2)-(3) (exempting political parties from statewide PAC contribution limits); *compare* A.R.S. § 16-905(D) (imposing \$80,000 net limitation on how much a “nominee of a political party” may accept “from all political parties or political organizations combined”); A.R.S. § 16-941(B) (contribution limit reduced by 20%).

²⁶ *See* A.R.S. §§ 16-905(A)(3) & (5) (exempting political parties from legislative PAC contribution limits); *compare* A.R.S. § 16-905(D) (imposing \$8,000 net limitation on how much a “nominee of a political party” may accept “from all political parties or political organizations combined”); A.R.S. § 16-941(B) (contribution limit reduced by 20%).

²⁷ *See* A.R.S. §§ 16-905(A)(2) & (4) (exempting political parties from local PAC contribution limits); *compare* A.R.S. § 16-905(D) (imposing \$10,000 limitation on how much a “nominee of a political party” may accept “from all political parties or political organizations combined”).