

**Only two categories of Donors are permitted:**

- INDIVIDUALS, defined as human beings.
- COMMITTEES, groups that aggregate money to donate to specific candidates, and whose total contribution to any candidate is limited as described below. The only committees permitted to make contributions to Oregon statewide or legislative candidates are
  - LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS committees (for legislative races only), carefully defined as connected to the one caucus of the candidate's party, in the chamber s/he's running for (i.e. a candidate can accept contributions from only one caucus committee).
  - PARTY committees, carefully defined as connected to a recognized Oregon political party. A statewide or legislative candidate can accept contributions from only one recognized party committee—either a statewide or county/regional committee, as they choose.
  - SMALL DONOR committees (SDCs), organized solely for the purpose of raising and contributing funds for the support of or opposition to a single designated candidate. They are formed not earlier than the first day of the election cycle in which a candidate runs, and expire within 10 business days of the election in which a candidate's race ends (i.e., the general election, or a primary election in which the candidate is defeated). Funds remaining in an SDC account will be transferred to a special account to help fund Voter pamphlet costs. SDCs will register with and be certified by the Secretary of State's Election Division through an application process simple enough to create no barrier to formation. Any registered Oregon voter or group of voters can apply for formation of an SDC, but can be involved in organizing only one SDC for a specific candidate (include language to prevent affiliated individuals from forming more than one SDC for specific candidate). An individual's contribution to any SDC is limited to \$200. The total of an individual's contributions to all SDCs combined is limited to \$1000 per election.
  - MULTI-CANDIDATE committees (MCCs), subject to the certification by the SoS's Elections Division, formed to advance a stated public policy purpose. An individual's contribution to any MCC is limited to \$200. MCC contributions to any single candidate committee will bear the same limit as individual contributions.
  - LEGISLATIVE or STATEWIDE CANDIDATE committees, the campaign committees of legislative or statewide candidates or office-holders.

*NO CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ALLOWED TO STATEWIDE CANDIDATES, LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES, OR COMMITTEES THAT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH CANDIDATES, EXCEPT FROM THE SOURCES LISTED BELOW.*

**Limits on individual contributions, multi-candidate committees and legislative/statewide candidate committee contributions to**

- State legislative races: \$750/election\*
- Statewide races: \$2000/election
- State Party committees: \$2000/yr
- Legislative Caucus committees: \$2000/yr
- Small Donor committees: \$200/election
- Multi-Candidate committees: \$200/election

(\* "per election" means contributions are allowed to specified limits once in a primary and a once in a general election, e.g. total limit for a legislative race would be  $\$750 \times 2 = \$1500$ )

**Limits on Legislative Caucus Committee contributions to** *[applying multiple of 20 to individual limits]*

- State legislative races: \$15,000/election
- Statewide races: \$40,000/election
- State Party committees: zero
- Small Donor committees: \$200
- Multi-Candidate committees: zero

**Limits on State Party Committee contributions to** *[applying multiple of 20 to individual limits]*

- State legislative races: \$15,000/election
- Statewide races: \$40,000/election
- Legislative Caucus committees: \$40,000/yr
- Small Donor committees: \$200
- Multi-Candidate committees: zero

**Limits on Small Donor Committee contributions to** *[applying multiple of 20 to individual limits]*

- State legislative races: \$15,000/election
- Statewide races: \$40,000/election
- State Party committees: zero
- Legislative Caucus committees: zero
- Multi-Candidate committees: zero

**Additional thoughts:**

- Local races are not addressed, leaving that determination to local jurisdictions.
- To be determined: specify that the contribution limits on an individual apply to the total sums that s/he gives directly to a candidate and to any SDCs supporting that candidate? Consult on logistics with SoS.
- "Soft money" ban: make it unlawful for any candidate or office holder or affiliated individual (officer/staff of campaign, family member) to solicit or advocate for contributions, for the purpose of influencing legislative or statewide Oregon elections, to any committee or organization that is not expressly permitted in this statute. This is consistent with federal law since 2002.