Decide what type of campaign finance registration is right for you

Start here

Are you a candidate running for state office?
- Yes: Register a candidate committee (also known as a principal campaign committee).
- No: Are you running for local office?
  - Yes: Are you an official unit of a recognized state political party?
    - Yes: Register a party unit committee.
    - No: Contact the party that you think you are affiliated with and ask them or contact Board staff at 651-539-1187.
  - No: Not sure: Contact Board staff at 651-539-1190.

Are you an official unit of a recognized state political party?
- Yes: Register a party unit committee.
- No: Does the entity exist for the primary purpose of influencing state elections?
  - Yes: You will register a political committee. The whole entity is the political committee.
  - No: Is the entity’s primary purpose something other than influencing state elections?
    - Yes: Contact Board staff at 651-539-1190.
    - No: Will you make independent expenditures in candidate elections?
      - Yes: Register an independent expenditure political committee or fund.
      - No: You can only make expenditures to influence a state ballot question.

Will you donate to candidates or work with candidates to influence their elections?
- Yes: Register a general purpose political committee or fund.
- No: You do not need to register with or report to the Board. For more information about running for local office, consult the Secretary of State’s Campaign Manual.

Will you make independent expenditures in candidate elections?
- Yes: You can also make independent expenditures and ballot question expenditures.
- No: You cannot accept corporate contributions.

You can also make ballot question expenditures. You cannot donate to candidates or work with candidates to influence their elections.

You are permitted to accept corporate contributions.

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