

California Association for Nurse Practitioners

Political Action Committee (PAC) Guidelines

History

The California Association for Nurse Practitioners Political Action Committee (PAC) is a bipartisan effort dedicated to supporting state legislative candidates. The CANP PAC has been active in California for over 20 years, supporting many successful candidates. You can engage in the political process – and make a difference – by contributing to the PAC.

The PAC is a vital component of CANP's legislative advocacy efforts. PACs are established so that contributions from a number of individuals can be aggregated into one fund that is then used to make contributions to support a particular cause or candidate. A well-funded PAC helps us show strength in numbers and a commitment to engage in the political process.

PAC Accounting

CANP's PAC is overseen by the accounting firm of J. Richard Eichman, CPA in Sacramento. Richard Eichman's office is responsible for depositing the PAC donations, reporting them to the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) and tracking the balance of the PAC Account. Monthly statements are sent to CANP.

CANP receives all PAC donations, accounts for them and then sends them to Richard Eichman's office for deposit and reporting.

CANP's lobbyist, Board of Directors and staff work with Richard Eichman's office to make charitable contributions to political candidates from the money in the PAC account. Eichman's office administers the funds and makes donations approved by CANP from the CANP PAC account.

Donations

Donations to the CANP PAC can be made in a variety of ways. The most common way is by entering an amount in the Optional Contributions area on your membership dues form (either for renewals or new memberships). This is called an indirect donation and the money is deposited by CANP and then paid to the PAC.

PAC donations can also be made directly to the PAC in the form of a check. This is called a direct donation. In order for the donation to be considered a direct PAC donation, the check must be written to CANP PAC. This money is deposited directly into the CANP PAC account, which is kept separately from other CANP accounts.

Donations can also be made to the PAC through fundraisers and raffles (see below).

All PAC donations are considered voluntary political contributions and are **not** tax deductible.

Donations from the PAC to appropriate candidates or causes are overseen by the PAC Committee, comprised of the Chairs of the Health Policy and Practice Committee (HPPC), the CANP President, President-Elect and Immediate Past President, and guided by CANP's contracted Legislative Advocate. The HPPC prepares regular reports to the Board of Directors regarding PAC activity.

Fundraisers and Raffles

CANP PAC donations may also be made through a fundraiser and/or raffle. In order to donate to the PAC through a fundraiser or raffle it is important that the fundraiser or raffle host follow FPPC guidelines.

If a CANP chapter holds a raffle or prize drawing as a means to raise funds with the intention to donate the proceeds to the CANP PAC, they must complete a separate [Auction Fundraising Information Form](#) for each item that is donated to be awarded as a prize. PAC donations from the raffle or fundraiser must come from the chapter and not an individual. The payment should be directly from the chapter's bank account and made out to CANP PAC. Chapters should not pay one party and request that the party pay the PAC.

The Donation section of the form should reflect a description of the item that is being donated as well as the item's fair market value (what the item is worth or what someone paid for the item). The form should also include the name of the person making the donation as well as the address and employer of the donor. When completing the address field it is important to list the physical mailing address and not a P.O. Box.

The Purchaser section only needs to be completed if items are auctioned, rather than simply awarded through a prize drawing. In the case of an auction, the Purchaser section should reflect the amount that the winner paid for the item. The form should also include the purchaser's full name, employer and mailing address. When completing the address field it is important to list the physical mailing address and not a P.O. Box.

Whether awarded by drawing or auction, if the value of a prize is \$600 or more, the Purchaser will need to receive a 1099 form reflecting the value. In such cases, it would be necessary to obtain the Purchaser's Social Security Number to be included on the 1099 form.

Forms of Payment

Monetary donations to the PAC can only be accepted if made in the form of a check or a credit card payment. Checks must be made out directly to the CANP PAC. The check must list the name, physical address, and employer of the donor or purchaser. Donations via credit card will be deposited into the CANP bank account and then reimbursed to the CANP PAC.

Per FPPC regulations, cash or cashier's checks may not be accepted for PAC donations.

Receipt of Donations

CANP PAC donations must be delivered to CANP no later than 30 days post receipt of the donation. Any donations delivered more than 30 days after the donation is collected will result in a filing amendment and additional fees to the CANP PAC.

All donations must be sent to the CANP Headquarters, ATTN: CANP PAC, 1415 L Street, Suite 1000, Sacramento, CA 95814.