



RPAC Frequently Asked Questions

What is a PAC?

A Political Action Committee (PAC) is a popular term for a political committee organized by like-minded people for the purpose of raising and spending money to elect and defeat candidates. Organizations use their PAC dollars to enhance their advocacy efforts and advance the goals of the organization. For a candidate running for office, having access to PAC funds can provide an advantage over a challenger who doesn't.

The Realtors® Political Action Committee was formed in 1969. Its mission is to support candidates who understand real estate issues and recognize the value of homeownership. Through RPAC and other outreach efforts, RPAC is able to build positive relationships with elected officials who make policy decisions affecting our industry.

How are PACs regulated?

PACs are regulated by state and federal campaign finance laws. All PACs operate under strict limits on what they can give per candidate per election. They are a legal, transparent means of contributing to political candidates.

Why should I invest in RPAC?

PAC's are a way for members to pool their resources to increase the impact of their investments and compete with larger interests. RPAC protects the real estate industry from onerous laws and regulations through effective political action. RPAC safeguards your business by defending the ability of individuals to buy and sell real estate and establishes the real estate community as a concerned, involved, and powerful political constituency.

RPAC represents more than 1.3 million Realtors® and is the muscle behind NAR, OAR and PMAR. It provides Realtors® a seat at the table to ensure our voice is heard on policy issues affecting the real estate industry. Donating to RPAC supports the work RPAC is doing to stand up for homeownership and protect private property rights.

How will my investment be used?

Your investment is used to elect candidates at the local, state, and national levels who both understand and support Realtor® issues. RPAC looks to build the future by putting dollars in places that will help advance the interests of Realtors®. RPAC is the only political group in the country organized for Realtors® and run by Realtors®. Candidates who receive support from RPAC are not selected based on their political party or ideology, but solely on their support of real estate issues. Our legislative allies are members of the Realtor® Party. The Realtor® Party supports the issues that are important to you as a Realtor®, regardless of political party affiliation.



Funds may be used to lobbying against issues such as a sales tax on your commission, or for issues like flood insurance reform, maintaining the mortgage interest deduction and first time homebuyer programs.

Who establishes and implements RPAC policy?

Much of RPAC's success is due to the high degree of organization that characterizes the Realtors® Political Action Committee at every level. All contributions are administered by a board of RPAC trustees. The Trustees establish and implement RPAC policy in accordance with RPAC bylaws, association policy and state and federal election law. The Trustees are made up of Realtor® volunteers from diverse backgrounds and political parties.

Who may be solicited for RPAC contributions?

According to Federal Election law, RPAC may solicit only individual members—i.e., non-corporate members of the Realtor® Association and their families. The term “members” means all individuals who currently satisfy the requirements for membership in any one of the local, state, and/or the National Association and regularly pay dues.

Executive, administrative and management personnel of the local, state and/or national associations are also considered under the NAR constitution to be members of the association and may be solicited even though they may not pay association dues.

Are contributions to RPAC tax deductible?

No. Contributions used for political purposes are not tax deductible on your federal income taxes. However, for Oregon filers, contributions of up to \$50 (single filers) and \$100 (joint filers) may qualify as an Oregon Tax Credit.

Does the National RPAC contribute to state or local candidates?

Under the cooperative agreements in effect between the National RPAC and the state association's Political Action Committees, the responsibility for making contributions to federal candidates is assigned to the national RPAC, while state and local associations' Political Action Committees decide which state and local candidates to support.

Can I earmark money to a party or particular candidate?

No. Under Federal Election law, the earmarking of contributions is illegal.

How much money stays with the state association and how much goes to the national RPAC?

Seventy cents of every dollar raised stays in Oregon for state and local elections, and the remaining money is transferred to the National Association of Realtors® PAC for contributions to federal candidates. These Realtor® champions help advance issues that matter to our industry and the nation's property owners to help build strong communities.