



Federal Election Commission Rules for Raising and Spending Money for Convention Delegates

There is good news for individuals seeking to become or are elected to be delegates to our national nominating convention: there are only a few rules you need to follow. The rules also apply to delegates to any state or local convention or caucus that is held to select delegates to a national nominating convention.

There are not a lot of restrictions: as long as you are raising and spending money to pay for *your own* Convention-related expenses (e.g., travel, lodging), you do not need to register with the FEC. However, if a group of delegates work together to raise and spend money then the group must register with the FEC and start reporting as a delegate committee. So, you have no reporting requirements as a delegate assuming all fundraising you do by mail or email is done as an individual.

Federal law considers a national nominating convention of a political party to be a federal election since such conventions have the authority to select nominees for federal office on behalf of that party. Consequently, certain restrictions apply.

There is no limit on the amount of money a delegate can raise but remember, raising more money than you spend would have implications for your Federal taxes. The money you raise must follow standard federal fundraising restrictions. You cannot raise funds from:

- Corporations (including banks and nonprofit corporations);
- Labor organizations;
- Foreign nationals or businesses (except "green card" holders); and
- Federal government contractors (such as partnerships and sole proprietors with federal contracts)

The money you raise is not reported, although money you are given directly by political party committees or PACs is reported by the committee just like any other expenditure. (If the committee "passes the hat" specifically to support a delegate, the committee does not report the money as revenue as long as the money goes directly to the delegate.)

For more information, see the FEC website at: <https://www.fec.gov/help/candidates-and-committees/candidate-taking-receipts/delegate-activity/>

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