

# Illinois

29 Overall Rank

C- Overall Grade



Illinois	Overall Rank	To Governor	To State Senate	To State House	To Parties	To PACs
Individual Giving	40	23	15	18	45	38
		\$5,400/cycle*	\$5,400/cycle*	\$5,400/cycle*	\$10,800/cycle	\$10,800/cycle
PAC Giving	28	15	13	13	33	
		\$53,900/cycle	\$53,900/cycle	\$53,900/cycle	\$53,900/cycle	
Party Giving	1	1	1	1		
		Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited		
Union Giving	13	16	12	10		
		\$10,800/cycle	\$10,800/cycle	\$10,800/cycle		
Corporate Giving	11	13	10	8		
		\$10,800/cycle	\$10,800/cycle	\$10,800/cycle		

## Inflation Adjustment: Yes

\* Contribution limits to candidates are lifted if an independent group makes significant expenditures in the race for or against a candidate or if a candidate makes significant personal contributions to his or her own campaign.

\* Contributions from family members of a candidate are not subject to these limits.

\* For contributions to candidates, the primary and general election are defined as separate cycles. For contributions to parties and PACs, an election cycle is defined as one calendar year.

For the country’s fifth largest state, Illinois’s limits on individual giving to parties and political committees are far too restrictive. The Prairie State has little hope of stretching into the upper half of the Index so long as it limits political participation in this manner – especially when a majority of states (28, to be exact) do not limit individual giving to political parties at all.

Illinois fares better with respect to its limits on giving to candidates, allowing candidates’ family members

and political parties to give without limit. The state also boasts a provision unique to Illinois, which lifts contribution limits applicable to those candidates whose opponents self-fund their campaigns or benefit from the support of large independent expenditures. Residents of Illinois would be well served if the state would extend these protections to all campaigns, particularly by eliminating limits on individual giving to PACs and political parties.