

Michigan



13 Overall Rank

C+ Overall Grade

Michigan	Overall Rank	To Governor	To State Senate	To State House	To Parties	To PACs
Individual Giving	16	27	30	26	1	1
		\$6,800/cycle*	\$2,000/cycle*	\$1,000/cycle*	Unlimited	Unlimited
PAC Giving	26	45	47	49	1	
		\$6,800/cycle	\$2,000/cycle	\$1,000/cycle	Unlimited	
Party Giving	27	25	28	27		
		\$136,000/cycle	\$20,000/cycle	\$10,000/cycle		
Union Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Corporate Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		

Inflation Adjustment: Yes

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

In America’s automotive capital, parties are the engine of political speech. Michigan earns praise for allowing individuals and PACs to contribute without limit to political parties. In turn, parties may contribute modest amounts to candidates and may also provide extensive in-kind support. Limits on the ability of Michiganders and PACs to contribute directly to candidates are more restrictive, but were raised as recently as 2013 to afford these entities a greater capacity to support the candidates of their choosing.

Fortunately for Michigan residents, the state’s ranking in the Index is buoyed by a statutory requirement that its limits must be adjusted to account for inflation at the beginning of every odd numbered year. This simple measure is also used by 30 other states (including those with no limits on individual giving to candidates at all) and is crucial to preventing the erosion of free speech rights with the passage of time. Michigan’s Index ranking is also lifted by a provision that allows members of a candidate’s immediate family to donate without limit to their campaign.