Ohio

(36)

Overall Rank



Overall Grade

Ohio	Overall Rank	To Governor	To State Senate	To State House	To Parties	To PACs
Individual Giving	37	26	19	17	38	36
		\$12,532.34/ election	\$12,532.34/ election	\$12,532.34/ election	\$37,597.02/ year	\$12,532.34/ election
PAC Giving	38	27	21	20	37	
		\$12,532.34/ election	\$12,532.34/ election	\$12,532.34/ election	\$37,597.02/ year	
Party Giving	24	24	23	23		
		\$706,823.95/ election	\$140,988.82/ election	\$70,181.10/ election		
Union Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Corporate Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		

Inflation Adjustment: Yes

Ohio is home to seven of the 101 largest metropolitan areas in the nation, meaning political speakers need significant resources to effectively distribute their message in the state. While Ohio's limits appear large to the untrained eye, they are average or even low in some cases when accounting for the state's sizable population. Ohio is particularly restrictive of political committees, imposing low limits both on individual giving to PACs and on PAC giving to candidates.

On a positive note, Ohio allows political parties to operate with greater freedom. The state allows unlimited contributions to a variety of different party housekeeping accounts and imposes no restrictions on party get out the vote and voter registration activities, among multiple other useful exemptions. The Buckeye State gets credit in the Index for these speech-friendly provisions.

Finally, while Ohio is rightly rewarded for indexing its limits to inflation, it would be wise to follow the example of every other state in the country and make life easier for contributors by rounding its limits to the nearest hundred-dollar increment. Not doing so creates unnecessary confusion for would-be donors, who may accidentally run afoul of regulators by giving incorrect amounts.