Oklahoma



(41)

Overall Rank



Overall Grade

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Oklahoma	Overall Rank	To Governor	To State Senate	To State House	To Parties	To PACs
Individual Giving	39	31	20	23	42	35
		\$2,700/election	\$2,700/election	\$2,700/election	\$10,000/year	\$5,000/year
PAC Giving	36	24	16	17	40	
		\$5,000/election	\$5,000/election	\$5,000/election	\$10,000/year	
Party Giving	44	43	43	43		
		\$25,000/cycle	\$10,000/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

Although Oklahoma raised its limits on the amount candidates can receive from individuals and political parties in 2014, the Sooner State has a lot more work to do to protect free political speech within its borders. Oklahoma is one of just fifteen states to impose limits both on contributions from individuals to political parties and from parties to their candidates. Regrettably, the state also severely curbs the ability of PACs to contribute to parties as well. All in all, parties — the political institutions closest to the people — are severely restricted in Oklahoma, a driving factor behind the state's dismal rating in the Index.

Fortunately for Oklahomans, the state finally said goodbye to its "per family" contribution limit in 2014, a provision that further restricted the amount an individual could donate to a candidate of their choice. Prior to this policy change, Oklahoma was the only state in the country to apportion their limits in this manner. Now limits apply to individuals, as they do throughout the rest of the country. Despite this step in the right direction, residents of Oklahoma would benefit if the state looked to its southern neighbor for guidance — Texas is one of 11 states that have no limits on political giving from individuals, PACs, or political parties.