

NSSF[®] PAC

The Firearm Industry Trade Association

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a PAC?

A political action committee or “PAC” supports an organization’s political goals by collecting money from like-minded individuals who share those goals and contributing to political candidates who support those goals.

What is the National Shooting Sports Foundation[®] Political Action Committee (NSSF[®] PAC)?

The NSSF PAC is the non-partisan, Federal Election Commission-registered multicandidate political action committee of the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) – the firearms industry’s trade association. Formed in April 2010, the NSSF PAC supports pro-firearms and ammunition industry, pro-Second Amendment and pro-sportsmen candidates seeking election or re-election to federal office. The NSSF PAC is a vital and important component of NSSF’s overall government relations strategy. It is one of the most effective means for us to ensure that **“The Voice of Industry”** is heard on Capitol Hill and that our elected officials understand and respect America’s hunting and shooting sports industry, your business and livelihood and our Second Amendment freedoms.

Why is membership in the NSSF PAC important?

In 2001, when industry was besieged by the tidal wave of frivolous politically-motivated municipal lawsuits, then-senator Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.) proclaimed, **“In politics you have a choice – take part...or get taken apart.”** These words are as true today as they were more than a decade ago.

The NSSF PAC is the only federal political action committee solely dedicated to America’s firearms

industry and promoting, protecting and preserving hunting and the shooting sports. Membership in the NSSF PAC sends a strong, collective message to our elected officials that industry members are an informed, involved and politically active group.

Which candidates does the NSSF PAC support?

The NSSF PAC supports federal candidates regardless of party affiliation based on their record of promoting, protecting and preserving the collective interests of the firearms, ammunition, hunting, and shooting sports industry, and our hunting and shooting sports heritage and constitutional firearms freedoms for present and future generations.

What is the NSSF PAC’s success record?

The NSSF PAC has a proven record of success. Money raised by the NSSF PAC has allowed it to provide greater financial support to more pro-industry, pro-Second Amendment and pro-sportsmen federal candidates than ever before. Additionally, the NSSF’s government relations team and NSSF members regularly meet with key legislators to educate them on issues important to industry. These relationships have already had and will continue to have a positive impact on industry and sportsmen.

Who is eligible to participate in the NSSF PAC?

By law, the NSSF PAC is permitted to solicit its own executive and administrative staff; NSSF non-corporate members (e.g., individuals, sole proprietors, partnerships); and the executive and administrative personnel and stockholders of NSSF corporate members who have given prior written consent, and the families of these three groups.

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Why must NSSF corporate members provide prior consent?

By law, the NSSF PAC must obtain prior written consent from its corporate members each year before it can solicit contributions from their “executive and administrative personnel, stockholders, and the families of these individuals.” The law defines “executive and administrative personnel” to mean salaried employees who have policymaking, managerial, professional or supervisory responsibilities (but not foremen or line supervisors).

Providing consent does not obligate member company employees to make contributions to the NSSF PAC. It simply gives the PAC permission to communicate in much greater detail about its activities and the role it plays in promoting, protecting and preserving industry’s interests in Washington, D.C. However, a corporation can only give prior consent to one trade association PAC per calendar year.

What is the maximum contribution to the NSSF PAC?

An individual can contribute a maximum of \$5,000 per calendar year to the NSSF PAC. It is important to note that this amount is per individual, and that a spouse can donate \$5,000 as well, even if only one person in the household has an income. All contributions to the PAC must be personal; federal election laws strictly forbid contributions from corporations, foreign nationals without permanent U.S. residency, federal government contractors or by persons in the name of another person.

Are contributions to the NSSF PAC tax deductible?

No. Contributions to the NSSF PAC are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

How can I learn more about the NSSF PAC?

For more information about the NSSF PAC visit nssfpac.org or contact Lawrence G. Keane, NSSF PAC Treasurer, at (203) 426-1320; Liza White, PAC Director, at (203) 426-1320 ext. 206; or nssfpac@nssf.org.

