


# Federal Funding Requirements For Election-Related Communications

	Type of Communication				
	← more explicit candidate support			less explicit candidate support →	
↓ Sponsor	<b>Express advocacy communication</b> Expressly advocates the election or defeat of a clearly IDed federal candidate	<b>Federal election activity communic.</b> IDs a federal candidate and promotes, supports, attacks or opposes that candidate	<b>Electioneering communication</b> Broadcast commun. that IDs a federal candidate w/in 30 days of prim. / 60 days of gen'l election and is targeted at 50,000 constituents	<b>Coordinated communication</b> IDs a federal candidate or party within 120 days of the election, is coordinated, and is directed at constituents	<b>Other communications</b> (anything less explicit than ←)
National Party	federal funds (amount unlimited unless coordinated with a candidate)	not applicable to national party committees (← see other boxes→)	federal funds (amount unlimited unless coordinated with candidate)	federal funds (also a contribution to candidate; dollar amount limited to candidate contribution limit)	federal funds
State or Local party	federal funds (amount unlimited unless coordinated with a candidate)	federal funds (amount unlimited unless coordinated with a candidate)	If coordinated with candidate, federal funds must be used.  If not coordinated, a mix of federal and Levin funds or federal and nonfederal funds may be used. <sup>i</sup>	federal funds (but if not coordinated, a mix of federal and Levin or federal and nonfederal funds may be used.)	nonfederal funds permissible
Corporation or Labor union	prohibited unless federal PAC funds used (with one exception <sup>ii</sup> )	not applicable to corporations and unions (← see other boxes→)	prohibited unless federal PAC funds used (with one exception <sup>ii</sup> )	prohibited unless federal PAC funds used, then amount limited to candidate contribution limit	nonfederal funds permissible
Individual	If costs exceed \$250 per year, must be reported to FEC	not applicable to individuals (← see other boxes→)	permissible, but may not use funds received from a corporation or labor union (other than salaries).	permissible (also a contribution to candidate; dollar amount limited to candidate limit)	nonfederal funds permissible

<sup>i</sup> Generally, state party electioneering communications that are not coordinated with a candidate may be financed with a mix of federal and nonfederal funds. However, communications that are part of the party's voter identification, get-out-the-vote or generic party campaign activity may be a type of "federal election activity." In that situation, the party must use federal funds or a mix of federal and Levin funds.

<sup>ii</sup> The Supreme Court has said nonprofit corporations with certain characteristics may expressly advocate the election or defeat of candidates. FEC rules also allow these corporations to make electioneering communications.