

Volunteer Services

Personal services of the sort that are commonly performed by campaign volunteers are not considered contributions so long as the individual who performs one or more of these activities is not compensated by anyone for the services rendered.

This means that volunteers (who are not paid by anyone in connection with the volunteer tasks they perform) may do certain campaign work without the candidate having to report their services as in-kind contributions and count these contributions against the volunteer's limit. If an individual takes paid vacation or leave time that he or she has earned and uses the time to assist on a campaign, the individual is not considered "paid" for campaign work, and is eligible to perform volunteer activities (without accruing a contribution to the candidate).

The PDC has defined these commonly performed campaign services to include:

- Office staffing;
- Doorbelling or leaflet drops;
- Mail handling (folding, stuffing, sorting and postal preparation); processing emails to and from the campaigns;
- Political or fundraising event staffing;
- Telephone bank activity (conducting voter identification, surveys or polling, and get-out-the-vote campaigns);
- Construction and placement of yard signs, hand-held signs or in-door signs;
- Acting as a driver for the candidate or campaign staff;
- Scheduling campaign appointments and events;
- Transporting voters to polling places on election day;
- Preparing campaign disclosure reports and otherwise helping to ensure compliance with state election or public disclosure laws*;
- Campaign consulting and management services, polling and survey design, public relations and advertising (including online advertising), or fundraising performed by any individual, so long as the individual does not ordinarily charge a fee or receive compensation for providing the service; and
- Creating, designing, posting to and maintaining a candidate's or political committee's website or online forum, so long as the individual does not ordinarily charge a fee or receive compensation for providing the service;
- All similar activities as determined by the Commission. [[WAC 390-17-405](#)]

[*Attorneys or accountants, whether they are being paid by their employers or are on their own time, may provide their professional services 1) to a candidate in order to assist the candidate in complying with state election or PDC laws, or 2) to a bona fide political party or caucus political committee for any purpose. However, these professionals may not provide similar services to any other type of political committee without a contribution ensuing, unless the committee pays the fair market value of the services rendered.]