

## Terms to Know

### Committee:

- Accepts contributions or makes expenditures to influence the action of voters for or against candidates and/or ballot measures or to pay a campaign debt (§ 130.011, RSMo)

### Contribution:

- Money, services, or other valued item received or given for the purpose of supporting or opposing candidates or ballot measures (§ 130.11, RSMo)

### Expenditure:

- A payment, advance, conveyance, deposit, donation, or contribution of money or anything of value for the purpose of supporting or opposing candidates or ballot measures. Expenditures should be reported at the time they are either made or incurred (§ 130.011, RSMo)

### Non-Committee:

- An individual or entity not defined as a committee (not accepting contributions) but who spend \$500 or more of their own money to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures must file a **Non-Committee Expenditure Report** (§ 130.047.1, RSMo)

Violations of ch. 130 are within the MEC's jurisdiction and, in the event a complaint is filed, may result in enforcement.

## When to Form & Register a Committee



**YouTube:**  
[youtube.com/MOEthics](https://youtube.com/MOEthics)



**Ethics Guide:**  
[mec.mo.gov](https://mec.mo.gov)



**FAQs:**  
[mec.mo.gov/FAQs](https://mec.mo.gov/FAQs)



**Twitter:**  
[twitter.com/MOEthics](https://twitter.com/MOEthics)

This brochure is intended only as a guide to aid understanding of the campaign finance disclosure law.

For the law's complete requirements, consult the law itself codified at Chapter 130 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

Missouri Ethics Commission  
PO Box 1370  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
573-751-2020 800-392-8660  
[www.mec.mo.gov](https://www.mec.mo.gov)

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE

# When to Form & Register a Committee



**MEC**

MISSOURI  
ETHICS  
COMMISSION

Revised 9/2020

## Types of Committees

### Candidate Committee:

- Formed by a single candidate for office in a specific election

### Continuing Committee (PAC):

- Formed to remain in existence beyond any one election or issue, not directed by a candidate

### Debt Service Committee:

- Candidate committee converted to retire committee debt

### Exploratory Committee:

- Formed to receive or spend money to determine if an individual will seek public office

### Political Party Committee:

- Formed as a committee of a political party

### Campaign Committee:

- Formed to support or oppose ballot measures or judicial retention

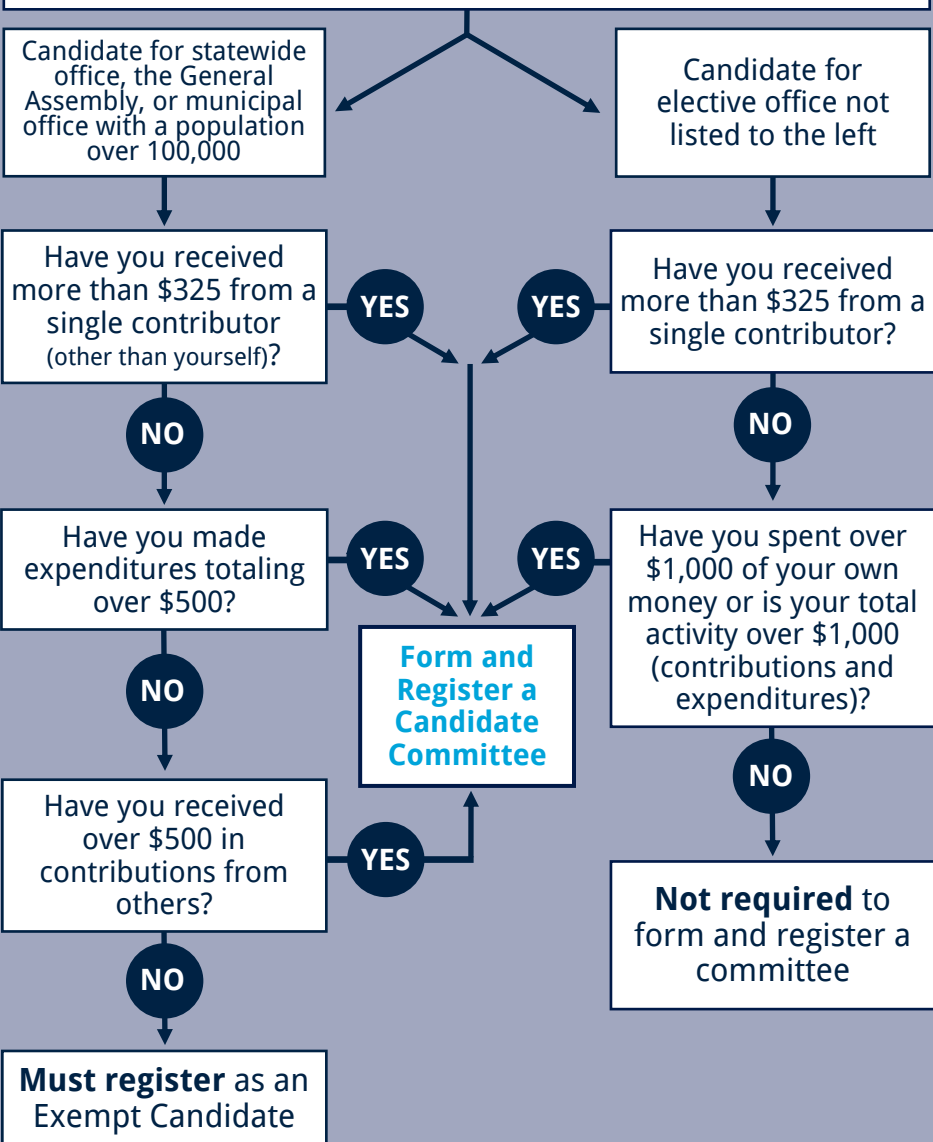
For a complete list of requirements, see our **Committee Checklist** located in the **MEC Guide to Ethics Laws**.

# When to Form & Register a Committee

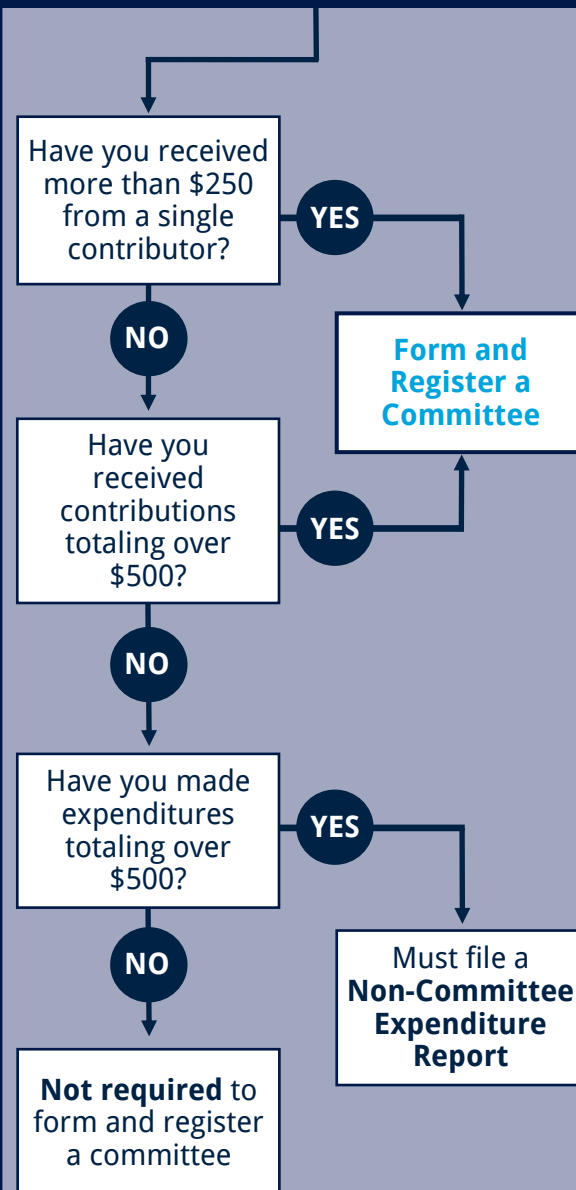
Ask yourself the following questions to determine if you need to form and register a committee. Once you reach the thresholds below, you must form a committee and submit a **Statement of Committee Organization** with the MEC within 20 days of forming or before your first report would be due.

## Are you a candidate for public office?

If so, which best describes you?



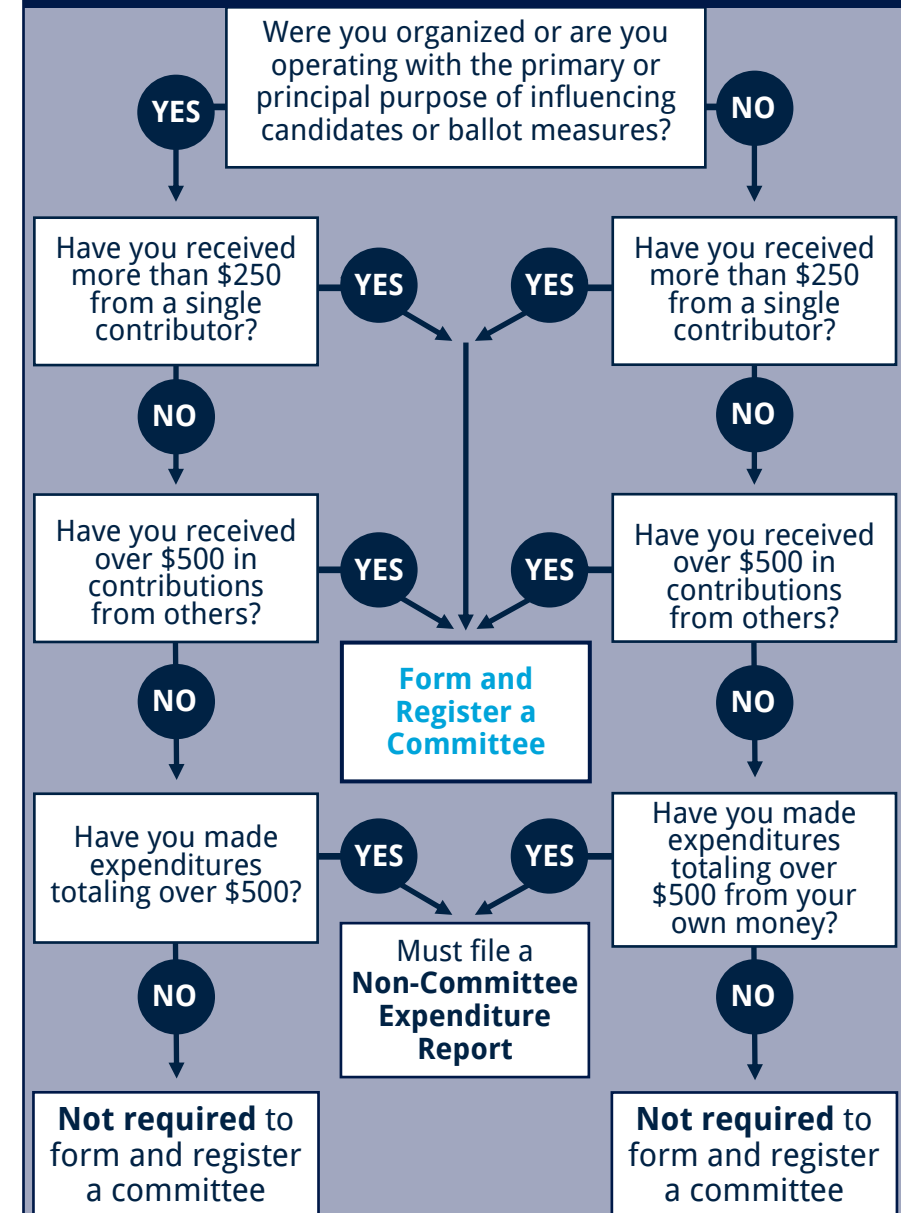
## Are you an individual or group of individuals?



## Are you a

for-profit or not-for-profit corporation, cooperative association, partnership, committee, proprietorship, joint venture, entity of the state, union, trade professional or business association, club, organization, or political party?

See Advisory Opinion No. 2018.05.CF.004 for more information



See definitions of contributions and expenditures.