

** Please note that these policies and procedures are only applicable if and when the NYSWI PAC is created.*

NYSWI POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

NYSWI PAC, formerly known as the NYS/BPW/PAC, was formed in June 1982 as a separate segregated fund with its own treasury, approved by the New York State Board of Elections and by the Business and Professional Women’s Clubs of New York State, Inc. A copy of its report is filed semi-annually, under the new name NYSWI PAC, (and more often if required by law) with the New York State Board of Elections in Albany, New York.

WHAT IS THE NYSWI PAC?

The New York State Women Inc. Political Action Committee (NYSWI PAC) is the political action committee of New York State Women Inc. and is intended to help support candidates who support our Legislative Platform of ensuring workplace equity, work-life effectiveness, protection of civil rights and protection of women’s health rights.

Contributions to the NYSWI PAC are voluntary.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

NYSWI PAC was formed to advance our legislative goals and to assist women in politics. NYSWI must extend its efforts in the political arena if we are to whole-heartedly support and receive support of our ideals and objectives.

To accomplish goals and objectives, the NYSWI PAC will:

- 1) Make financial contributions to qualified candidates for statewide office who support the NYSWI legislative platforms and who believe in our objectives.
- 2) Encourage qualified women to run for political office.

ORGANIZATION OF NYSWI PAC:

NYSWI PAC shall consist of at least two (2) and no more than five (5) members appointed for a one-year term by the New York State Federation President.

FUND ADMINISTRATION:

All contributions to NYSWI PAC are deposited in its bank account by the NYSWI PAC treasurer. Any disbursements are made from the NYSWI PAC account by the NYSWI PAC treasurer with approval from its chair.

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS:

Election law states that only NYSWI members may be solicited by or on behalf of the NYSWI PAC. Anyone, whether a member or not, may make unsolicited voluntary contributions to NYSWI PAC.

Contributions should be made by check, personal or corporate. For rules on contributions limits, please visit the New York State Board of Elections at www.elections.state.ny.us. No cash contributions will be accepted.

CRITERIA FOR POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION IN A PRIMARY OR GENERAL ELECTION:

Prerequisites for a political contribution by the NYSWI PAC are the following:

- 1) a. Sponsorship of a contribution by a Local Chapter President or a Region Director or
b. Recommendation of the PAC Committee.
- 2) The LC President, Region Director or PAC Committee must submit a PAC Sponsorship Form to the NYSWI PAC chair.
- 3) If available, the LC President, Region Director or PAC Committee shall list any other groups that have supported the candidate, the candidates website address and/or campaign committee name.
- 4) If the candidate is an incumbent, the candidate's voting record must show strong support for NYSWI issues. If the candidate is not an incumbent, the PAC committee will perform due diligence to research the candidate's position on NYSWI issues. Such due diligence shall include reviewing candidate's public statements and reviewing candidate's website and other publically available information.

SPECIAL ELECTIONS:

The criteria listed previously apply in special elections. Since the time period between the filing date and election is usually very short, it is important to act promptly when support is requested from NYSWI PAC.

GENERAL POLICY FOR NYSWI PAC CONTRIBTUIONS:

- 1) When there is an incumbent running for re-election:
If the incumbent is to be supported, the candidate must be a strong supporter of NYSWI issues. Further, NYSWI PAC will not support an opponent of an incumbent who has been a supporter of NYSWI issues.
- 2) NYSWI PAC will support candidates regardless of party affiliations, sex, race, national origin, age, etc., if they meet the applicable criteria.
- 3) Candidates may be from the Democratic, Republican or other third parties.

Refer to the NYSWI PAC manual on file at the NYSWI State website for additional information, guidelines and PAC Sponsorship Forms.