

who face a difficult, but winnable, election. FamMedPAC will focus its resources on those races where contributions can make a difference in the race. More funds will be directed to a particular race based on its competitiveness.

The Cook Political Report classifies races as “Toss-up,” “Lean,” “Likely” or “Solid” based on the projected difficulty of the race. Using these rankings, FamMedPAC can increase its contribution level to those candidates facing difficult races.

Campaign Committees

FamMedPAC will make contributions to the House and Senate campaign committees of both national political parties. The House committees are the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC). The Senate committees are the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC) and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC). These committees make contributions only to members of their own party running for election to the specific chamber. The committees target particularly vulnerable incumbents and promising challengers. Committees can now only accept and spend what are known as “hard-dollar” contributions, which are limited contributions from individuals and PACs. Previously, Committees could accept “soft money” contributions, which are unlimited contributions from wealthy individuals and corporations. Because of these changes, hard dollar contributions (which include contributions from FamMedPAC) to the campaign committees have taken on added significance. By making these contributions, AAFP representatives will be able to attend special briefings, roundtables and events throughout the year held specifically for donors to the campaign committees. These events allow for greater access to Congressional leaders, provide early contacts with challengers, and will help establish AAFP as an important player on the political scene.

Leadership PACs

Senators and Representatives, particularly those in the leadership or seeking to enter the leadership, often set up their own PACs in order to raise funds to contribute to races other than their own. Typically, members who set up leadership PACs are in safe seats and do not need to spend large amounts of money on their own re-election. FamMedPAC will make contributions to leadership PACs as needed throughout the cycle. FamMedPAC will allow those Senators and Representatives who qualify for a contribution and who have leadership PACs to specify their preference as to where to make the contribution: to the leadership PAC or his or her own campaign. Contributions to a candidate’s leadership PAC will count as contributions to the candidate and must fall into the budgeted contribution total for that candidate. As with all contributions, any contribution that exceeds a candidate’s budgeted amount must be approved by the FamMedPAC Board.

Multi-Member Committees

Members who share a particular ideology sometimes form PAC’s in order to support the election and reelection of others who share their views. FamMedPAC will support these PACs if the members of the PAC are supportive of AAFP’s issues. Examples of these PACs include the Blue Dogs (moderate, fiscally conservative, Democrats) and the Main Street Partnership (moderate Republicans).

Post-Election/Debt Retirement

It is standard practice for Senators and Representatives to ask for contributions following a general election to help retire their debts from the just completed campaign. Debt retirement offers AAFP another opportunity to establish relationships with Senators and Representatives to whose campaigns FamMedPAC did not contribute to in the general election, to forge relationships with newly elected Senators and Representatives, and to maintain strong relationships with Senators and Representatives who have always been supportive of AAFP’s legislative agenda. FamMedPAC has a policy of allowing