



Help Keep Occupational Therapy
in the Policy Spotlight

CONTRIBUTE TO AOTPAC TODAY!

AOTPAC Clubs

\$250 AND ABOVE: CONGRESSIONAL COUNCIL

- All Century and VIP Club benefits (below)
- Plus reception with AOTPAC Board at AOTA Conference

\$100 TO \$249: CENTURY CLUB

- All VIP benefits (below)
- Plus free entry to AOTPAC Conference event (if held)

\$50 TO \$99: VIP CLUB

- Recognition in an AOTA publication
- Membership ribbon at AOTA Conference

\$25 TO \$49: FRIENDS OF AOTPAC

UP TO \$24: AOTPAC SUPPORTER

PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE AOTPAC "DOLLAR-A-DAY" PROGRAM

- Enclosed is my full "Dollar-a-Day" contribution of \$365
- Please charge my credit card monthly for one dollar each day (i.e. January \$31, February \$28)

Begin with _____ / _____ and end with _____ / _____
(month/year) (month/year)

Signature

PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A CONTRIBUTOR TO AOTPAC

- I wish to make a one-time contribution to AOTPAC in the amount of \$ _____
(Enclose a check or provide credit card information at right.)

- I wish to make monthly contributions to AOTPAC of \$ _____

I authorize AOTPAC to charge this amount to my credit card monthly through _____ / _____
(month/year)

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Enclosed is a personal check or money order payable to
AOTPAC

Charge my Visa MasterCard Discover

Card number Expiration date

Authorized signature

AOTA ID# WEB Code

Name

Address

City/State/ Zip

Home Phone

E-Mail

To increase efficiency and reduce costs, AOTPAC will provide reports to its contributors via e-mail. Please help us by providing your e-mail information.

AOTPAC collects contributions from AOTA members for its political activities. These are voluntary and refusal does not affect a member's rights. Contributions are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

AOTPAC may not accept contributions made by corporations. Corporations may make donations to AOTA to defray the expenses of administering AOTPAC, including the solicitation of political contributions. Donations made by corporate check will be deposited into an administrative fund established by AOTA for such purposes.

For contributions of \$200 or more, federal election law requires AOTPAC to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 per calendar year. Please help us by providing your employer information.

Employer's Name

Employer's Address

Employer's City/State/ Zip

Occupation

Work Phone

Work E-Mail

MAIL CONTRIBUTIONS TO: AOTPAC,
PO Box 791005, BALTIMORE, MD 21279-1005

AOTPAC Fact Sheet:

What is a PAC?

A political action committee (PAC) is the legally sanctioned vehicle through which organizations, such as The American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA), can engage in otherwise prohibited political action and work to influence the outcome of Federal elections. A PAC is the only legal and ethical way a profession can unite behind the candidates of its choice.

Many professions, including physicians, dentists, nurses, medical laboratory technologists, optometrists, and physical therapists have made the concept of a PAC part of their government affairs efforts, all working within the system to better their advantage.

Why does AOTA need a PAC?

Decisions of Congress can and do have a direct, long-range effect on the occupational therapy profession. When individuals with mutual interests unite and support candidates who share those interests, steps toward favorable action can be encouraged. The candidates who support the profession need our professional support.

What is AOTPAC?

The American Occupational Therapy Political Action Committee (AOTPAC) is a voluntary, non-profit, unincorporated committee of members of AOTA. The purpose of AOTPAC is to further the legislative aims of the Association by influencing or attempting to influence the selection, nomination, election, or appointment of any individual to any Federal public office, and of any occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistant, or occupational therapy student member of AOTA seeking election to public office at any level. The committee is not affiliated with any political party.

Who controls AOTPAC'S money?

A five member Board of Directors makes decisions regarding which candidates will receive AOTPAC support. The AOTA Board of Directors appoints the AOTPAC Board members for a three-year term and each one represents a specific region of the United States. The funds that are raised by AOTPAC are used to their fullest potential as campaign contributions. This money, known as "hard" dollars, must be placed in a separate segregated fund. These "hard" dollars are provided by individual contributions.

Is AOTPAC ethical?

Yes. A campaign contribution through AOTPAC is not a means of buying votes. It is a "no strings attached" way of ensuring that responsible and dedicated legislators who understand and support the occupational therapy profession remain in or are elected to office. To ensure the money is well protected and properly spent, many detailed reports are required by the Federal Election Commission from both AOTPAC and the candidates it supports. Both must account for the sources of their funds and the purposes for which these funds are spent.

What criteria determine which candidates are supported?

AOTPAC makes financial contributions to candidates for Federal office regardless of party affiliation.

Among the factors relied upon by the AOTPAC Board on reaching decisions regarding which candidates will receive AOTPAC support are the recommendations of Association members and officers, the leadership of state associations, and the advice of the Federal Affairs staff of AOTA. Federal Affairs staff analyzes and interprets Congressional voting records and are able to pinpoint who is who in the area of health legislation and who supports the profession of occupational therapy.

What is AOTPAC's record?

For the year 2006 federal elections, contributions were used to support 109 candidates across the country with a success rate of 94%.

How does AOTPAC raise money?

The majority of money raised by AOTPAC is through direct AOTA member contributions.

Additional Resources:

AOTA Web site – www.aota.org/aotpac
Federal Affairs staff of AOTA