

INFORMATION ON PACS AND PAC FUNDS

What is a Political Action Committee?

Political Action Committees (PACs) are independent organizations created to raise funds for candidates seeking elective office who share common ideals and goals with members of the PAC. PACs also support the passage or defeat of legislative and regulatory issues that impact the PACs constituents.

Why was the NYSCHP PAC formed?

The NYSCHP PAC was established to promote the interests of health-system pharmacists through all forms of legislative and political action including contributions to candidates seeking office and the support or defeat of legislative or regulatory issues that impact the pharmacy profession.

Why should I become a contributing member of the NYSCHP PAC Fund?

Combined contributions and participation in the election process presents a united front of many as opposed to a single front of one.

What is a PAC?

It May Not Be what You Think!

By: Marvin Knoeck Jr, M.S., R.Ph.

Government Affairs Committee

Rochester Area Society of Health-system Pharmacists

Depending on your point of view a PAC can have more than one meaning. The traditional definition of a PAC is Political Action Committee. In this context the emphasis is on political action. An organization for a PAC for the sole purpose of raising funds to be used for the support of political candidates seeking elective office who share similar points of view on issues that are important to the organization's membership. PAC funds can also be used to support the passage or defeat of legislation that has an impact on the members of the organization. A broader "definition" of a PAC is as a Professional Advancement Committee. While the strategies of the traditional PAC may be utilized, the emphasis of the Professional Advancement Committee is different. Political action has been replaced by professional advancement. The objective of the professional advancement committee is to promote the advancement of the professional role of its members so that the individual members can better serve their customers. The role of a NYSCHP Professional Advancement Committee (NYSCHP-PAC) would be to work to enhance the professional role of NYSCHP's members so that we can provide better service to the patients we serve on a daily basis. Funds raised by a NYSCHP-PAC could be used in the political process to advance or defeat legislation or candidates that promote NYSCHP's ability to better serve you the membership thereby allowing you to provide improved health care to your patients. A NYSCHP-PAC could also provide funding for efforts by NYSCHP to work with other interested health care organizations to reach NYSCHP's goals. How can you help make a NYSCHP Professional Advancement Committee a

reality? Become involved, both as an active member of NYSCHP and with your contributions. Active member participation would include, but is not limited to participating in legislative day in Albany, or meeting with your legislators in their local offices or with members of other local health care organizations (i.e.: MSSNY, PSSNY) to promote our goals would be other means of becoming an active member.

Mr. James Lytle, Esq. from Manatt, Phelps AND Phillips, LLP, the new lobbyist for NYSCHP has indicated that a monetary fund between \$20,000 and \$25,000 is needed by NYSCHP-PAC in order to make our goal of passage of the Collaborative Drug Therapy Management (CDTM) more feasible. There are currently about 2,000 members in NYSCHP. If each member were to contribute \$10-\$15, the price of one or two lunches, we could reach our goal.

Your participation helps to ensure that the future practice of pharmacy in New York State is practiced to the highest professional level possible to best serve your patients. It is up to each one of us to rise to meet this challenge by supporting NYSCHP Professional Advancement Committee through your active participation within the organization and by sending your contribution of \$10 to \$15 made payable to NYSCHP PAC.

Two local chapters, Western and New York City, have taken up the challenge of providing funding to the NYSCHP-PAC.

Thank you for your support. Will you accept the challenge of helping to make the NYSCHP Professional Advancement Committee a reality and enhancing the professional care of your patients?