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Public Policy

Charitable nonprofits improve our lives, add vitality to our communities, contribute to our local and national economies, and enhance the health of our democracy. The National Council of Nonprofits is the largest network of nonprofits in North America. We champion, inform, and connect organizations across the country to score big wins for nonprofits and the communities they serve.

We're the only national, sector-wide group that integrates policy advocacy vertically (all levels of government) and horizontally (all branches of government). This holistic approach results in policies that support, strengthen, and protect nonprofits, especially small and midsized groups.

With the help of our state associations of nonprofits, we actively monitor what is happening in state capitals across the country to identify developments state by state, connecting the dots so that charitable nonprofits can see trends across governments, share information, craft solutions, and mobilize for action. In all our work, we strive to inform policymakers, journalists, the public, and indeed other nonprofits, about the vital role that charitable nonprofits play in benefiting the communities they serve.

Public Policy Resources

[Read about Public Policy Agenda](#)

Public Policy Agenda

The 2023 Public Policy Agenda focuses on local, state, and federal issues of concern to all nonprofit organizations. The Agenda is structured into six categories to educate policymakers and others about the work and impact of nonprofits.

[Read about Nonprofit Champion](#)

Nonprofit Champion

Free biweekly updates on local, state, and federal policy and advocacy issues affecting nonprofits.

[Read about Tax Policy Issues](#)

Tax Policy Issues

Federal and state tax laws and policies govern many of the operations of charitable nonprofits. Policymakers regularly review and propose changes to exemptions, operational rules, and giving incentives.

[Read about Public Policy Resources on COVID-19](#)

Public Policy Resources on COVID-19

Governments at all levels took action in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Nonprofits across the country quickly provided resources and partnered with governments and officials dedicated to responding to the crisis.

[Read about Protecting the Johnson Amendment and Nonprofit Nonpartisanship](#)

Protecting the Johnson Amendment and Nonprofit Nonpartisanship

A charitable nonprofit may “not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.”

[Read about Budget Policy Issues](#)

Budget Policy Issues

Budget and spending decisions by governments affect all Americans and these decisions can have immediate and serious consequences for the people nonprofits serve and the communities in which they operate.

[Read about Charitable Giving Incentives](#)

Charitable Giving Incentives

The tax laws may encourage individuals and businesses to give to charitable organizations whose missions they support by providing an itemized deduction or tax credit.

[Read about Government Grants and Contracts](#)

Government Grants and Contracts

Governments at all levels depend on charitable nonprofits to provide efficient and effective services to residents that would be more costly if provided by others.

[Read about Public Service Loan Forgiveness](#)

Public Service Loan Forgiveness

If you are employed by a nonprofit and are one of the 34 million borrowers who have federal student loan debt, you may be eligible for loan forgiveness, cancellation, and/or consolidation under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.