

# PRACTICAL GUIDANCE

What Nonprofits Need to  
Know About Lobbying in

# KANSAS

## Inside This Guide:

This Practical Guidance resource is designed to help your nonprofit organization determine if lobbying rules in Kansas might apply to your state or local work. It includes:

- Summary of registration and reporting triggers
- Key takeaways for nonprofit organizations
- FAQs
- Case study for a hypothetical small student voting rights organization
- List of helpful additional resources

## What Lobbying Activities Trigger Registration Requirements in Kansas?

DIRECT OR GRASSROOTS LOBBYING OF:	CAN THIS TRIGGER?	TRIGGER
<b>State Legislators</b>	Yes	An individual who promotes or opposes any legislative matter <b>and</b> is employed to a considerable degree to engage in lobbying, is formally appointed to lobby on behalf of another, <b>or</b> makes \$1,000 or more in reportable expenditures (on public officials, or certain grassroots campaign spending) in a year.  If an organization makes \$1,000 or more of such reportable lobbying expenditures in a calendar year in its own name, it should have an employee register so that they can report the organization's expenditures in their lobbyist expenditure reports.
<b>State Executive Branch Officials</b>	Yes	Same criteria as above, applied to lobbying executive branch and administrative matters.
<b>Local Legislators or Local Executive Branch Officials</b>	Maybe	Kansas lobbying laws do not cover lobbying of local government officials, but check whether the local jurisdiction you will lobby has its own regulations.

**Grassroots lobbying:** Grassroots lobbying (calling on members of the public or other organizations to contact elected officials) is treated the same as direct lobbying in Kansas, and many grassroots lobbying expenditures specifically count towards the registration trigger.

**Judicial branch lobbying:** Kansas lobbying laws also cover attempting to influence public officials in the judicial branch regarding procurement related matters. This Guide will focus on legislative and executive branch lobbying, but if you are communicating with the judicial branch on procurement decisions, you should be aware that this activity may also count as lobbying.

### KEY LOBBYING TAKEAWAYS FOR NONPROFIT ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS IN KANSAS:

- Grassroots lobbying and the expenditure test:** While most organizational expenditures, such as staff compensation and office overhead, are not reportable lobbying expenditures in Kansas, grassroots lobbying expenditures (including costs of paid social media, paid advertising, print mailing, and phone banking tools) are counted towards the \$1,000 trigger threshold. Any organization doing much paid grassroots lobbying is likely to reach this trigger threshold in a calendar year and will need to have an employee register to submit the required reporting.
- The Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission (“KGECE”), which oversees lobbyist registration, is friendly and helpful:** Because Kansas’ lobbying laws and processes, like those of many states, are designed with professional lobbyists in mind, nonprofit organizations using employees to lobby may find the registration and reporting process awkward or confusing. The staff at the KGECE are friendly and helpful, and you should not hesitate to contact them for help navigating the process.

This resource is current as of March 2023. We do our best to periodically update our resources and welcome any comments or questions regarding new developments in the law. Please e-mail us at [advocacy@afj.org](mailto:advocacy@afj.org) or at [info@democracycapacity.org](mailto:info@democracycapacity.org) with any comments.

This resource is meant to convey the basic principles of sections of state law that are most relevant for nonprofit advocacy and does not cover all aspects or all details of the state statutes. Please refer to the full text of the law for more details. This resource also does not cover details of federal lobbying disclosure law, IRS regulations related to lobbying, or any separate county or municipal regulations that may apply to lobbying-related activities. In some states there is an ongoing movement towards the enactment of additional local county and municipal level lobbying regulations, and organizations are urged to check with the appropriate local jurisdiction before undertaking local lobbying activity.

## Q: How should we think about using this Practical Guidance resource?

This Practical Guidance – What Nonprofits Need to Know About Lobbying resource is designed to help your nonprofit organization determine if state or local regulations might apply to your existing or proposed advocacy work. The answer is surprisingly often – **YES!** – but there are also often many advocacy activities that do not require state lobbyist registration or reporting.

This Guide will help you identify which of your state or local activities might trigger registration and reporting, and also give you potential alternative program design ideas that would allow your program to be in compliance with the regulations but not require registration and reporting.

If you do need to register and report with the state, this Guide will also give you practical tips about what information needs to be included in your reports, and how to try to minimize your operational burden while remaining in compliance with the rules.

While this Guide does provide some information about the federal IRS rules that apply to nonprofit lobbying, it is designed to cover state and local regulations. Links to resources containing more information about federal IRS rules can be found in the federal lobbying FAQ below.

We also hope that this Guide will prove useful to legal counsel and other advocacy advisors who are working to assist nonprofit advocacy organizations, as well as the funders who generously support this work. Advisors and funders are invited to use the free Bolder Advocacy Technical Assistance Hotline and the written legal resources available in Bolder Advocacy’s resource library at <https://bolderadvocacy.org/>

## Q: What activities count as lobbying?

Kansas defines lobbying broadly, as promoting or opposing an action of the legislature, executive agencies, or judicial branch concerning any **legislative matter, executive administrative matter, or judicial administrative matter**. This definition includes both lobbying through direct communications with public officials, and grassroots lobbying (where the communications are done indirectly through appeals to the public or other organizations).

Even if you are not promoting or opposing government action, you could still be lobbying if you are making expenditures on a government official when you are an interested party – “Lobbying” in Kansas also includes entertaining any **state officer or employee** or giving any gift, honorarium or payment to a state officer or employee with an aggregate value of \$40 or more within any calendar year, **if** you have a financial interest in a matter before the public official who is the beneficiary of the expenditure.

- **Legislative matter** means any bill, resolution, nomination, or issue pending before the Kansas legislature or its committees, subcommittees, or councils.
- **Executive administrative matter** encompasses almost any decision by a Kansas agency or its employees, including any rule, regulation, order, bidding process, ratemaking decision, award of a contract (including a license, lease, grant, loan, award, agreement, bond issuance, certificate, or permit), and any procurement decision.
- **Judicial administrative matter** refers to a procurement decision by the judicial branch or its employees.
- **State officer or employee** means any elected or appointed state officer, any individual in the classified or unclassified service of the Kansas civil service act, all officers and employees of the legislative branch and of the governor’s office, and any individual who receives monthly or semimonthly compensation for services from the state or any state agency.

**Q: What triggers lobbyist registration and reporting with the state?**

Kansas law explicitly says that not all activity that fits the definition of “lobbying” in the prior FAQ requires registration, which is only required if your staff or your organization are lobbying, as defined above, **and** meets one of the three registration triggers outlined below.

- **\$1,000 in reportable lobbying expenditures:**

Your organization (directly or through your staff) makes \$1,000 or more in reportable lobbying expenditures during the calendar year.

There are two main categories of expenditures that count towards this \$1,000 registration trigger – expenditures made on public officials, and paid grassroots advertising expenditures (not including staff time or office overhead). Any organization doing much paid grassroots lobbying is likely to reach this trigger in a calendar year and will need to have an employee register to submit the required expenditure reports, since in Kansas there is no separate way to register an organization as a lobbying entity.

- **Employed to a considerable degree for lobbying:**

This test is very judgment-based. In determining whether an individual is employed to a “**considerable degree**” to engage in lobbying, you should consider both the **portion of time** spent on lobbying compared to non-lobby tasks, and their **relative importance**. An individual could be employed to a “considerable degree” to lobby if such lobbying is an important part of their job duties, even if it accounts for a minority of their time. While there are no hard-and-fast rules, this category will generally not apply if lobbying is not a principal duty of the person. In considering whether an individual is employed to a “considerable degree” to lobby, you should consider preparation time as well as actual lobbying time.

**Employed** means that the person is compensated, but does not specifically mean that they are an employee as opposed to independent contractor. Both staffing structures can trigger registration under this test. That said, volunteers who are neither paid nor reimbursed for their expenditures are not considered lobbyists under this category.

Kansas regulations explicitly state that executives of an organization who lobby only incidentally are not required to register.

An employee that has many varied job responsibilities, but frequently supports the lobbying activity of others, or attends meetings with public officials as part of a coalition, also shouldn’t cross this threshold.

By contrast, an employee who has four or five main job responsibilities, one of which is organizing an annual lobby day, and spends most or all of their time on the lobby day for the weeks leading up to the event, would be more likely to be deemed “employed to a considerable degree to lobby.”

If you are unsure about whether an employee should register under this test, you can contact the KGEC for guidance by calling 785-296-4219 or e-mailing them at [KGEC\\_Ethics@ks.gov](mailto:KGEC_Ethics@ks.gov)

- **Formal appointment:**

If an individual is formally appointed as your primary representative to lobby “in person on state owned or leased property,” then they will need to register.

This test does not apply to an employee or independent contractor who lobbies for you, since in that case the “considerable degree” test is instead used to determine if registration is required. This formal appointment trigger is generally used only when you specifically appoint an unpaid non-employee as your representative to do in-person lobbying on your behalf at the Capitol or in a public official’s office.

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Note that there is no requirement that organizations appoint a representative, and few organizations do so.

## Q: How does the trigger threshold work if we are a fiscally sponsored project?

You will need to be sure you are communicating transparently and in a timely fashion with your fiscal sponsor if you plan to undertake activities that might potentially count as lobbying activities!

Each fiscal sponsor will have its own ways of working with projects who wish to take on lobbying activities.

In general, for fiscally sponsored projects that do not have their own legal entity and the fiscal sponsor engages all of the project's independent contractors or employees, the lobbyist registration trigger must be analyzed together with all of the projects housed at the fiscal sponsor who are doing lobbying activities in the state.

Your account manager at your fiscal sponsor will be able to help you understand how they track the registration threshold.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** In states where registration is required prior to lobbying, or very shortly after the registration threshold is reached, or periodic lobbyist disclosure is due shortly after the end of a reporting period, special procedures may need to be worked out in order to process your project's registration or reporting on time. You should connect with your account manager as soon as you begin planning any potential lobbying strategy!

## Q: Are there exceptions to what counts as lobbying?

**Yes!** Certain types of lobbying activities do not require state-level lobbyist registration or reporting. The exceptions most relevant to nonprofit organizations are:

- **Unpaid volunteers:** Unpaid volunteers do not need to register as lobbyists (unless they independently trigger one of the other tests).
- **Communication of legislative factual material:** Providing factual material, which is not intended to promote or oppose action or nonaction on a legislative matter, and which is not accompanied by active advocacy, does not constitute lobbying.
- **Responding to agency information requests:** Providing written information in response to a request from a state agency for technical advice or factual information regarding a standard, rate, rule, regulation, policy, or procurement.
- **Executive agency testimony:** Appearing before a state agency at the agency's request to provide information, so long as the individual makes no expenditures on public officials and such appearances occur a limited number of times. Note that, unlike many other states, Kansas does **not** have an exception for testifying before the legislature or a legislative committee.
- **Legislative research organizations:** Certain 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations do not have to register as lobbyists. The exception applies only to organizations operating in more than one state that have as a primary purpose the dissemination to the public of the results of their nonpartisan analysis, study, or research of legislative procedures or practices. This exception will generally not apply to nonprofit organizations doing their own advocacy work.
- **Procurement lobbying under \$5,000:** Communications regarding a contract, lease, grant, or agreement of \$5,000 or less does not count as a lobbying communication.

## Q: How does this work together with federal IRS lobbying regulations?

All tax-exempt organizations must follow both federal tax law (regulated by the IRS) **and** any state and local lobbying laws that apply to their work.



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The IRS rules regulate how much lobbying a nonprofit organization can do, while state and local regulations are transparency rules designed to help the public understand what funds are being spent to influence decision making and by whom. As a result, federal tax law rules related to lobbying and state lobbying regulations are quite different, and state lobbying regulations also vary greatly state to state.

In general, the IRS requires 501(c)(3) organizations to report on their annual Form 990 legislative lobbying at the federal, state, and local levels, but does not count as lobbying advocacy activities relating to executive branch or administrative officials at any level. There is no additional requirement for organizations or individuals to “register” with the IRS to report lobbying activities.

Nonprofits that are public charities under IRS exemption 501(c)(3), including grantmaking public charities like community foundations, can lobby within the generous limits allowed by federal tax law. The amount of lobbying is determined by either using the insubstantial part test or the 501(h) expenditure test.

See <https://bolderadvocacy.org/resource/public-charities-can-lobby-guidelines-for-501c3-public-charities-2/>

Organizations that are tax-exempt under 501(c)(4) (social welfare organizations), 501(c)(5) (labor organizations), and 501(c)(6) (trade associations) can do unlimited lobbying. See <https://bolderadvocacy.org/resource/being-a-player-a-guide-to-the-irs-lobbying-regulations-for-advocacy-charities/>

Your organization will need to ensure that you are keeping track of your lobbying staff time and your expenses in a way that works for both your IRS reporting, and for any required state or local reporting, since the information required in each regime will be different.

Note that there is also a federal law called the Lobbying Disclosure Act that requires some organizations to register and report their federal level lobbying activities. Organizations that have only occasional contacts at the federal level (having occasional meetings with members or staff or sending occasional letters to Congress) will not need to register under the LDA. The thresholds are designed to require only those organizations with substantial lobbying activities and expenses to file. For more information see [https://bolderadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Understanding\\_the\\_Lobbying\\_Disclosure\\_Act.pdf](https://bolderadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Understanding_the_Lobbying_Disclosure_Act.pdf)

## **Q: Does supporting or opposing a ballot measure count as lobbying?**

In Kansas, there is no process for citizens to initiate a ballot measure. The legislature, however, can place proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot. When such a ballot measure is being considered by the legislature, it is deemed a “legislative matter” and is subject to the same lobbying rules as any other bill before the legislature.

By contrast, supporting or opposing a Kansas ballot measure once it is put before voters is not regulated as a lobbying activity under Kansas law (even though the IRS does count it as a lobbying activity). Kansas instead regulates such activity under the state’s campaign finance laws.

Nonprofit organizations considering working on ballot measures in Kansas (supporting or opposing a measure that the legislature has put before the voters) should seek advice on how to comply with any applicable state or local campaign finance reporting requirements.

## **Q: If we are required to register, how does the process work?**

Registration is done online via a system maintained by the Secretary of State’s office, which is available here: <https://sos.ks.gov/lobbyist-legislative/lobbyist-legislative.html>

Before you can register, you will first need to obtain a username and password. Once you can log in to the site, you can register, pay registration fees, and obtain your official lobbying badges through the system.

### **Organizational registration:**

As discussed above, there is no process in Kansas for the registration of an organization, even though in the case of nonprofits that do grassroots lobbying work, it is generally the organization itself that has made the \$1,000 or more of grassroots expenditures that trigger the registration requirement.

In this case, your organization should have an employee register, even if they have not personally made any expenditures, and have not otherwise triggered lobbying registration under the “considerable degree” test. They can then report the organization’s expenditures in their reports. In selecting an employee who will register, you should be aware of certain limitations to which registered lobbyist are subjected. See the “Are there any other restrictions on lobbyists that we should be aware of?” FAQ below.

If the employee does not otherwise need to register, they can always terminate their registration after the grassroots campaign is over and all of the expenditures have been reported.

### **Registration process:**

To register, your employee will need to supply their name and contact information (since this information will be publicly accessible, they should supply business and not personal contact details). They will also need to identify the “client,” which will just be your organization, and a point of contact for the organization. The registration also requires them to identify the subject matter of the lobbying, which categories the lobbying fall into (legislative, executive, “other,” or any combination of the three), and the type of compensation the employee receives (hourly, annual salary, etc.).

Finally, the employee will need to provide an estimate of whether they expect to report more than \$1,000 in reportable lobbying expenditures for the year, or less. Registration fees are set based on the dollar value of reportable expenditures the lobbyist anticipates making. If you are registering because you intend to make, or have made, more than \$1,000 in reportable expenditures, the fee is \$350. If you intend to make \$1,000 or less in expenditures, the fee is \$50.

Registration expires annually on December 31 of the year for which the lobbyist is registered. If your need for registration is over for the year (for example, if your organization only registered to report grassroots lobbying expenditures, but the campaign has ended and the spending has all been reported), then your employee lobbyist can terminate their registration by filing a “termination statement” form on the system, which will relieve them of the obligation to file further periodic reports.

If the KGEC believes your employee was obligated to register, but failed to do so, it will provide them with written notice of the failure. Once they have received the notice, they have five days to register, after which KGEC will assess a civil penalty of \$10 per day that they do not register, up to a maximum of \$300. KGEC is allowed to waive such penalties for good cause.

## **Q: When are periodic lobbying reports due?**

Each year, registered lobbyists must submit lobbying reports to the Kansas Secretary of State on six occasions:

- January 10 (covering September–December of the previous year)
- February 10 (covering January)
- March 10 (covering February)
- April 10 (covering March)

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- May 10 (covering April)
- September 10 (covering May–August)

If you have an employee who registers for a reason **other than** expenditures (i.e., the “considerable degree” or “formally appointed” triggers) **and** plans to make less than \$100 in reportable lobbying expenditures in each reporting period during a year, they may submit an affidavit to that effect, which will relieve them of the need to file lobbying reports.

If your registered lobbyist employee fails to file a report on time, they are subject to a civil penalty of \$100 for the first day the report is more than 48 hours late, and \$50 per day after that, up to a maximum of \$1,000.

## Q: What information do the periodic lobbying reports include?

Lobbying reports are submitted on the Secretary of State’s website at <https://sos.ks.gov/elections/lobbyist/entry.aspx>

The lobbying reports will ask your employee to identify the entity who paid them for their lobbying activities (which will just be your organization, their employer), but not the **amount** of their compensation.

Reportable expenditures generally only include expenditures made on public officials (such as meals, entertainment, and gifts) or certain grassroots lobbying expenditures. Staff compensation and other kinds of organizational expenses are not required to be reported.

Note that lobbying reports are considered public records and will be made available to the public upon request.

Your records supporting the information contained in a lobbying report must be maintained and preserved by the organization for **five years** from the filing date. Kansas conducts random audits of lobbying reports.

## Q: What is considered a reportable “expenditure”?

The periodic lobbyist expenditure reports include the below information, for the period covered by the report:

- **Lobbying expenditures on public officials:** Expenditures in this category that are over \$100 must be itemized. Also note that some such expenses are actually prohibited under the Kansas state gift ban and should be avoided!
  - **Food and beverages** provided as hospitality to public officials (or their families), and for which the registered lobbyist **is present**.
  - **Recreation**, which means the cost of admission for activities or entertainment for public officials (or their families), at which the lobbyist **is present**.
  - **Entertainment**, which means the cost of admission for activities or entertainment for public officials (or their families), at which the lobbyist is **not present**.
  - **Gifts**, which means all gifts to public officials or their families, regardless of value.
  - **Honoraria or payments**, which means any amounts paid to a public official for giving a speech, or the reimbursement of their expenses associated with the speech.
- **Grassroots lobbying communications:** Expenditures in this category should be reported in the aggregate, and **not** itemized. Note that there is a legislative advertising disclaimer rule in Kansas that may also apply. See the FAQ below.
  - **Mass media communications**, which means advertising (TV, radio, or newspaper ads, social media boosting) and other similar expenditures.



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- **Communications for the purpose of influencing legislative or executive action**, which means direct mail, printed materials, lobbying-specific expenditures on phone banking, and other similar expenditures.

- **Other reportable expenditures:** This category includes expenditures made specifically in the performance of services as a lobbyist, such as flowers for an event, or the cost of invitations or printing programs for an event.

This category **does not** include travel and subsistence expenses for the lobbyist or volunteers, staff compensation, costs of preparing proposals, position papers and other similar documents, costs of writing an opinion piece for dissemination in the ordinary course by a newspaper or other periodical, or general office overhead.

**Gift ban:** It is important to note that regulations relating to lobbying expenditures almost always intersect in complicated ways with state and local ethics and “gift ban” laws. Those state and local rules often apply even if your organization has not triggered lobbyist registration, and may apply to a broader range of officials. You should be certain that you understand the intricacies of both sets of rules before giving any gifts to, or paying expenses for, any public officials at the state or local level.

## **Q: Do our grassroots communication need a specific disclaimer on them?**

Maybe! A statute in Kansas requires paid advertising in newspapers or periodicals, and paid broadcasts by radio or television, to have a separate line indicating that the material is an advertisement, and also provide the name of an individual responsible for the ad. This disclaimer requirement does not require you to disclose any of your donors – you can list your executive director, or another responsible person in your organization, as the name of the individual responsible for the ad.

The statute is K. S. A. 46-287 (available at [https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch46/046\\_002\\_0087.html](https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch46/046_002_0087.html))

## **Q: Do our organization’s donors need to be disclosed on any lobbying reports?**

No.

## **Q: How are our lobbyists required to identify themselves while lobbying?**

When lobbying in the state capitol building, lobbyists are required to wear an official name tag that is provided to the registered lobbyist when they register.

## **Q: Are there any other restrictions on lobbyists that we should be aware of?**

Your organization is not allowed to pay anyone who lobbies for you (whether an employee or external lobbyist) any form of compensation that is contingent upon the result of their lobbying efforts.

Registered lobbyists are also prohibited from doing any the following:





- Accepting compensation contingent upon the result of lobbying activity
- Offering employment to any state officer or employee, or a business associate of any state officer or employee, in an attempt to influence a state agency
- Acting as treasurer for any candidate or candidate committee, even in a personal capacity
- Making campaign contributions during Legislative Session (between January 1 and the date of the adjournment of the Legislature each year) or during any special session, even in a personal capacity, to a legislator, a candidate for the Legislature, a state officer elected on a statewide basis, a candidate for state office elected on a statewide basis, or a recognized political committee designated in the Senate or House of Representatives

# Case Study STUDENTS VOTE NOW

Students Vote Now is a hypothetical small 501(c)(3) advocacy organization considering being vocal about House Bill 1001 currently pending in the Kansas House of Representatives

## STUDENTS VOTE NOW IS CONSIDERING:

- Reaching out to its student constituents, via direct physical mailings, e-mails, and volunteer phone banking, in order to get the students to call their state house representative about the bill.
- Doing an in-person Lobby Day at the state capital about H.B. 1001 to meet with legislators, or alternatively arranging a virtual Zoom lobby event. The Lobby Day activity might potentially include renting a bus, buying T-shirts for the volunteer participants, and handing out some small swag type items from the organization to the legislators, or if done by Zoom, the purchase of an upgraded Zoom account.
- Testifying before a committee of the House of Representatives regarding the student perspective on H.B. 1001.
- Having an employee engage with the Mayor of Wichita about a similar, but separate, local ordinance being considered.

ACTIVITY	LOBBYIST REGISTRATION/REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
 <p><b>Student Engagement</b></p>	<p>Some of the expenditures for this grassroots lobbying activity (such as direct mail and phone banking costs) will count towards the \$1,000 expenditure threshold, so Students Vote Now should keep careful track of these covered expenditures (staff time is not counted).</p> <p>Students Vote Now should also consider if any staff are employed to a “considerable degree” to work on these activities, taken together with the other advocacy activities below, and taking into account the points outlined in the trigger threshold FAQ above.</p>
 <p><b>Lobby Day</b></p>	<p>Most of the expenditures Students Vote Now would make on this Lobby Day event (staff time, transportation and food, etc.) won’t count towards the \$1,000 trigger, but they should be mindful of event-specific spending that could be reportable and therefore count towards the threshold. For example, buying T-shirts for the volunteers generally wouldn’t be reportable, but if the shirts say “Lobby Day” and are clearly created <b>only</b> for this lobbying event, they would likely be reportable. Similarly, an upgraded Zoom account used <b>only</b> for Lobby Day is likely reportable, whereas one used for many purposes would not.</p> <p>In light of Kansas’ gift rules, it would be better practice to give information about the organization instead of giving any gifts to state officials.</p> <p>Any registered lobbyist employees must wear their lobbying badge while in the state capitol.</p>
 <p><b>Committee Testimony</b></p>	<p>Unlike many states, Kansas does not have an exception for legislative testimony. However, since travel, food, and employee compensation are not reportable expenditures, it is unlikely that the employee would make any expenditures for this activity that would count towards the \$1,000 threshold.</p>
 <p><b>Mayor</b></p>	<p>Kansas state law does not cover meeting with municipal officials, and Wichita does not have a local lobbying ordinance.</p>
<p><b>Bottom Line</b></p>	<p>Students Vote Now needs to consider both the “employed to a considerable degree” test and the \$1,000 annual expenditure threshold, particularly for the more expensive print mailer portion of its proposed grassroots student engagement work.</p> <p>If the organization does cross the \$1,000 expenditure threshold, it should have an employee register and report the expenditures.</p>

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### BOLDER ADVOCACY'S TECHNICAL HOTLINE:

Bolder Advocacy's free Technical Assistance Hotline team is always happy to help nonprofits and advocacy attorneys with more specific questions. You can contact Bolder Advocacy's team of experts by e-mailing [advocacy@afj.org](mailto:advocacy@afj.org), or calling 866-NP-LOBBY (866-675-6229) during standard business hours.

### BOLDER ADVOCACY'S MORE DETAILED STATE LAW RESOURCES:

- See also Bolder Advocacy's Kansas: Nonprofit Lobbying and Political Activity Guide <https://bolderadvocacy.org/resource/kansas-nonprofit-lobbying-and-political-activity-guide/>

### KANSAS STATE RESOURCES:

- **Kansas Secretary of State**  
Kansas's lobbying registration and reporting system, which is administered by the Kansas Secretary of State's office, is available here: <https://sos.ks.gov/lobbyist-legislative/lobbyist-legislative.html>
- **Full Text of Kansas Lobbying Statutes and Regulations**  
Article 2 (State Governmental Ethics) of Chapter 46 of the Kansas statutes contains the state lobbying provisions. The full text of Article 2 can be found via this page: [http://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/ksa\\_ch46.html](http://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/ksa_ch46.html)  
The implementing regulations and definitions for the lobbying statute are in Articles 60 through 63 of Agency 19 (Government Ethics Commission). The full text of each article can be found via this page: [https://sos.ks.gov/publications/pubs\\_kar\\_Articles.aspx?KAR=19](https://sos.ks.gov/publications/pubs_kar_Articles.aspx?KAR=19)
- **Handbook for Kansas Lobbyists**  
The Kansas Secretary of State's office publishes a Handbook for Lobbyists to help lobbyists comply with Kansas's registration and reporting requirements. It includes a summary of the laws and regulations, contact information for additional questions as well as the text of the applicable statute and regulations. The most recent version of the handbook is from 2021 (the statute has not been amended since then) and is available here: <https://ethics.kansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/handbook-for-legislative-lobbyists.pdf>
- **Additional Questions**  
Any questions about lobbyist registration and reporting can also be directed to the Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission by calling 785-296-4219 or emailing [KGEC\\_Ethics@ks.gov](mailto:KGEC_Ethics@ks.gov)

### BOLDER ADVOCACY'S FEDERAL LAW RESOURCES:

While state and local laws regulate which lobbying activities require registration and reporting, the IRS also regulates how much lobbying a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization is allowed to do, including at the state and local levels. The way the IRS counts lobbying will almost always be different than how state and local laws count it, and organizations are urged to review Bolder Advocacy's federal law resources to ensure all IRS compliance obligations are being met. See: <https://bolderadvocacy.org/resource/being-a-player-a-guide-to-the-irs-lobbying-regulations-for-advocacy-charities/>



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