

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a PAC?

Political Action Committees (commonly referred to as a PAC) have been around since 1944. PACs are organized by trade associations, small and large businesses, and corporations to raise and contribute money to the campaigns of candidates who are likely to support and advance the group's interests.

What is FishPAC?

FishPAC is the bipartisan political contribution mechanism that provides NFI with the means to financially support quality, pro-seafood industry candidates who understand our industry and who will work with us to develop responsible public policy. FishPAC solicits voluntary personal contributions from individual executives and administrative personnel of NFI's member companies in order to contribute to officials who have been elected to federal offices.

Why does NFI need a strong PAC?

Elected officials deal with thousands of legislative proposals each year and are bombarded by countless demands for their time and attention. The seafood industry is rapidly changing, and as a result, it is becoming the focus of many laws and regulations that can threaten the future of our business. NFI's FishPAC is a critical tool that allows us to educate lawmakers and communicate our positions effectively. FishPAC is crucial to ensure that we have a meaningful voice in Federal matters impacting our business.

How will FishPAC membership benefit you?

Membership is composed of men and women who truly want to make a difference in the legislative process and understand the importance of maintaining a pro-seafood Congress. As a FishPAC member, you are part of one of the most influential coalitions in Washington. As a member, you will receive a FishPAC "Contributors Only" newsletter issued periodically by NFI to keep PAC members abreast of recent developments, political updates and current legislative activities. In addition, you will receive exclusive FishPAC member benefits throughout the year, such as:

- Recognition at NFI Events
- Invitations to FishPAC "Members Only" events during NFI Conferences
- Special VIP Tours and Meetings in Washington, DC
- NFI Lapel Pin for FishPAC members, recognizing you as a national industry leader

Shouldn't I give directly to the candidate of my choice?

Yes, but it's also important not to overlook the greater impact that you gain by pooling resources with your colleagues for a concentrated campaign effort in key districts. FishPAC provides the mechanism for a well organized, effective strategy that coordinates the overall collective interests of the seafood industry.

How are FishPAC contributions to candidates decided?

FishPAC is strictly non-partisan; therefore we cannot guarantee that you will agree with all of the views of every candidate who receives our support. FishPAC uses 100% of every dollar contributed to help elect candidates to Congress who understand our industry.

Candidates selected to receive FishPAC funds are based on the following criteria:

- Members of the House & Senate who are our "voice in Congress" and help work the priorities that will impact our businesses, our employees and our industry through the various legislative and regulatory levels;
- The candidate's leadership and membership on key committees with jurisdiction over issues affecting our industry;
- The candidate's character, integrity, and leadership abilities;
- The candidate's financial need and nature of the opposition;
- The candidate's position or voting record on issues of direct concern to NFI.

What is the FishPAC Corporate Authorization Form?

The Federal Election Campaign Act requires trade associations, like NFI, with PACs to obtain written permission from their corporate members prior to soliciting the corporation's "restricted class" for contributions to the trade association's PAC. The restricted class of a corporation includes executive and administrative personnel, stockholders and the family members of both groups. This permission may not be granted by a corporation for more than one trade association in the same year.

This form needs to be signed and returned ONLY if your business is a corporation.

Why FishPAC needs your support?

The best way to make sure the political process is working for you is to get involved. Whether you are a business owner or an employee—you have a vested stake in seeing your company operate in a political climate that promotes and fosters our industry's growth. Supporting FishPAC means supporting the Members of Congress who have worked hard to achieve our legislative goals and ensures that our voice will be heard when decisions are made. FishPAC is supported entirely by voluntary contributions. This means it will only be as strong as we make it. We need your participation to help FishPAC achieve its public policy goals.

Who is eligible to join FishPAC?

The executive and administrative staff of NFI member companies, member company stockholders, and the association's executive and professional staff are eligible to participate in the PAC. Participation in FishPAC is completely voluntary, and you must be a U.S. citizen or green card holder with permanent resident status. FishPAC can accept up to \$5,000 per calendar year from any one contributor.

Questions?

If you have questions or need additional information on FishPAC, please contact: Diana Bostic, Vice President, Political Affairs, (703) 752-8894, dbostic@nfi.org

7918 Jones Branch Drive
Suite 700, McLean, VA 22102
Phone: 703-752-8880
Fax: 703-752-7583
Email: fishpac@nfi.org www.aboutseafood.com

