



PSYCHOLOGY PAC CANDIDATE CRITERIA

updated 2021

Psychology PAC makes contributions to federal candidates and is funded solely by the voluntary contributions of APASI members and staff who support the political interests of psychology and psychologists. Psychology PAC is nonpartisan. Psychology PAC evaluates a candidate slate on a quarterly basis using the following criteria:

- Candidate position and/or voting record on current APA legislative priorities
- Committee Assignments and Caucus Membership
- Political Leadership
- Integrity and Character of Candidate (define)

When determining candidate slate, the following questions are used as a guide:

- Has the candidate supported (voted/cosponsored) or have a record of support for legislation that furthers the legislative priorities of APASI?
- Does the candidate hold congressional leadership positions (or the likelihood the candidate will attain a leadership position in the next Congress)?
- Professional and personal relationships. For example, does the candidate have a relationship with an association member or a relationship with staff?
- Professional background. For example, is the candidate a psychologist (or scientist or other)?
- For a challenger, has the candidate held an elected office at the state or local level?
- For a challenger, has the candidate held a health care-related position in government or the private sector?

Psychology PAC takes into consideration Congressional Committees & related Sub Committees that serve the political footprint of APASI. For example, key committees include:

Senate		House	
Appropriations	Health, Education, Labor and Pensions	Appropriations	Veterans' Affairs
Commerce, Science and Transportation	Judiciary	Education and Labor	Ways and Means
Energy and Natural Resources	Special Committee on Aging	Energy and Commerce	Select Committee on the Climate Crisis
Finance Committee	Veterans' Affairs	Judiciary	Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth
		Science, Space, and Technology	

Psychology PAC takes into consideration membership and leadership on Congressional caucuses. For example:

Congressional Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus	Civility & Respect Caucus	Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC)	Congressional Neuroscience Caucus
Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus	Congressional Children's Caucus	Health and Wellness Caucus	Congressional Problem Solvers Caucus
Congressional Black Caucus (CBC)	Congressional Climate Solutions Caucus	Honor and Civility Caucus	Congressional Public Service Loan Forgiveness Caucus
Bipartisan Disabilities Caucus	Congressional Future of Work Caucus	Congressional Mental Health Caucus	Congressional Telehealth Caucus