



ENT PAC: We need you!

Matthew D. Scarlett, MD
Charleston ENT & Allergy

OASIS 2022

Overview: What is a PAC?

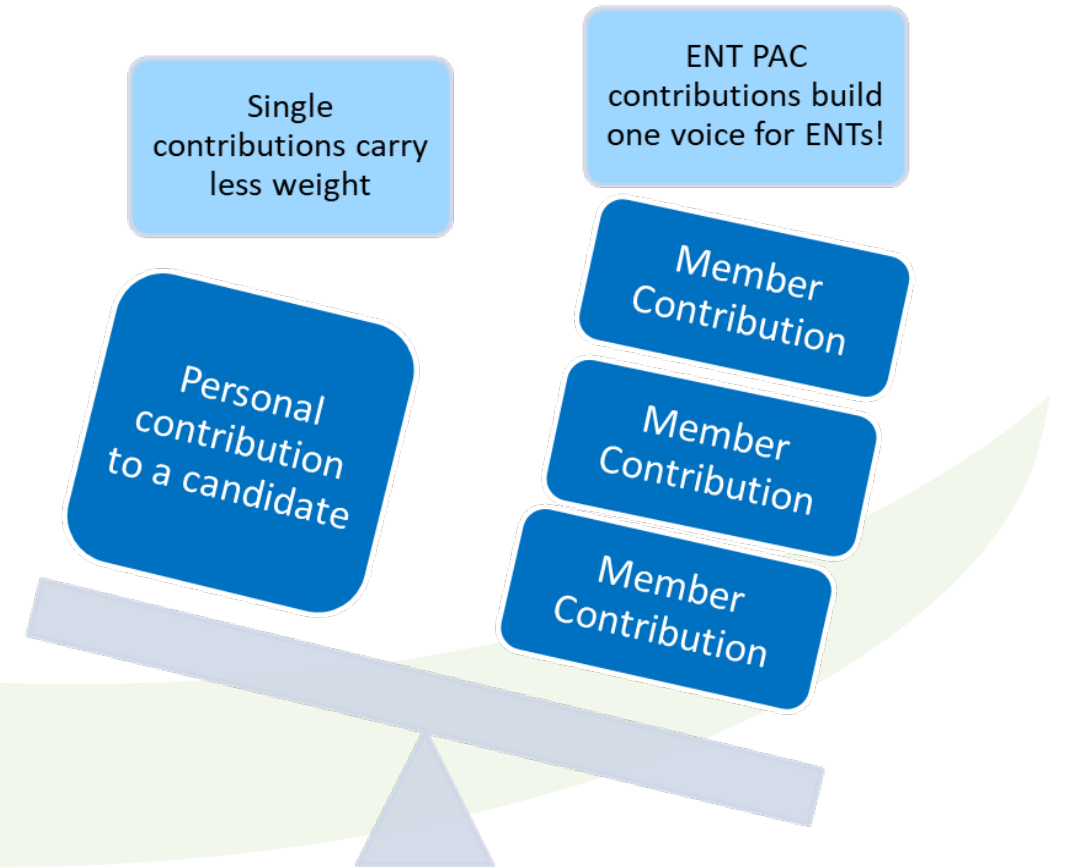
- “PAC” is an acronym for political action committee
- PACs are a legal and ethical way to participate in the election process
- Created in the mid-1970s as a remedy to unlimited, unregulated, and undisclosed contributions to lawmakers
- Approximately 4,600 federal PACs registered with the Federal Election Commission (FEC)
- **ENT PAC** is the non-partisan, issue-driven political action committee of the AAO-HNS
 - Established in 1995

Overview: How do PACs operate?

- PACs may only seek donations from a “Solicitable” class
 - ENT PAC’s “Solicitable” class is composed of current U.S. AAO-HNS Members
- PACs make campaign contributions to Members of Congress and/or candidates for federal office
 - Reminder: AAO-HNS membership dues cannot be used for political purposes.
- PACs measure their activity by two-year election cycles

Creating a Collective Political Voice for the Specialty

- ENT PAC creates the opportunity to **pool financial contributions** and speak as **one voice** in support of incumbent Members of Congress and candidates who will champion and **protect the interests of otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons.**
- Gains **GREATER** access to high profile legislators, especially Committee Chairs and Leadership.
- Assists otolaryngologist-head and neck surgeons in organizing themselves for **more effective** political involvement.
- ENT PAC is the **ONLY** political action committee solely dedicated to advocating for the priorities of otolaryngologists.
- **100%** of personal AAO-HNS member contributions (non-corporate) to ENT PAC are used to support candidates for federal elective office.





What does ENT PAC do?

- ENT PAC operates alongside AAO-HNS members and Academy Advocacy staff to open doors in Congress, be in the room for important stakeholder conversations, and keep otolaryngologists' priorities at the forefront of Congressional healthcare debates.
- In 2021 ENT PAC:
 - Joined in a sustained advocacy and outreach campaign, with numerous other physician organizations, resulting in Congressional action to avert a scheduled 9.75% to Medicare reimbursement rates for 2022.
 - Was instrumental in pushing back against Congressional efforts to expand scope of practice for non-physician providers, both in the Build Back Better legislative package and in standalone legislation like the Medicare Audiologist Access and Services Act.

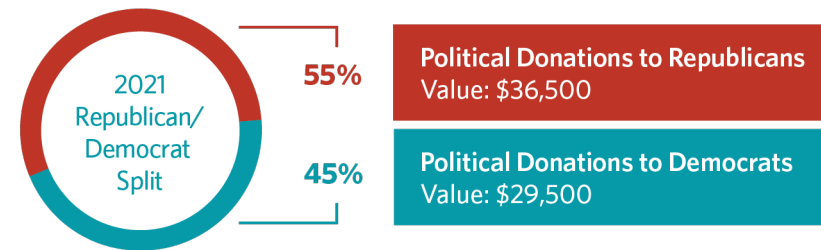
So...Who Gets the Money?

- AAO-HNS Advocacy team/ENT PAC staff prepare a proposed annual budget for ENT PAC contributions to Members of Congress.
 - Criteria used to determine budget:
 - Leadership position
 - Committee assignment
 - Past voting record/engagement on **OUR** issues
 - Physicians
 - Likelihood to win – polls, district
- Proposed budget is reviewed and discussed by ENT PAC Board of Advisors.
- The ENT PAC Board of Advisors then **votes to approve the budget.**
 - Including any modifications or adjustments to specific contribution amounts.

ENT PAC 2021 Activity Report

- In **2021**, ENT PAC:
 - Raised **\$95,162.09** (*as of December 31, 2021*) in contributions from AAO-HNS members
 - Contributed **\$66,000** to Members of Congress and national parties
- For comparison, ASHA-PAC, one of the audiology PACs, raised \$246,166.00 and disbursed \$134,000.00 over the same time period

2021 REPUBLICAN / DEMOCRAT SPLIT





How to Support ENT PAC

ENTPAC.org

- Visit entpac.org (log in with your AAO-HNS ID and password) to make a contribution or view the latest list of Investors and contributions.
- Questions? Please contact ENT PAC staff at ENTPAC@ENTNET.ORG

A screenshot of the ENT PAC website homepage. The top navigation bar includes the ENT PAC logo, the tagline "10,000 ENTS | 1 PAC | 1 VOICE", and a "Join the ENT Advocacy Network" button with a "CLICK HERE" link. Below the navigation bar are menu items: "Your PAC Dollars at Work", "About ENT PAC", "Issues", "2021 Investors", "FAQs", "DONATE TODAY" (circled in red), and "Log out". The main content area features the ENT PAC logo and tagline, a large teal banner with the text "Your PAC Dollars at Work" and a "FIND OUT MORE" button, and a "2021 ENTPAC Investors" section. On the right side, there are buttons for "2021 ENTPAC Investors", "Find your Member of Congress", and "Make a Donation". Below these are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Email, with a "Like" button and a "Share 4" button. The "LATEST NEWS" section shows a headline "Statement from the ENT PAC Board of Advisors" dated February 24, 2021. A "Tweets" section shows a tweet from @AAOHNSGovAffrs with the text "Learn how Big Tobacco has harmed women".

ENT PAC Disclaimer for FEC Purposes

Contributions to ENT PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Contributions are voluntary, and all members of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Federal law prohibits ENT PAC from accepting contributions from foreign nationals. By law, if your contributions are made using a personal check or credit card, ENT PAC may use your contribution only to support candidates in federal elections. All corporate contributions to ENT PAC will be used for educational and administrative fees of ENT PAC, and other activities permissible under federal law. Federal law requires ENT PAC to use its best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and the name of the employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.