

To help ensure that City decisions are (and are perceived to be) fair and impartial, state and City laws regulate gifts to City officials. **A gift is anything that provides a personal benefit to an official when the official does not provide consideration of equal or greater value in return.** This is an overview of the laws that limit gifts to City officials; other restrictions or exceptions may apply. For guidance, please call the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or visit [ethics.lacity.org](http://ethics.lacity.org)

## Start Here

Are you a lobbyist or lobbying firm?

No

Have you engaged any of the following City related activities?

- Entered into, performed under, or tried to get a contract with the official's agency (or for elected officials, any agency);
- Attempted to influence the official in the past year in a City matter that would have a direct financial effect on you; or
- Had a license, permit, or other entitlement for use pending in the last year before the official or a body of which the official is a voting member.

No

Are you listed on the official's Conflict of Interests Code?

1. Review the official's *Conflict of Interests Code*.
  - Go to [ethics.lacity.org/coi](http://ethics.lacity.org/coi)
  - Download the official's *Conflict of Interests Code*.
  - Identify the official's position (Schedule A) and *disclosure category* (Schedule B).
2. Determine whether you engage in activity described on the officials' *disclosure category*.
  - If *so*, you are a *disclosable source* and may give the official gifts that are cumulatively valued at up to \$520 per calendar year.
  - If *not*, you are not a *disclosable source* and may give the official gifts of any value.

Yes

If you are seeking to influence a City agency, you **may not** give a gift of any value to an elected City official or to an official in the agency you are seeking to influence. You also may not act as an *intermediary* in the making of a prohibited gift to an official.

Yes

You are a *restricted source* to the official and **may give** gifts to the official that are cumulatively valued at up to \$100 per calendar year.

As a restricted source, you also may not act as an agent or *intermediary* in a gift that exceeds a gift limit.

## REMEMBER

You may never offer or make a gift when it is reasonably foreseeable that a City official could be influenced (or perceived to be influenced) by the gift or when it is given in exchange for an official action.

Los Angeles City  
ETHICS COMMISSION