

Campaign Contributions and Costs

Graphic featuring three campaign posters: 'For President ABRAHAM LINCOLN', 'For Vice President SAMUEL HARRIS', and 'KARRY ON WITH JOHNSON'. Below the posters are two portraits: 'FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT' and another portrait.

RUNNING FOR POLITICAL OFFICE IS EXPENSIVE

Rising campaign costs...

...require candidates to conduct extensive fund-raising activities.

Presidential Campaign Spending

The graph shows spending in millions of dollars on the y-axis (0 to 2500) and Year on the x-axis (1980 to 2012). Two lines are plotted: 'Constant Real Dollars' (a flat line near zero) and 'Presidential spending' (a line that rises sharply starting around 2000, reaching approximately 2000 million by 2012).

Source: <http://www.cleantlatenow.org>

RUNNING FOR POLITICAL OFFICE IS EXPENSIVE

Rising campaign costs...

...limit opportunities to run for public office.

Source of Funds to 2010 Congressional Candidates

The pie chart shows the following distribution: Small Donations from Individuals (48%), Large Donations from Individuals (23%), Candidate Self-funding (11%), Other (9%), and PACs (9%).

2012 AVERAGE \$2,303,917.16

Source: <https://www.opensecrets.org>

RUNNING FOR POLITICAL OFFICE IS EXPENSIVE

Rising campaign costs...

...give an advantage to wealthy individuals who run for office.

Mitt Romney's net worth is between \$85 million and \$264 million.
Al Gore's net worth is around \$100 million.
Hillary Clinton's net worth is around \$85 million.
Jon Huntsman's net worth is between \$16 million and \$72 million.
Newt Gingrich's net worth is between \$7 million and \$31 million.
Barack Obama's net worth is between \$2.8 million and \$11.8 million.
Ron Paul's net worth is between \$2.4 million and \$5.4 million.
Rick Santorum's net worth is between \$1 million and \$3 million.
Rick Perry's net worth is between \$1 million and \$2.5 million.

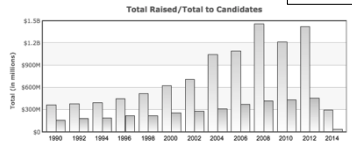
Source: <http://www.consumerismcommentary.com>
<http://www.cnbc.com>

RUNNING FOR POLITICAL OFFICE IS EXPENSIVE

Rising campaign costs...

...encourage the development of political action committees.

PAC Summary: Total Raised/Total to Candidates

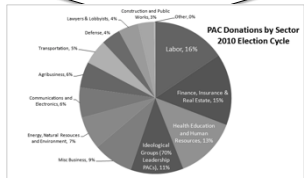


Source: <https://www.opensecrets.org>

RUNNING FOR POLITICAL OFFICE IS EXPENSIVE

Rising campaign costs...

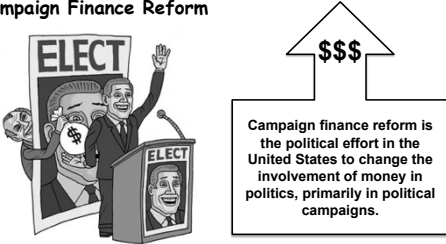
...give issue-oriented special interest groups increased influence.



Source: <https://www.opensecrets.org>

RUNNING FOR POLITICAL OFFICE IS EXPENSIVE


Campaign Finance Reform



Campaign finance reform is the political effort in the United States to change the involvement of money in politics, primarily in political campaigns.

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Campaign Finance Reform



Limits have been placed on the amount individuals may contribute to political candidates and campaigns.

	To each candidate or candidate committee per election	To national party committee per calendar year	To state, district & local committee per year	To any other political committee per calendar year
An individual may give	\$2,600	\$32,400	\$10,000 <small>(combined limit)</small>	\$5,000

Source: Federal Election Commission
