



## GMCC Direct Givers Conduit Program

### DESCRIPTION

The Chamber's Direct Givers Program (or Conduit Program as referred to under state law) provides an effective vehicle for individuals to make political contributions.

The individual account holder retains full control over which candidate campaigns receive political contributions from their conduit account as well as the amount of the contribution.

The conduit allows individuals to give contributions to local or state candidates in Wisconsin, while also demonstrating their support for the Chamber's collective work.

### DIRECT GIVERS PROCESS

**Solicitations:** Individuals may be asked to establish and make deposits into a Direct Givers account. Funds are held in the Direct Givers account in the conduit member's name. The minimum deposit to establish a Direct Givers account is \$100.

**Checks:** Checks must be made payable to:

**GMCC Direct Givers  
PO Box 71  
Madison, WI 53701-0071**

**Control:** Individual funds sent to the Direct Givers Program are deposited in a separate Direct Givers Program bank account. Structurally, as the conduit sponsor, the Chamber then acts like a bank, with contributions permitted only with the explicit authorization of the individual conduit member. The individual retains full control of both the political contribution amount and who receives it.

**Directing Contributions:** Conduit members may at any time direct their funds, in whole or in part, to be contributed to any candidate for local or state office.

**Recommendations for Disbursements:** Direct Givers Administrators may make recommendations to Direct Givers members regarding suggested candidates and contribution amounts. However, Contributors are free to agree or disagree with those recommendations. The final decision is always the individual conduit member's.

### LEGALITIES

**Direct Givers Contributions Treated Like Individual Contributions:** Contributions made through the Direct Givers conduit program are treated by Wisconsin campaign finance laws as individual, personal contributions. The candidate lists these contributions on their campaign finance reports as individual contributions, not as contributions from the Chamber. All individual contribution limits apply.

**Conduit Report Form:** The GMCC Direct Givers Program must file a conduit report with the State Elections Board at prescribed times during the year. The report provides the names of candidates receiving GMCC Direct Givers contributions and the amount they received as well as the names of the individuals making the contributions.



GREATER MADISON  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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### **Make your check payable to GMCC Direct Givers**

Minimum initial deposit of \$100 is required.  
Personal checks only. Corporate checks cannot be accepted.

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### **Send it to the GMCC Direct Givers Administrator:**

GMCC Direct Givers  
P.O. Box 71  
Madison, WI 53701-0071

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### **Your check is deposited into the GMCC Direct Givers account.**

It is held in the account on your behalf until contribution instructions are received from you.

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### **To authorize a political contribution, email or call staff.**

Contact David Aguayo at [david@madisonbiz.com](mailto:david@madisonbiz.com) or 608-443-1963 to indicate which political candidate should receive the contribution and specify the amount.

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### **The GMCC Direct Givers Administrator will then write the check and send the individual contribution directly to the candidate.**

A letter will accompany the check and identify the contributor's name, employer (if the contribution is more than \$100), title, and home address. If there are multiple contributors, the contribution will be aggregated in one check.

*The identifying information is required by state law and will be included in the campaign finance report filed by the political candidate.*