

Collecting FEC-required donor data with PayPal.

How to use the PayPal Donate button and PayPal Checkout to collect required donor data to meet FEC reporting requirements.

paypal.com/political



Summary

The Federal Elections Commission (FEC) requires that all political campaigns at the federal level collect supplemental donor data including the donor's employer and occupation.

PayPal can easily be enabled to capture the FEC-required donor data and include it with the payment transaction. After a donor enters the required information, it can be concatenated and passed with the payment transaction in the "Custom" fields in the PayPal Donate button or PayPal Checkout. The data entered in the "Custom" fields can then be taken from PayPal report files for use as required with FEC filings and for reconciliation.

Setting up the Donate button and PayPal Checkout to collect donor data

Using the "Custom" field

The "Custom" field can be used to pass proprietary information through to your PayPal reports. In this case, you would concatenate the entered data into a single field passed to PayPal.

custom = "{entered first name}":"{entered
last name}":"{entered employer}":"{entered
occupation}"

first name, last name, employer, occupation separated by a colon (:)

for example, SARAH:SMITH:CoCo:President



PayPal Reporting

If "Custom" fields were used to pass the information, it will appear in the PayPal reports similar to this example:

Custom Number	Receipt
Sarah:Smith:CoCo:President	
Wylie:Coyote:Acme:Tester	
Bob:Jones:My Company:Servant	