

 charles river	GLOBAL CORPORATE POLICY	Doc #: GLBL-POL-00090
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Policy Sponsor: Corporate Legal Title: Political Contribution Policy		

PURPOSE

It is the policy of Charles River Laboratories International, Inc., its subsidiaries and affiliates (together, the “**Company**” or “**Charles River**”) to comply with all applicable laws and regulations in conducting our business. Each employee, officer and director is expected to comply with this policy and to avoid any activity that violates applicable laws or regulations governing Company political donations and activities. As an industry leader, Charles River ensures that the interests of our stakeholders, including our employees, shareholders, partners and clients, are appropriately represented through leadership roles in industry groups and trade associations, as well as through representation before governments which are considering regulation or legislation that may impact our business, the industry, or the investment climate.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all directors, officers, and employees of Charles River.

POLICY

Political Contributions and Political Action Committees (PACs)

Charles River generally does not make direct political contributions to individual candidates, parties, committees, or IRS Section 527 entities, or to influence the outcome of campaigns or ballot measures. In addition, Charles River does not contribute directly to any independent expenditure or electioneering communication (as those are defined by law). Charles River also does not generally make payments to 501(c)(4) tax-exempt organizations that the recipient may use for political purposes, and we do not presently have a PAC.

Charles River complies with the many laws that regulate political contributions and activities. Where the law allows political contributions to be made, Charles River will not fund or support any political party or official or any candidate for public office without the prior approval of our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel. We will also comply with the laws that regulate any contacts we may have with legislators or others regarding legislation or potential administrative actions.

If Charles River determines that making a direct political contribution is in the best interests of our company and our stakeholders, we will disclose that contribution in our Corporate Citizenship Report which is published on the Company website biennially.

Governance Practices and Ethics

Charles River supports an individual's participation in political activities on their own time and we respect the rights of our employees, officers, and directors to make personal political contributions in their own names. Charles River's political spending reflects the interests of Charles River and not any of its individual employees, officers, directors or agents. As such, Charles River resources may not be used for employees' personal political activities, and lobbying activities are permitted only in compliance with applicable law and by individuals designated to represent the Company in such capacity. Charles River does not reimburse personal political contributions directly or indirectly, and does not coerce employees to make personal political expenditures.

Charles River complies with all federal, state, and local laws that regulate political contributions and activities. The Company will not contribute funds in anticipation of, in recognition of, or in return for an official act or anything that has the appearance of a gratuity, bribe, trade or quid pro quo of any kind.

Charles River's management provides its Board of Directors with regular reports in order to periodically assesses the risks and impacts related to the Company's political spending.

Disclosure and Oversight

Charles River engages with government officials and policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels on legislation, regulations, and policies that affect our business and operations. We also occasionally retain outside consultants to support our engagement with government officials and policymakers. Charles River complies with all federal, state and local lobbying regulations that require entities and individuals who engage in public policy advocacy to register and disclose relevant expenditures.

Trade Associations

Charles River is a member of numerous trade associations through which we seek to advance collaborative and constructive approaches to industry engagement with policymakers and other stakeholders. The Company also participates in a variety of issue advocacy coalitions and alliances that seek to advance policy proposals focused on key priorities for our Company. We inform our major U.S. trade associations and relevant 501(c)(4) organizations that they are prohibited from applying any Company funds to support contributions to any U.S. federal or state candidate, political party, ballot measure or referendum campaign.

Trade associations operate independently from Charles River and undertake responsibility for their own governance and compliance. Trade associations are independent organizations representing a variety of members and we may not share their political or policy positions. Charles River, through its membership, conveys its expectations that trade associations comply with all applicable laws with respect to their political and advocacy activities.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Any questions related to the interpretation of this policy and/or a subject matter included in this policy shall be directed to the Office of the General Counsel and the Office of the Chief Operating Officer.

EXCEPTIONS AND WAIVERS

Requests for waivers, exemptions, or exceptions to this policy must be submitted in writing to the Office of the General Counsel and the Office of the Chief Operating Officer.

ENFORCEMENT

Any suspected violation(s) of this policy should be immediately reported to your manager/supervisor and the Office of the General Counsel and the Office of the Chief Operating Officer.

All reports will be promptly investigated.

Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. Suspected criminal activity will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics