



SUBMIT TO:  
Registry of Charitable Trusts  
at [\[web address\]](#)

**FORM PL-1: INITIAL REGISTRATION  
FOR CHARTIABLE FUNDRAISING PLATFORMS**

California Government Code section 12599.9  
California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 315

WEBSITE ADDRESS:  
[oag.ca.gov/charities](http://oag.ca.gov/charities)

**\$625 FEE MUST BE PAID WHEN FILING THIS FORM**

(For Registry Use Only)

**Part A. Contact Information**

1. Official name of applicant charitable fundraising platform (full legal name, e.g., exact name where legally formed)

2. Doing business as name(s) (used during the current or prior year)

3. Official address (principal executive office, do not use P.O. Box)

City or Town, State and Zip Code

4. Mailing address (if different from official address)

City or Town, State and Zip Code

5. Website address (principal executive office)

6. E-mail address (principal executive office)

7. Telephone number (principal executive office)

8. Federal employer identification number (FEIN)

9. Contact person name and title (for Registry inquiries, does not have to be person who signs form)

10. Contact person e-mail address

11. Contact person telephone number

**Part B. Registration Information**

1. Legal form of applicant charitable fundraising platform:

- For-profit corporation (including for-profit social purpose or benefit corporations)
- Charitable or nonprofit corporation
- Limited liability company
- Sole proprietorship
- Other (specify \_\_\_\_\_)

2. Jurisdiction in which legally formed (e.g., state, foreign country): \_\_\_\_\_

3. Jurisdiction entity identification number (e.g., corporation number assigned by the jurisdiction): \_\_\_\_\_

4. If also registered as a charitable corporation or trustee, registration number assigned by the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts as a charitable corporation or trustee: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Specify the type(s) of charitable fundraising platform that the applicant anticipates to function as. Check all that apply.

- Soliciting charitable fundraising platform
- Peer-to-peer charitable fundraising platform
- Coventuring charitable fundraising platform
- Consulting charitable fundraising platform
- Charitable fundraising platform that performs, permits, or enables charitable solicitations to occur, but is not a soliciting, peer-to-peer, coventuring, or consulting charitable fundraising platform

6. What types of internet-based user interfaces are anticipated to be used to perform, permit, or enable solicitations? Check all that apply and provide the supplemental information.

- Website(s) (specify address of home or landing web page for each domain name)
- Mobile device application(s) (specify name(s) for each application)
- Computer software application(s) (specify name(s) for each application)
- Other (describe the platform(s) and how platform users would access and use the platform)



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7. Has the applicant retained a platform charity or another charitable fundraising platform (“partner”), under which the partner will assist the applicant in performing, permitting, or enabling solicitations on the applicant’s charitable fundraising platform? If “Yes,” specify below the total number of partners, and on Attachment 1, provide the following information for each partner: partner’s official name and registration number, whether the partner is a platform charity or charitable fundraising platform, and the date when the partnership began.

- Yes, and answer specified in Attachment 1, and specify the total number of partners: \_\_\_\_\_
- No

8. Is the applicant a partner to other charitable fundraising platform(s) because the applicant was retained by other charitable fundraising platform(s) to facilitate solicitations on their platforms pursuant to a contract? If “Yes,” provide in Attachment 1 the following information for each partnering platform: partnering platform’s official name, registration number (if registered), the date when the partnership began, and whether solicitations are already occurring or not on the charitable fundraising platform. If unregistered, also provide their website address, mailing address, and telephone number.

- Yes, and answer specified in Attachment 1
- No

9. Has the applicant been the subject of a government enforcement action? Answer “Yes” if any of the following apply:

- a. The applicant had a license, registration, or permit denied, cancelled, suspended or revoked, was assessed a fine or penalty, or had any official disciplinary or legal action taken against it by a government agency involving charitable fundraising or the use of charitable funds; or
- b. The applicant is the subject of a pending government enforcement action involving charitable fundraising or the use of charitable funds.

If “Yes,” provide in Attachment 1 the name and website address of the government agency that brought each action, an explanation of each action and the status or resolution, the date each action was taken, and the date of resolution, if any. Provide a PDF copy of the document initiating each action, the resolution, and any other document needed to understand each action or current status.

- Yes, and answer specified in Attachment 1 and documents attached
- No

### Part C. Signature Block

I certify under penalty of perjury that I have examined this form, including accompanying information, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, the content is true, correct, and complete, and I am authorized to sign this form.

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Signature of Authorized Agent

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Name and Title

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Date







**Office of the Attorney General**  
**Registry of Charitable Trusts**  
**Privacy Notice**  
**As Required by Civil Code § 1798.17**

**Collection and Use of Personal Information.** The Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts (Registry), a part of the Public Rights Division, collects the information requested on this form as authorized by the Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act (Gov. Code § 12580 et seq.) and regulations adopted pursuant to the Act (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 11, § 300 et seq.). The Registry uses the information in the administration and enforcement of the Act, including to register, renew, or update your organization's registration or to prepare reports pursuant to the Act. The Attorney General may also use the information for additional purposes, including in support of investigations and law enforcement actions, providing public access to information as required by the Act (Gov. Code §§ 12587, 12587.1, 12590), and making referrals to other law enforcement agencies. Any personal information collected by state agencies is subject to the limitations in the Information Practices Act and state policy. The Department of Justice's general privacy policy is available at [www.oag.ca.gov/privacy-policy](http://www.oag.ca.gov/privacy-policy).

**Providing Personal Information.** All the personal information requested in the form must be provided. An incomplete submission may result in the Registry not accepting the form, and cause your organization to be out of compliance with legal requirements to operate in California.

**Access to Your Information.** The completed form is a public filing that will be made available on the Attorney General's website at [www.oag.ca.gov/charities](http://www.oag.ca.gov/charities) pursuant to the public access requirements of the Act. You may review the records maintained by the Registry that contain your personal information, as permitted by the Information Practices Act. See below for contact information.

**Possible Disclosure of Personal Information.** In order to process the applicable registration, renewal, registration update, application, or report, we may need to share the information on this form with other government agencies. We may also share the information to further an investigation, including an investigation by other government or law enforcement agencies. In addition, the information is available and searchable on the Attorney General's website.

The information provided may also be disclosed in the following circumstances:

- With other persons or agencies where necessary to perform their legal duties, and their use of your information is compatible and complies with state law, such as for investigations or for licensing, certification, or regulatory purposes;
- To another government agency consistent with state or federal law.

**Contact Information.** For questions about this notice or access to your records, contact the Registrar of Charitable Trusts, 1300 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 at [rct@doj.ca.gov](mailto:rct@doj.ca.gov).

SUBMIT TO:  
Registry of Charitable Trusts  
at [\[web address\]](#)

WEBSITE ADDRESS:  
[oag.ca.gov/charities](http://oag.ca.gov/charities)

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR INITIAL REGISTRATION FOR CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING PLATFORMS (FORM PL-1)



### Who must file a Form PL-1?

Every charitable fundraising platform must register with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts before performing, permitting, or enabling any online acts of solicitation for charitable purposes in California. Acts of solicitation include solicitations performed as a soliciting charitable fundraising platform that solicits donations from its platform users in California, with donations intended for recipient charitable organizations referenced on the platform. Other examples include: a peer-to-peer charitable fundraising platform that permits platform users to solicit donations from other platform users intended for recipient charitable organizations; a coventuring charitable fundraising platform that solicits by stating donations will be made to recipient charitable organizations based on platform user purchases or other activity; and consulting charitable fundraising platforms that provide their fundraising platform software to charitable organizations, who can then solicit or receive donations through the platform. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(1), and California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivisions (b), (c), (j), and (l), for complete definitions.

Filing a complete Form PL-1 with the Registry of Charitable Trusts starts the registration process, and results in a registration number being assigned by the Registry of Charitable Trusts to each registered charitable fundraising platform. The registration number is used in future filings with the Registry of Charitable Trusts.

### When must a Form PL-1 be filed?

Every charitable fundraising platform must submit a Form PL-1 before performing, permitting, or enabling any online acts of solicitation for charitable purposes in California. The failure to do so violates Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (b).

### Are exclusions available so that a Form PL-1 need not be filed?

See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(2), for the exclusions. A person or entity excluded from the definition of a charitable fundraising platform is not a charitable fundraising platform and should not file a Form PL-1.

For example, a person or entity is excluded from being considered a charitable fundraising platform when the entity is only deemed a commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes because the entity, for compensation, also performs solicitations via telephone or direct mail (excluding electronic mail or messages), solicits donations through in-person fundraising events, or performs solicitations involving a chance to win something of value. A commercial fundraiser for charitable purposes must register as such, and comply with other requirements applicable to a commercial fundraiser.

Another example would be an entity that is only deemed a commercial coventurer because it complies with Government Code section 12599.2, subdivision (b), and, in the context of a charitable fundraising platform, solely functions as a coventuring charitable fundraising platform for six or less recipient charitable organizations in a calendar year and does not let platform users select recipient charitable organizations. In this instance, the commercial coventurer is exempt from registration and reporting. When in doubt as to whether the entity is a commercial coventurer or charitable fundraising platform, the entity should register as a charitable fundraising platform using Form PL-1.

### General Instructions

A \$625 fee must be paid online when submitting the Form PL-1. Follow the instructions at [\[web address\]](#) for payment. A Form PL-1 will not be accepted unless the fee is paid.

Answer all questions. For the terms defined below, they have the meaning reflected in the below definitions.

Use Attachment 1 to provide narrative answers to questions that specifically permit use of Attachment 1. When providing narrative answers to questions, do not incorporate by reference any documents or hyperlinks. Narrative answers must include all information required by a question.

In Part B, question 9 requests copies of documents concerning government enforcement actions. When applicable, provide the copies as PDF files and follow the instructions at [\[web address\]](#) for submission.

To file a Form PL-1, submit the completed and signed form at [\[web address\]](#). Electronic signatures are accepted.



## Definitions for Form PL-1

**“Charitable fundraising platform”** means any person or entity that uses the internet to provide a website, service, or other platform to persons in California, and performs, permits, or otherwise enables acts of solicitation to occur. Acts of solicitation include solicitations performed as a consulting, coventuring, peer-to-peer, or soliciting charitable fundraising platform. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(1), and California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivisions (b), (c), (j), and (l), for complete definitions.

**“Consulting charitable fundraising platform”** means a charitable fundraising platform that is customizable and enables charitable organizations to solicit donations made to them from donors, including when charitable organizations manage peer-to-peer charitable fundraising campaigns enabled by the charitable fundraising platform. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(1)(E), and California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivision (b), for complete definition.

**“Coventuring charitable fundraising platform”** means a charitable fundraising platform that performs solicitations by listing or referencing by name one or more recipient charitable organizations to be sent donated funds based on purchases made or other activity performed by platform users, including by permitting platform users to select one or more recipient charitable organizations to be sent donated funds. Donated funds for recipient charitable organizations would come from the charitable fundraising platform, or, when platform users can select recipient charitable organizations, from the charitable fundraising platform or other third party persons who are not platform users. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(1)(C) & (D), and California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivision (c), for complete definition.

**“Donated funds”** means a donation or grant of a recommended donation, such as when a charitable fundraising platform or platform charity sends a donation or grant of a recommended donation to a charitable organization. See California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivision (e), for complete definition.

**“Donation”** means a donation or recommended donation made by a donor.

**“Donor”** means, for charitable fundraising platforms that are not coventuring charitable fundraising platforms, a platform user who makes a donation based on solicitations performed, permitted, or enabled by the charitable fundraising platform. For coventuring charitable fundraising platforms, “donor” means a person or entity who is not a platform user and makes a donation based on solicitations performed, permitted, or enabled by the charitable fundraising platform, and purchases made or other activity performed by platform users.

**“Partner”** means a platform charity that was retained by a charitable fundraising platform to facilitate solicitations on its charitable fundraising platform pursuant to a contract. “Partner” also means a charitable fundraising platform (platform A) that acts similarly to a platform charity and was retained by another charitable fundraising platform (platform B) to facilitate solicitations on the other charitable fundraising platform (platform B) pursuant to a contract. A charitable fundraising platform acts similarly to a platform charity when it meets the definition of both a platform charity and charitable fundraising platform, but is deemed only a charitable fundraising platform pursuant to Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (b)(1).

**“Partnering platform”** means a charitable fundraising platform that retained a platform charity or another charitable fundraising platform (that acts similarly to a platform charity) to facilitate solicitations on its charitable fundraising platform pursuant to a contract.

**“Partnership”** means a contractual relationship between a charitable fundraising platform and a platform charity, or between two charitable fundraising platforms, where one of the direct or indirect purposes of the contract is to facilitate acts of solicitation on a charitable fundraising platform. See California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivision (i), for complete definition.

**“Peer-to-peer charitable fundraising platform”** means a charitable fundraising platform that permits or enables platform users to solicit donations made by other platform users for one or more recipient charitable organizations. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(1)(B), and California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivision (j), for complete definition.

**“Platform charity”** means a charitable corporation or trustee that facilitates acts of solicitation on a charitable fundraising platform, including by soliciting donations for itself through the platform with the implied or express representation that the platform charity may grant donations to recipient charitable organizations, or granting funds to recipient charitable organizations based on purchases made or other activity performed by platform users. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(5) for complete definition. A person or entity that meets the definition of both a platform charity and charitable fundraising platform is deemed a charitable fundraising platform. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (b)(1).

**“Platform user”** means a person who uses a charitable fundraising platform. A platform user includes a donor who makes a donation to a charitable organization through use of a charitable fundraising platform, a person who engages in peer-to-peer charitable fundraising through use of a charitable fundraising platform, and a person who makes purchases or performs other activity through use of a charitable fundraising platform that causes donated funds to be sent to a charitable organization. See California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivision (k), for complete definition.



**“Recipient charitable organization”** means a charitable corporation or trustee that is listed or referenced by name on a charitable fundraising platform for solicitation purposes. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(7), for complete definition.

**“Soliciting charitable fundraising platform”** means a charitable fundraising platform that solicits donations from donors who use the platform by listing or referencing by name one or more recipient charitable organizations to be sent donated funds. See Government Code section 12599.9, subdivision (a)(1)(A), and California Code of Regulations, title 11, section 314, subdivision (I), for complete definition.

### **For Additional Information**

Additional information is available on the Attorney General’s website at [oag.ca.gov/charities](https://oag.ca.gov/charities). You may also contact the Attorney General’s Registry of Charitable Trusts at [pf@doj.ca.gov](mailto:pf@doj.ca.gov). The street address of the Registry of Charitable Trusts is 1300 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, and mailing address is Office of the Attorney General, Registry of Charitable Trusts, P.O. Box 903447, Sacramento, CA 94203-4470. Do not mail this form. It must be filed electronically.