**Summary of Hatch Act Rules**

**If you are a federal employee who works in any of the following executive agencies, you have special Hatch Act restrictions:**

* Administrative law judges
* Central Intelligence Agency
* Contract Appeals Boards
* Criminal Division (Department of Justice)
* Defense Intelligence Agency
* Federal Bureau of Investigation
* Federal Election Commission
* Merit Systems Protection Board
* National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
* National Security Agency
* National Security Council
* Office of Criminal Investigation (Internal Revenue Service)
* Office of Investigative Programs (Customs Service)
* Office of Law Enforcement (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives)
* United States Office of Special Counsel
* Secret Service
* Senior Executive Service

*These federal employees****may****:*

* register and vote as they choose
* assist in voter registration drives
* express opinions about candidates and issues
* participate in campaigns where none of the candidates represent a political party
* contribute money to political organizations or attend political fund-raising functions
* attend political rallies and meetings
* join political clubs or parties
* sign nominating petitions
* campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, municipal ordinances

*These federal employees****may not****:*

* be candidates for public office in partisan elections
* campaign for or against a candidate or slate of candidates in partisan elections
* make campaign speeches
* collect contributions or sell tickets to political fund-raising functions
* distribute campaign material in partisan elections
* organize or manage political rallies or meetings
* hold office in political clubs or parties
* circulate nominating petitions
* work to register voters for one party only
* wear political buttons at work

**If you are a federal or Washington, D.C. employee of any other agency or branch of government, you still have Hatch Act rules to follow:**

*These federal and D.C. employees****may****:*

* be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections
* register and vote as they choose
* assist in voter registration drives
* express opinions about candidates and issues
* contribute money to political organizations
* attend political fundraising functions
* attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
* join and be an active member of a political party or club
* sign nominating petitions
* campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, municipal ordinances
* campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
* make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
* distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
* hold office in political clubs or parties

*These federal and D.C. employees****may not****:*

* use official authority or influence to interfere with an election
* solicit or discourage political activity of anyone with business before their agency
* solicit or receive political contributions (may be done in certain limited situations by federal labor or other employee organizations)
* be candidates for public office in partisan elections
* engage in political activity while:
  + on duty
  + in a government office
  + wearing an official uniform
  + using a government vehicle
* wear partisan political buttons on duty