

Territory campaign account

1. Territory campaign account

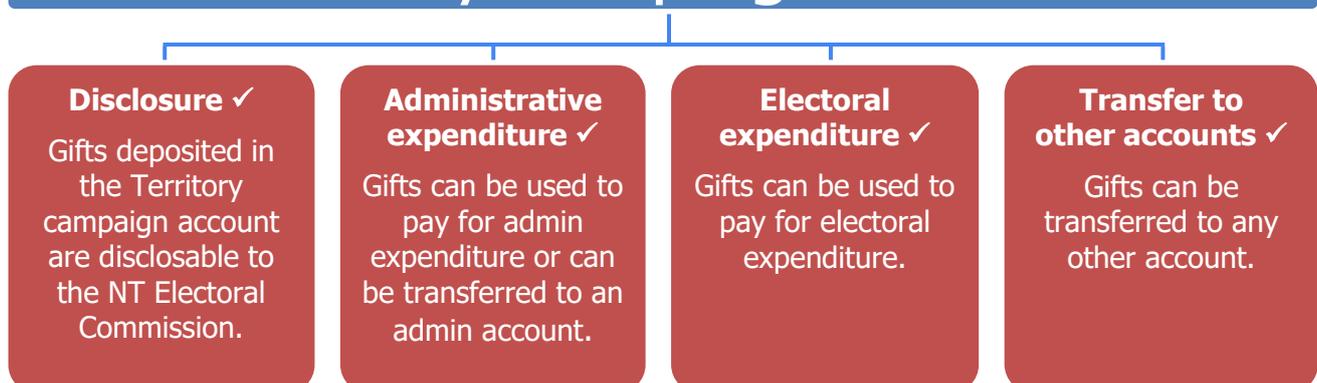
- 1.1 The agent of a registered political party or candidate is required to operate a Territory campaign account (section 213A of the [Electoral Act 2004](#) (the Act)).
- 1.2 A Territory campaign account is a separate account with an authorised deposit-taking institution, used for NT electoral purposes.
- 1.3 'Territory electoral purposes' include the potential use for purposes relating to the party's objective of the promotion of the election to the Legislative Assembly of a candidate or candidates endorsed by the party, and associated activities such as administration and operation of the party.
- 1.4 The purpose of the Territory campaign account is to isolate relevant funds to assist the auditing of disclosures of gifts and political expenditure.
- 1.5 The reporting agent for a registered party or candidate cannot operate more than one Territory campaign account. Therefore, candidates or registered parties cannot have a separate by-election campaign account.

2. Restrictions

- 2.1 The reporting agent or candidate must ensure all monetary donations received by or on behalf of the party or candidate are paid into the Territory campaign account. The exception to this rule are donations the party do not intend to use for Territory electoral purposes i.e. donations for the federal election.
- 2.2 The agent must ensure that all electoral expenditure is paid from the Territory campaign account (section 2130A of the Act). Please refer to our electoral expenditure information sheet for the meaning of electoral expenditure.
- 2.3 Therefore, when a party or candidate receives a donation they must determine whether it will be used for Territory electoral purposes. The decision the party makes has implications on disclosure and how the gift can be used. The flowchart below demonstrates a simple example of depositing a donation into the Territory campaign account.

Monetary gift flowchart

Territory campaign account



3. Offences

- 3.1 Failure to comply with a provision under Section 213A of the Act is an offence. Maximum penalties for individuals range from 200 penalty units to 12 months in prison. For a body corporate – 1000 penalty units.
- 3.2 It is not an offence if money is incorrectly deposited into the Territory campaign account if all reasonable steps are taken to correct the error.

4. Other relevant guides

- 4.1 The NT Electoral Commission has other publications designed to assist stakeholders understand their obligations under Part 213A of the Act, see:
 - [Electoral expenditure information sheet](#)
 - [Gifts and loans information sheet](#)

Disclaimer

This information is intended as a general guide only and should not be substituted for the legislation. You are advised to refer to the legislation and seek your own independent advice if necessary.