

Only those PTA local units working with a professional fundraising company must submit the annual [Registration Statement for a Charitable Organization](#). A professional fundraising company is any company that is paid, typically a percentage of the funds raised, to assist your PTA in conducting a fundraiser. Some examples of professional fundraising companies include:

- Boosterthon
- Raise Craze
- Attractions coupon books
- Charleston Wrap
- Palmetto Sports

If you are not sure if the company you use for fundraising is considered a professional fundraising company, please use the search feature on the Secretary of State's website (<https://search.scsos.com/PFRs>) or email the Charities Division at charities@sos.sc.gov.

For those PTA local units who do NOT use a professional fundraising company, you are automatically covered by the registration that the SC PTA submits each year. You only need to sign and submit the PTA exemption form each year.

The following activities are NOT considered working with a fundraising company and do NOT require that you register with the Secretary of State:

- 99 Pledges – this is a fundraising platform that only charges credit card processing fees
 - Pledgestar - this is a fundraising platform
 - Spirit Nights – at restaurants or other retailers when the PTA receives a portion of the proceeds from the event
 - Food sales – like Krispy Kreme or Chick-fil-A biscuit sales
 - Shave Ice/Food Trucks – when the PTA receives a portion of the sales
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SECTION 33-56-55. Application of chapter to **parent-teacher associations** or local chambers of commerce; reporting not required.

The provisions of this chapter do not apply to a parent-teacher association affiliated with a school or to a local chamber of commerce. Reporting of fundraising activities or other reporting pursuant to this chapter is not required of a parent-teacher association or a local chamber of commerce whether or not they would be considered exempt organizations under Section 33-56-50, if none of the fundraising activities are conducted by professional solicitors.

SECTION 33-56-20 (9) "Professional solicitor" means a person that, for monetary or other consideration, solicits contributions for or on behalf of a charitable organization, either personally or through its agents, servants, or employees or through agents, servants, or employees who are specially employed by or for a charitable organization, who are engaged in the solicitation of contributions under the direction of that person. "Professional solicitor" also means a person that plans, conducts, manages, carries on, advises, or acts as a consultant to a charitable organization in connection with the solicitation of contributions but does not qualify as "professional fundraising counsel" within the meaning of this chapter. A bona fide salaried officer, unpaid director, a bona fide employee of a charitable organization, or a part-time student employee of an educational institution is not a professional solicitor. A paid director or employee of a charitable organization is not a professional solicitor unless his salary or other compensation is paid as a commission computed on the basis of funds actually raised or to be raised.