

Form **990**  
 Department of the Treasury  
 Internal Revenue Service

# Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

**Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)**

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public  
 ▶ Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990)

OMB No 1545-0047  
2015  
**Open to Public Inspection**

**A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2015, and ending 06-30-2016**

<b>B</b> Check if applicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Final return/terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	<b>C</b> Name of organization COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND  Doing business as  Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite 805 15th Street No 800  City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code Washington, DC 20005	<b>D</b> Employer identification number 31-1705370  <b>E</b> Telephone number (202) 833-1200  <b>G</b> Gross receipts \$ 8,760,551
<b>F</b> Name and address of principal officer Karen Hobert Flynn 805 15th Street No 800 Washington, DC 20005		<b>H(a)</b> Is this a group return for subordinates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <b>H(b)</b> Are all subordinates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If "No," attach a list (see instructions) <b>H(c)</b> Group exemption number ▶
<b>I</b> Tax-exempt status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) ( ) (insert no ) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527		
<b>J</b> Website: ▶ N/A		
<b>K</b> Form of organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other ▶		<b>L</b> Year of formation 2000 <b>M</b> State of legal domicile DE

**Part I Summary**

<b>Activities &amp; Governance</b>	<b>1</b> Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities The Common Cause Education Fund works with Common Cause, a nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to upholding the core values of American democracy, with the goals of ensuring open, honest, and accountable government, promoting equal rights, opportunity and representation for all, and empowering all people to make their voices heard as equals in the political process. CCEF works across four major issue areas: Voting and Elections, Money and Politics, Ethics, Transparency and Government Accountability, and Media and Democracy.			
	<b>2</b> Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets			
	<b>3</b> Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a) . . . . .	<b>3</b>	22	
	<b>4</b> Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b) . . . . .	<b>4</b>	21	
	<b>5</b> Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a) . . . . .	<b>5</b>	0	
	<b>6</b> Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) . . . . .	<b>6</b>	866	
	<b>7a</b> Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12 . . . . .	<b>7a</b>	0	
	<b>b</b> Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34 . . . . .	<b>7b</b>	0	
<b>Revenue</b>		<b>Prior Year</b>	<b>Current Year</b>	
	<b>8</b> Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h) . . . . .	6,983,087	8,462,235	
	<b>9</b> Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g) . . . . .	27,597	98,000	
	<b>10</b> Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d) . . . . .	84,817	96,564	
	<b>11</b> Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	-32,707	0	
	<b>12</b> Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	7,062,794	8,656,799	
<b>Expenses</b>				
	<b>13</b> Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3) . . . . .	0	0	
	<b>14</b> Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4) . . . . .	0	0	
	<b>15</b> Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	4,804,566	5,268,941	
	<b>16a</b> Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e) . . . . .	0	0	
	<b>b</b> Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 546,788			
	<b>17</b> Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e) . . . . .	2,307,968	2,012,804	
	<b>18</b> Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	7,112,534	7,281,745	
	<b>19</b> Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12 . . . . .	-49,740	1,375,054	
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>		<b>Beginning of Current Year</b>	<b>End of Year</b>	
	<b>20</b> Total assets (Part X, line 16) . . . . .	2,691,047	3,607,086	
	<b>21</b> Total liabilities (Part X, line 26) . . . . .	510,653	138,751	
	<b>22</b> Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20 . . . . .	2,180,394	3,468,335	

**Part II Signature Block**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

<b>Sign Here</b>	***** Signature of officer	2016-10-26 Date
	Karen Hobert Flynn President Type or print name and title	

<b>Paid Preparer Use Only</b>	Print/Type preparer's name Elizabeth Heller	Preparer's signature Elizabeth Heller	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN P00397829
	Firm's name ▶ Tate and Tryon			Firm's EIN ▶ 52-1855942	
	Firm's address ▶ 2021 L Street NW Suite 400 Washington, DC 20036			Phone no (202) 293-2200	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) . . . . .  Yes  No

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission  
 The Common Cause Education Fund employs research, outreach, educational programming, and coalition building to increase public understanding of how our democracy works, empower citizens to hold their government accountable, and promote broad and effective citizen engagement at federal, state and local levels

**2** Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?  Yes  No  
 If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

**3** Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?  Yes  No  
 If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

**4** Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

**4a** (Code ) (Expenses \$ 2,377,396 including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ 98,000 )  
 Money and politicsBlueprint for a Great Democracy Common Cause hosted its third "Blueprint for a Great Democracy" Conference in March 2016 The two-day meeting brought together more than 100 democracy activists from across the country to examine the progress of and prospects for efforts to reduce the power of big money in politics, limit corporate power, reform the criminal justice system, strengthen voting rights, and examine the threat to democracy posed by "big data" California initiative on money in politics Joined with allied groups in an amicus brief to the California Supreme Court in litigation over a voter initiative to instruct the state's members of Congress to support a constitutional amendment overturning the U S Supreme Court decision in the Citizens United case The California court ruled in January that the initiative can be placed on a future ballot, it will appear in November as Prop 59 "Our Voices, Our Democracy " Joined with other democracy reform groups to publish "Our Voices, Our Democracy," a report detailing successful money in politics campaigns since the Citizens United decision in 2010 Fighting Big Money Agenda Worked with other reform organizations to develop the "Fighting Big Money Agenda," setting out reform principles for U S Senate and House candidates The principles of the document include advocating for contribution limits, public financing, Super PAC anti-coordination rules, Federal Election Commission reform, and a constitutional amendment to overturn Citizens United

**4b** (Code ) (Expenses \$ 2,057,406 including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )  
 Voting and ElectionsImproving election administration Partial sponsor of the August 2015 conference of the National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials and Clerks Attended by 80 elections officials and clerks from around the country, the conference highlighted how government officials work in coalition to better the elections system and experience for everyone Restoring voting rights for ex-offenders As part of the annual "Netroots Nation" gathering in July 2015, hosted a panel discussion on "Voter Rights Restoration and the Move Toward Greater Democracy "Removing barriers to voter registration Initiated a multi-organization letter to the director of the federal Election Assistance Commission, challenging his decision to give state election officials permission to require documentary proof of citizenship on voter registration forms A subsequent lawsuit overturned the director's decision Preserving voting rights in Georgia Joined with the NAACP in a lawsuit against the Georgia Secretary of State's effort to purge voters from the rolls solely because they chose not to vote in previous elections Fighting North Carolina's attempt to erect barriers to voting Served as a plaintiff in a lawsuit challenging a state law that made voting more difficult for tens of thousands of North Carolinians The 4th U S Circuit Court of Appeals ruled for Common Cause, finding that the state discriminated against African-American voters Educating Americans about partisan gerrymandering Nationally and in multiple states, continued working to educate Americans about the dangers posed by partisan gerrymandering Common Cause is in its second year sponsoring a national "Gerrymander Standard" writing competition inviting legal and social science practitioners, scholars, and students to submit papers defining partisan gerrymandering, with finalists presenting at a national symposium on redistricting reform held by Common Cause at George Washington University in Washington, DC and attended by legal scholars, election law practitioners and advocates, law students, and state legislators In February, Common Cause launched the Gerrymander Gazette, an e-newsletter to update allies, reporters, and funders on redistricting reform efforts around the country Common Cause partnered with Duke University's Center for Political Leadership, Innovation, and Service to present a simulation showing how an independent commission might draw legislative districts Legal challenges to gerrymandering Joined in two amicus briefs submitted to the Supreme Court in Evenwel v Abbott, opposing efforts to change reapportionment so that only voters, rather than the total population, are counted We coordinated efforts to develop additional amicus briefs and hosted a press briefing to highlight the potential ramifications of the case The high court's unanimous ruling sustained Common Cause's position Joined the Campaign Legal Center in filing an amicus brief in Shapiro v McManus, a first amendment suit brought by Common Cause Maryland member Steve Shapiro challenging Maryland's congressional district map The U S Supreme Court ruled that Shapiro is entitled to have the case heard by special three-judge panel, overturning a lower court's dismissal of the suit In Florida, partnered with the League of Women Voters in a long and ultimately successful battle to enforce the state constitution's ban on partisan gerrymandering Congressional and state Senate district maps developed by Common Cause were adopted by the Florida Supreme Court and the Leon County Circuit Court

**4c** (Code ) (Expenses \$ 1,605,254 including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )  
 Ethics, Transparency and Accountability in Government Accountability in the Flint water crisis More than 70,000 Americans have signed a Common Cause online petition calling on Gov Rick Snyder to release all state records related to the water crisis in Flint, Michigan Lobbying disclosure in Nebraska An annual report compiled by Common Cause found that over \$15 million was spent lobbying state government, listing the biggest spenders and lobbying firms The report also broke down ways that lobbyists gain influence over legislators, including campaign contributions, gifts, and future employment Holding New York legislators accountable Produced an exhaustive and detailed analysis of outside income for all 213 members of the New York State Legislature The review provides the clearest picture of the type of outside work lawmakers get paid for Strengthened ethical standards for New York City lawmakers Helped persuade New York City Mayor de Blasio to sign a compensation package that banned outside income for Councilmembers and eliminated stipends for committee chairs and other administrative duties other than for the Speaker Strengthened public meetings requirement in Ohio Joined allies in filing an amicus brief in case pushing for a stronger definition of "public meeting " The Ohio Supreme Court ruled 5-2 in our favor Exposing ALEC Common Cause continued its activism to focus public attention on the activities of the American Legislative Exchange Council As ALEC member state legislators and corporate representatives convened in San Diego in July 2015, Common Cause hosted an educational panel at a nearby hotel to educate local activists about ALEC's involvement in tax fraud and work to advance private interests at public expense Common Cause also continued efforts to persuade corporations to reconsider their ALEC memberships, in response, at least 108 corporations and 19 non-profit groups have severed their ALEC ties Tracking congressional travel As news accounts spotlighted privately-funded congressional junkets, Common Cause organized a coalition letter calling on House Speaker Paul Ryan to create a task force examining rules for congressional travel and enact a moratorium on all privately-financed, foreign congressional travel Financial disclosure for presidential candidates As Donald Trump secured the Republican nomination for President in the Spring of 2016, Common Cause sent a letter urging him to release his tax returns, a step taken by every major party candidate since Richard Nixon Clinton Foundation Audit Amid questions about potential conflicts of interest and the potential exchange of access to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in return for contributions to the Clinton Foundation, Common Cause called on the Clinton Foundation to commission a comprehensive, independent audit and publicly release the results

See Additional Data

**4d** Other program services (Describe in Schedule O )  
 (Expenses \$ 264,480 including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4e** Total program service expenses 6,304,536

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules**

		Yes	No
<b>1</b>	Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	
<b>2</b>	Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (see instructions)? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	
<b>3</b>	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>4</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	
<b>5</b>	Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>6</b>	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>7</b>	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>8</b>	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>9</b>	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>10</b>	Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>11</b>	If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
<b>a</b>	Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>b</b>	Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>c</b>	Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>d</b>	Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	
<b>e</b>	Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>f</b>	Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>12a</b>	Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No
<b>b</b>	Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	
<b>13</b>	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		No
<b>14a</b>	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?		No
<b>b</b>	Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV		No
<b>15</b>	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV		No
<b>16</b>	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV		No
<b>17</b>	Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)		No
<b>18</b>	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II		No
<b>19</b>	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III		No
<b>20a</b>	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H		No
<b>b</b>	If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules** *(continued)*

<b>21</b>	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i> . . . . .	<b>21</b>		No
<b>22</b>	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i> . . . . .	<b>22</b>		No
<b>23</b>	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i> . . . . .	<b>23</b>	Yes	
<b>24a</b>	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</i> . . . . .	<b>24a</b>		No
<b>b</b>	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception? . . . . .	<b>24b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds? . . . . .	<b>24c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year? . . . . .	<b>24d</b>		
<b>25a</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i> . . . . .	<b>25a</b>		No
<b>b</b>	Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i> . . . . .	<b>25b</b>		No
<b>26</b>	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i> . . . . .	<b>26</b>		No
<b>27</b>	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i> . . . . .	<b>27</b>		No
<b>28</b>	Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)			
<b>a</b>	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> . . . . .	<b>28a</b>		No
<b>b</b>	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> . . . . .	<b>28b</b>		No
<b>c</b>	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> . . . . .	<b>28c</b>		No
<b>29</b>	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i> . . . . .	<b>29</b>	Yes	
<b>30</b>	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i> . . . . .	<b>30</b>		No
<b>31</b>	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i> . . . . .	<b>31</b>		No
<b>32</b>	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i> . . . . .	<b>32</b>		No
<b>33</b>	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i> . . . . .	<b>33</b>		No
<b>34</b>	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i> . . . . .	<b>34</b>	Yes	
<b>35a</b>	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	<b>35a</b>		No
<b>b</b>	If 'Yes' to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i> . . . . .	<b>35b</b>		
<b>36</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i> . . . . .	<b>36</b>	Yes	
<b>37</b>	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i> . . . . .	<b>37</b>		No
<b>38</b>	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? <b>Note.</b> All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O . . . . .	<b>38</b>	Yes	

**Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

		Yes	No
<b>1a</b>	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
<b>1b</b>	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.		
<b>1c</b>	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?		
<b>2a</b>	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return.		
<b>2b</b>	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? <b>Note.</b> If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions).		
<b>3a</b>	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		No
<b>3b</b>	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O.		
<b>4a</b>	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		No
<b>b</b>	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		
<b>5a</b>	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		No
<b>5b</b>	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		No
<b>5c</b>	If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?		
<b>6a</b>	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?		No
<b>6b</b>	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		
<b>7</b>	<b>Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).</b>		
<b>7a</b>	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?		No
<b>7b</b>	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		
<b>7c</b>	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		No
<b>7d</b>	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.		
<b>7e</b>	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		No
<b>7f</b>	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		No
<b>7g</b>	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		
<b>7h</b>	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?		
<b>8</b>	<b>Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.</b> Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		
<b>9a</b>	Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		
<b>9b</b>	Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		
<b>10</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(7) organizations.</b> Enter		
<b>10a</b>	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.		
<b>10b</b>	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.		
<b>11</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(12) organizations.</b> Enter		
<b>11a</b>	Gross income from members or shareholders.		
<b>11b</b>	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).		
<b>12a</b>	<b>Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts.</b> Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?		
<b>12b</b>	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.		
<b>13</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.</b>		
<b>13a</b>	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? <b>Note.</b> See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.		
<b>13b</b>	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans.		
<b>13c</b>	Enter the amount of reserves on hand.		
<b>14a</b>	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?		No
<b>14b</b>	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.		

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure

For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI

Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include 1a (22), 1b (21), 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7a, 7b, 8, 8a, 8b, 9.

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include 10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 12a, 12b, 12c, 13, 14, 15, 15a, 15b, 16a, 16b.

Section C. Disclosure

- 17 List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed
18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c) (3)s only) available for public inspection
19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year
20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records





**Part VIII Statement of Revenue**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
<b>Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts</b>	<b>1a</b>	Federated campaigns . . . . . <b>1a</b>					
	<b>b</b>	Membership dues . . . . . <b>1b</b>					
	<b>c</b>	Fundraising events . . . . . <b>1c</b>					
	<b>d</b>	Related organizations . . . . . <b>1d</b>					
	<b>e</b>	Government grants (contributions) <b>1e</b>					
	<b>f</b>	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above <b>1f</b>	8,462,235				
	<b>g</b>	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$	103,422				
	<b>h</b>	<b>Total.</b> Add lines 1a-1f . . . . .	8,462,235				
<b>Program Service Revenue</b>			Business Code				
	<b>2a</b>	Program Fees	900099	98,000	98,000		
	<b>b</b>						
	<b>c</b>						
	<b>d</b>						
	<b>e</b>						
	<b>f</b>	All other program service revenue					
	<b>g</b>	<b>Total.</b> Add lines 2a-2f . . . . .		98,000			
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>3</b>	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) . . . . .		1,646		1,646	
	<b>4</b>	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . . . . .					
	<b>5</b>	Royalties . . . . .					
	<b>6a</b>	Gross rents	(i) Real				
			(ii) Personal				
			<b>b</b> Less rental expenses				
			<b>c</b> Rental income or (loss)				
	<b>d</b>	Net rental income or (loss) . . . . .					
	<b>7a</b>	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	198,670			
			(ii) Other				
			<b>b</b> Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	103,752			
			<b>c</b> Gain or (loss)	94,918			
	<b>d</b>	Net gain or (loss) . . . . .		94,918		94,918	
	<b>8a</b>	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 . . . . .	<b>a</b>				
	<b>b</b>	Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>					
	<b>c</b>	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . . . .					
	<b>9a</b>	Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19 . . . . .	<b>a</b>				
	<b>b</b>	Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>					
<b>c</b>	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . . . . .						
<b>10a</b>	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . .	<b>a</b>					
		<b>b</b> Less cost of goods sold . . . . . <b>b</b>					
		<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . . . .					
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code					
<b>11a</b>							
<b>b</b>							
<b>c</b>							
<b>d</b>	All other revenue . . . . .						
<b>e</b>	<b>Total.</b> Add lines 11a-11d . . . . .						
<b>12</b>	<b>Total revenue.</b> See Instructions . . . . .		8,656,799	98,000	0	96,564	

**Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses**

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A)

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

<b>Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.</b>		<b>(A)</b> Total expenses	<b>(B)</b> Program service expenses	<b>(C)</b> Management and general expenses	<b>(D)</b> Fundraising expenses
<b>1</b>	Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21 . . . . .				
<b>2</b>	Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22 . . . . .				
<b>3</b>	Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16 . . . . .				
<b>4</b>	Benefits paid to or for members . . . . .				
<b>5</b>	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees . . . . .	864,097	512,426	106,076	245,595
<b>6</b>	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B) . . . . .				
<b>7</b>	Other salaries and wages . . . . .	3,358,677	3,125,842	124,858	107,977
<b>8</b>	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions) . . . . .	177,159	152,339	9,784	15,036
<b>9</b>	Other employee benefits . . . . .	480,931	413,552	26,561	40,818
<b>10</b>	Payroll taxes . . . . .	388,077	333,707	21,433	32,937
<b>11</b>	Fees for services (non-employees)				
<b>a</b>	Management . . . . .	193,125	193,125		
<b>b</b>	Legal . . . . .	8,000		8,000	
<b>c</b>	Accounting . . . . .	18,332		18,332	
<b>d</b>	Lobbying . . . . .				
<b>e</b>	Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
<b>f</b>	Investment management fees . . . . .	1,378	157	1,221	
<b>g</b>	Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O) . . . . .	53,327	53,327		
<b>12</b>	Advertising and promotion . . . . .	134,856	54,253		80,603
<b>13</b>	Office expenses . . . . .	130,662	110,126	7,520	13,016
<b>14</b>	Information technology . . . . .	238,400	175,261	63,139	
<b>15</b>	Royalties . . . . .				
<b>16</b>	Occupancy . . . . .	538,584	506,256	31,728	600
<b>17</b>	Travel . . . . .	259,926	256,575		3,351
<b>18</b>	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials . . . . .				
<b>19</b>	Conferences, conventions, and meetings . . . . .	274,777	270,872		3,905
<b>20</b>	Interest . . . . .				
<b>21</b>	Payments to affiliates . . . . .	143,346	143,346		
<b>22</b>	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization . . . . .				
<b>23</b>	Insurance . . . . .				
<b>24</b>	Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
<b>a</b>	Taxes, Licenses, Fees	10,781	1,565	9,216	
<b>b</b>	Financial Services and	4,360	1,807	2,553	
<b>c</b>	Miscellaneous Expense	2,950			2,950
<b>d</b>					
<b>e</b>	All other expenses				
<b>25</b>	<b>Total functional expenses.</b> Add lines 1 through 24e	7,281,745	6,304,536	430,421	546,788
<b>26</b>	<b>Joint costs.</b> Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

**Part X Balance Sheet**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
<b>Assets</b>	<b>1</b> Cash—non-interest-bearing . . . . .	328,821	<b>1</b>	154,936
	<b>2</b> Savings and temporary cash investments . . . . .		<b>2</b>	
	<b>3</b> Pledges and grants receivable, net . . . . .	1,230,622	<b>3</b>	2,080,364
	<b>4</b> Accounts receivable, net . . . . .		<b>4</b>	
	<b>5</b> Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>5</b>	
	<b>6</b> Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>6</b>	
	<b>7</b> Notes and loans receivable, net . . . . .		<b>7</b>	
	<b>8</b> Inventories for sale or use . . . . .		<b>8</b>	
	<b>9</b> Prepaid expenses and deferred charges . . . . .	3,425	<b>9</b>	2,766
	<b>10a</b> Land, buildings, and equipment—cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D . . . . .	<b>10a</b>		
	<b>b</b> Less accumulated depreciation . . . . .	<b>10b</b>	<b>10c</b>	
	<b>11</b> Investments—publicly traded securities . . . . .	1,128,179	<b>11</b>	1,171,887
	<b>12</b> Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>12</b>	
	<b>13</b> Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>13</b>	
	<b>14</b> Intangible assets . . . . .		<b>14</b>	
	<b>15</b> Other assets. See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .	0	<b>15</b>	197,133
<b>16</b> <b>Total assets.</b> Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34) . . . . .	2,691,047	<b>16</b>	3,607,086	
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>17</b> Accounts payable and accrued expenses . . . . .	64,951	<b>17</b>	138,751
	<b>18</b> Grants payable . . . . .		<b>18</b>	
	<b>19</b> Deferred revenue . . . . .		<b>19</b>	
	<b>20</b> Tax-exempt bond liabilities . . . . .		<b>20</b>	
	<b>21</b> Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D . . . . .		<b>21</b>	
	<b>22</b> Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>22</b>	
	<b>23</b> Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>23</b>	
	<b>24</b> Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>24</b>	
	<b>25</b> Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D . . . . .	445,702	<b>25</b>	0
	<b>26</b> <b>Total liabilities.</b> Add lines 17 through 25 . . . . .	510,653	<b>26</b>	138,751
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>	<b>Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.</b>			
	<b>27</b> Unrestricted net assets . . . . .	-611,879	<b>27</b>	-55,231
	<b>28</b> Temporarily restricted net assets . . . . .	2,792,273	<b>28</b>	3,523,566
	<b>29</b> Permanently restricted net assets . . . . .		<b>29</b>	
	<b>Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.</b>			
	<b>30</b> Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds . . . . .		<b>30</b>	
	<b>31</b> Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund . . . . .		<b>31</b>	
	<b>32</b> Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds . . . . .		<b>32</b>	
<b>33</b> Total net assets or fund balances . . . . .	2,180,394	<b>33</b>	3,468,335	
<b>34</b> Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances . . . . .	2,691,047	<b>34</b>	3,607,086	

**Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

<b>1</b>	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	<b>1</b>	8,656,799
<b>2</b>	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	<b>2</b>	7,281,745
<b>3</b>	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	<b>3</b>	1,375,054
<b>4</b>	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	<b>4</b>	2,180,394
<b>5</b>	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	<b>5</b>	-87,113
<b>6</b>	Donated services and use of facilities	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	Investment expenses	<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>	Prior period adjustments	<b>8</b>	
<b>9</b>	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	<b>9</b>	0
<b>10</b>	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	<b>10</b>	3,468,335

**Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

	Yes	No
<b>1</b> Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O		
<b>2a</b> Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis		No
<b>2b</b> Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis	Yes	
<b>2c</b> If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O	Yes	
<b>3a</b> As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?		No
<b>3b</b> If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits		

## Additional Data

**Software ID:**  
**Software Version:**  
**EIN:** 31-1705370  
**Name:** COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

### Form 990, Part III - 4 Program Service Accomplishments (See the Instructions)

(Code ) (Expenses \$ 264,480 including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

Media and Democracy  
Protecting the open internet As the telecommunications industry fought in a federal appeals court to overturn the Federal Communications Commission's open internet rules, Common Cause joined an amicus brief to defend the rules, the court ultimately ruled in our favor  
Broadband for all Led a successful national campaign to persuade the FCC to extend its "Lifeline" program to subsidize broadband connectivity for low-income Americans Lifeline is a long-running program that provides financial support to allow low-income families to obtain telephone service  
Political ad transparency Continued "Accountable Ads" campaign to pressure the Federal Communications Commission to enforce Section 317 of the Communications Act, which requires broadcasters to disclose the true sources of funds used to pay for political advertising  
Charter- Time Warner Merger Took a leadership role in a coalition of organizations that pressed the FCC to block the proposed merger of Charter and Time Warner Cable While the merger was approved, the commission partially addressed our concerns by imposing a series of conditions aimed at enhancing media diversity

**Form 990, Part VII - Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors**

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
Robert Reich ..... Chair	1 00 .....	X		X				0	0	0
Martha Tierney ..... Acting Chair	1 00 .....	X		X				0	0	0
Olena Berg Lacy ..... Treasurer	1 00 .....	X		X				0	0	0
Gracia Hillman ..... Secretary	1 00 .....	X		X				0	0	0
Ric Bainter ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Emmet J Bondurant ..... BOARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Cornell W Brooks Esq ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Dan Conley ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Greg Diskant ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Archon Fung ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Olga Kauffman ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
William Hubbard ..... BOARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Marilyn Melkonian ..... BOARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Lenny Mendonca ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Chang K Park ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Nancy Ratzan ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Susan Rubinstein ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Richard Stanley ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Wes Tomer ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Tracy Westen ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Alan Wiersba ..... boARD MEMBER	1 00 .....	X						0	0	0
Miles Rapoport ..... PRESIDENT AND CEO (to June 2016)	21 00 .....	X		X				182,000	143,000	8,994
Karen Hobert Flynn ..... President (from June 2016)	16 50 .....	X		X				166,991	27,185	37,916
Elizabeth Marchant ..... CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	5 25 .....			X				96,905	96,905	21,808
Wendy Fields ..... Sr VP Strategy & Campaigns	18 75 .....				X			79,583	79,583	3,600



**SCHEDULE A**  
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

OMB No 1545-0047

**2015**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Name of the organization**  
COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

**Employer identification number**  
31-1705370

**Part I Reason for Public Charity Status** (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box )

- 1  A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2  A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ))
- 3  A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4  A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state \_\_\_\_\_
- 5  An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II )
- 6  A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7  An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II )
- 8  A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II )
- 9  An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III )
- 10  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11  An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box in lines 11a through 11d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e, 11f, and 11g
  - a  **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
  - b  **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
  - c  **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
  - d  **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions) **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
  - e  Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization
  - f Enter the number of supported organizations . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
  - g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
<b>Total</b>						

**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**  
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(f)Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any unusual grants.)	4,716,201	5,508,097	5,432,491	6,983,087	8,462,235	31,102,111
<b>2</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
<b>3</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
<b>4 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3	4,716,201	5,508,097	5,432,491	6,983,087	8,462,235	31,102,111
<b>5</b> The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						3,073,318
<b>6 Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4						28,028,793

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(f)Total
<b>7</b> Amounts from line 4	4,716,201	5,508,097	5,432,491	6,983,087	8,462,235	31,102,111
<b>8</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	1,411	3,055	35,356	23,361	1,646	64,829
<b>9</b> Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
<b>10</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)		977				977
<b>11 Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10						31,167,917
<b>12</b> Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					<b>12</b>	649,772
<b>13 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . . . . . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>14</b> Public support percentage for 2015 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	<b>14</b>	89.930%
<b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2014 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	<b>15</b>	92.980%
<b>16a 33 1/3% support test—2015.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 33 1/3% support test—2014.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2015.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the facts-and-circumstances test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2014.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>18 Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)**

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(f)Total
<b>1</b> Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
<b>2</b> Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
<b>3</b> Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
<b>4</b> Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
<b>5</b> The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
<b>6 Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 5						
<b>7a</b> Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
<b>b</b> Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
<b>c</b> Add lines 7a and 7b						
<b>8 Public support.</b> (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a)2011	(b)2012	(c)2013	(d)2014	(e)2015	(f)Total
<b>9</b> Amounts from line 6						
<b>10a</b> Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
<b>b</b> Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
<b>c</b> Add lines 10a and 10b						
<b>11</b> Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
<b>12</b> Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.)						
<b>13 Total support.</b> (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12)						
<b>14 First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> <input type="checkbox"/>						

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

<b>15</b> Public support percentage for 2015 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	<b>15</b>	
<b>16</b> Public support percentage from 2014 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	<b>16</b>	

**Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage**

<b>17</b> Investment income percentage for 2015 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	<b>17</b>	
<b>18</b> Investment income percentage from 2014 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	<b>18</b>	

**19a 33 1/3% support tests—2015.** If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

**b 33 1/3% support tests—2014.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

**20 Private foundation.** If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions

**Part IV Supporting Organizations**

(Complete only if you checked a box on line 11 of Part I. If you checked 11a of Part I, complete Sections A and B. If you checked 11b of Part I, complete Sections A and C. If you checked 11c of Part I, complete Sections A, D, and E. If you checked 11d of Part I, complete Sections A and D, and complete Part V.)

**Section A. All Supporting Organizations**

	Yes	No
<b>1</b> Are all of the organization's supported organizations listed by name in the organization's governing documents? If "No," describe in <b>Part VI</b> how the supported organizations are designated. If designated by class or purpose, describe the designation. If historic and continuing relationship, explain.		
<b>2</b> Did the organization have any supported organization that does not have an IRS determination of status under section 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in <b>Part VI</b> how the organization determined that the supported organization was described in section 509(a)(1) or (2).		
<b>3a</b> Did the organization have a supported organization described in section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6)? If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below.		
<b>b</b> Did the organization confirm that each supported organization qualified under section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) and satisfied the public support tests under section 509(a)(2)? If "Yes," describe in <b>Part VI</b> when and how the organization made the determination.		
<b>c</b> Did the organization ensure that all support to such organizations was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes? If "Yes," explain in <b>Part VI</b> what controls the organization put in place to ensure such use.		
<b>4a</b> Was any supported organization not organized in the United States ("foreign supported organization")? If "Yes" and if you checked 11a or 11b in Part I, answer (b) and (c) below.		
<b>b</b> Did the organization have ultimate control and discretion in deciding whether to make grants to the foreign supported organization? If "Yes," describe in Part VI how the organization had such control and discretion despite being controlled or supervised by or in connection with its supported organizations.		
<b>c</b> Did the organization support any foreign supported organization that does not have an IRS determination under sections 501(c)(3) and 509(a)(1) or (2)? If "Yes," explain in Part VI what controls the organization used to ensure that all support to the foreign supported organization was used exclusively for section 170(c)(2)(B) purposes.		
<b>5a</b> Did the organization add, substitute, or remove any supported organizations during the tax year? If "Yes," answer (b) and (c) below (if applicable). Also, provide detail in Part VI, including (i) the names and EIN numbers of the supported organizations added, substituted, or removed, (ii) the reasons for each such action, (iii) the authority under the organization's organizing document authorizing such action, and (iv) how the action was accomplished (such as by amendment to the organizing document).		
<b>b Type I or Type II only.</b> Was any added or substituted supported organization part of a class already designated in the organization's organizing document?		
<b>c Substitutions only.</b> Was the substitution the result of an event beyond the organization's control?		
<b>6</b> Did the organization provide support (whether in the form of grants or the provision of services or facilities) to anyone other than (a) its supported organizations, (b) individuals that are part of the charitable class benefited by one or more of its supported organizations, or (c) other supporting organizations that also support or benefit one or more of the filing organization's supported organizations? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .		
<b>7</b> Did the organization provide a grant, loan, compensation, or other similar payment to a substantial contributor (defined in IRC 4958(c)(3)(C)), a family member of a substantial contributor, or a 35-percent controlled entity with regard to a substantial contributor? If "Yes," complete Part I of Schedule L (Form 990).		
<b>8</b> Did the organization make a loan to a disqualified person (as defined in section 4958) not described in line 7? If "Yes," complete Part II of Schedule L (Form 990).		
<b>9a</b> Was the organization controlled directly or indirectly at any time during the tax year by one or more disqualified persons as defined in section 4946 (other than foundation managers and organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or (2))? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .		
<b>b</b> Did one or more disqualified persons (as defined in line 9(a)) hold a controlling interest in any entity in which the supporting organization had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .		
<b>c</b> Did a disqualified person (as defined in line 9(a)) have an ownership interest in, or derive any personal benefit from, assets in which the supporting organization also had an interest? If "Yes," provide detail in <b>Part VI</b> .		
<b>10a</b> Was the organization subject to the excess business holdings rules of IRC 4943 because of IRC 4943(f) (regarding certain Type II supporting organizations, and all Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations)? If "Yes," answer b below.		
<b>b</b> Did the organization have any excess business holdings in the tax year? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine whether the organization had excess business holdings).		
<b>11</b> Has the organization accepted a gift or contribution from any of the following persons?		
<b>a</b> A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (b) and (c) below, the governing body of a supported organization?		
<b>b</b> A family member of a person described in (a) above?		
<b>c</b> A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (a) or (b) above? If "Yes" to a, b, or c, provide detail in Part VI.		

**Part IV Supporting Organizations** (continued)**Section B. Type I Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Did the directors, trustees, or membership of one or more supported organizations have the power to regularly appoint or elect at least a majority of the organization's directors or trustees at all times during the tax year? *If "No," describe in **Part VI** how the supported organization(s) effectively operated, supervised, or controlled the organization's activities. If the organization had more than one supported organization, describe how the powers to appoint and/or remove directors or trustees were allocated among the supported organizations and what conditions or restrictions, if any, applied to such powers during the tax year.*
- 2** Did the organization operate for the benefit of any supported organization other than the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised, or controlled the supporting organization? *If "Yes," explain in **Part VI** how providing such benefit carried out the purposes of the supported organization(s) that operated, supervised or controlled the supporting organization.*

	Yes	No
<b>1</b>		
<b>2</b>		

**Section C. Type II Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Were a majority of the organization's directors or trustees during the tax year also a majority of the directors or trustees of each of the organization's supported organization(s)? *If "No," describe in **Part VI** how control or management of the supporting organization was vested in the same persons that controlled or managed the supported organization(s).*

	Yes	No
<b>1</b>		

**Section D. All Type III Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Did the organization provide to each of its supported organizations, by the last day of the fifth month of the organization's tax year, (1) a written notice describing the type and amount of support provided during the prior tax year, (2) a copy of the Form 990 that was most recently filed as of the date of notification, and (3) copies of the organization's governing documents in effect on the date of notification, to the extent not previously provided?
- 2** Were any of the organization's officers, directors, or trustees either (i) appointed or elected by the supported organization(s) or (ii) serving on the governing body of a supported organization? *If "No," explain in **Part VI** how the organization maintained a close and continuous working relationship with the supported organization(s).*
- 3** By reason of the relationship described in (2), did the organization's supported organizations have a significant voice in the organization's investment policies and in directing the use of the organization's income or assets at all times during the tax year? *If "Yes," describe in **Part VI** the role the organization's supported organizations played in this regard.*

	Yes	No
<b>1</b>		
<b>2</b>		
<b>3</b>		

**Section E. Type III Functionally-Integrated Supporting Organizations**

- 1** Check the box next to the method that the organization used to satisfy the Integral Part Test during the year (**see instructions**)
- a**  The organization satisfied the Activities Test. Complete **line 2** below
- b**  The organization is the parent of each of its supported organizations. Complete **line 3** below
- c**  The organization supported a governmental entity. Describe in Part VI how you supported a government entity (see instructions)

**2** Activities Test **Answer (a) and (b) below.**

- a** Did substantially all of the organization's activities during the tax year directly further the exempt purposes of the supported organization(s) to which the organization was responsive? *If "Yes," then in **Part VI** identify those supported organizations and explain how these activities directly furthered their exempt purposes, how the organization was responsive to those supported organizations, and how the organization determined that these activities constituted substantially all of its activities.*
- b** Did the activities described in (a) constitute activities that, but for the organization's involvement, one or more of the organization's supported organization(s) would have been engaged in? *If "Yes," explain in **Part VI** the reasons for the organization's position that its supported organization(s) would have engaged in these activities but for the organization's involvement.*

**3** Parent of Supported Organizations **Answer (a) and (b) below.**

- a** Did the organization have the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the officers, directors, or trustees of each of the supported organizations? *Provide details in Part VI.*
- b** Did the organization exercise a substantial degree of direction over the policies, programs and activities of each of its supported organizations? *If "Yes," describe in Part VI the role played by the organization in this regard.*

	Yes	No
<b>2a</b>		
<b>2b</b>		
<b>3a</b>		
<b>3b</b>		

**Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations**

**1** Check here if the organization satisfied the Integral Part Test as a qualifying trust on Nov 20, 1970 **See instructions.** All other Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organizations must complete Sections A through E

**Section A - Adjusted Net Income**

- 1** Net short-term capital gain
- 2** Recoveries of prior-year distributions
- 3** Other gross income (see instructions)
- 4** Add lines 1 through 3
- 5** Depreciation and depletion
- 6** Portion of operating expenses paid or incurred for production or collection of gross income or for management, conservation, or maintenance of property held for production of income (see instructions)
- 7** Other expenses (see instructions)
- 8** **Adjusted Net Income** (subtract lines 5, 6 and 7 from line 4)

	(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
<b>1</b>		
<b>2</b>		
<b>3</b>		
<b>4</b>		
<b>5</b>		
<b>6</b>		
<b>7</b>		
<b>8</b>		

**Section B - Minimum Asset Amount**

- 1** Aggregate fair market value of all non-exempt-use assets (see instructions for short tax year or assets held for part of year)
- a** Average monthly value of securities
- b** Average monthly cash balances
- c** Fair market value of other non-exempt-use assets
- d** **Total** (add lines 1a, 1b, and 1c)
- e** **Discount** claimed for blockage or other factors (explain in detail in Part VI) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2** Acquisition indebtedness applicable to non-exempt use assets
- 3** Subtract line 2 from line 1d
- 4** Cash deemed held for exempt use Enter 1-1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)
- 5** Net value of non-exempt-use assets (subtract line 4 from line 3)
- 6** Multiply line 5 by .035
- 7** Recoveries of prior-year distributions
- 8** **Minimum Asset Amount** (add line 7 to line 6)

	(A) Prior Year	(B) Current Year (optional)
<b>1</b>		
<b>1a</b>		
<b>1b</b>		
<b>1c</b>		
<b>1d</b>		
<b>2</b>		
<b>3</b>		
<b>4</b>		
<b>5</b>		
<b>6</b>		
<b>7</b>		
<b>8</b>		

**Section C - Distributable Amount**

- 1** Adjusted net income for prior year (from Section A, line 8, Column A)
- 2** Enter 85% of line 1
- 3** Minimum asset amount for prior year (from Section B, line 8, Column A)
- 4** Enter greater of line 2 or line 3
- 5** Income tax imposed in prior year
- 6** **Distributable Amount.** Subtract line 5 from line 4, unless subject to emergency temporary reduction (see instructions)
- 7** Check here if the current year is the organization's first as a non-functionally-integrated Type III supporting organization (see instructions)

		Current Year
<b>1</b>		
<b>2</b>		
<b>3</b>		
<b>4</b>		
<b>5</b>		
<b>6</b>		

**Part V Type III Non-Functionally Integrated 509(a)(3) Supporting Organizations (continued)**

<b>Section D - Distributions</b>	<b>Current Year</b>
<b>1</b> Amounts paid to supported organizations to accomplish exempt purposes	
<b>2</b> Amounts paid to perform activity that directly furthers exempt purposes of supported organizations, in excess of income from activity	
<b>3</b> Administrative expenses paid to accomplish exempt purposes of supported organizations	
<b>4</b> Amounts paid to acquire exempt-use assets	
<b>5</b> Qualified set-aside amounts (prior IRS approval required)	
<b>6</b> Other distributions (describe in Part VI) See instructions	
<b>7 Total annual distributions.</b> Add lines 1 through 6	
<b>8</b> Distributions to attentive supported organizations to which the organization is responsive (provide details in Part VI) See instructions	
<b>9</b> Distributable amount for 2015 from Section C, line 6	
<b>10</b> Line 8 amount divided by Line 9 amount	

<b>Section E - Distribution Allocations (see instructions)</b>	<b>(i) Excess Distributions</b>	<b>(ii) Underdistributions Pre-2015</b>	<b>(iii) Distributable Amount for 2015</b>
<b>1</b> Distributable amount for 2015 from Section C, line 6			
<b>2</b> Underdistributions, if any, for years prior to 2015 (reasonable cause required--see instructions)			
<b>3</b> Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2015			
<b>d</b> From 2013. . . . .			
<b>e</b> From 2014. . . . .			
<b>f Total</b> of lines 3a through e			
<b>g</b> Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
<b>h</b> Applied to 2015 distributable amount			
<b>i</b> Carryover from 2010 not applied (see instructions)			
<b>j</b> Remainder Subtract lines 3g, 3h, and 3i from 3f			
<b>4</b> Distributions for 2015 from Section D, line 7 \$ _____			
<b>a</b> Applied to underdistributions of prior years			
<b>b</b> Applied to 2015 distributable amount			
<b>c</b> Remainder Subtract lines 4a and 4b from 4			
<b>5</b> Remaining underdistributions for years prior to 2015, if any Subtract lines 3g and 4a from line 2 (if amount greater than zero, see instructions)			
<b>6</b> Remaining underdistributions for 2015 Subtract lines 3h and 4b from line 1 (if amount greater than zero, see instructions)			
<b>7 Excess distributions carryover to 2016.</b> Add lines 3j and 4c			
<b>8</b> Breakdown of line 7			
<b>c</b> Excess from 2013. . . . .			
<b>d</b> From 2014. . . . .			
<b>e</b> From 2015. . . . .			

**Part VI Supplemental Information.**

Provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; Part III, line 12; Part IV, Section A, lines 1, 2, 3b, 3c, 4b, 4c, 5a, 6, 9a, 9b, 9c, 11a, 11b, and 11c; Part IV, Section B, lines 1 and 2; Part IV, Section C, line 1; Part IV, Section D, lines 2 and 3; Part IV, Section E, lines 1c, 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b; Part V, line 1; Part V, Section B, line 1e; Part V Section D, lines 5, 6, and 8; and Part V, Section E, lines 2, 5, and 6. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

<b>Facts And Circumstances Test</b>

Return Reference	Explanation
Schedule A, Part II, Line 10, Explanation of Other Income	MISCELLANEOUS

SCHEDULE C (Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527
-Complete if the organization is described below. -Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
-Information about Schedule C (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations Complete Parts I-A and B Do not complete Part I-C
Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations Complete Parts I-A and C below Do not complete Part I-B
Section 527 organizations Complete Part I-A only

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-A Do not complete Part II-B
Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)) Complete Part II-B Do not complete Part II-A

If the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, Line 5 (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions) or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 35c (Proxy Tax) (see separate instructions), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations Complete Part III

Table with 2 columns: Name of the organization (COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND) and Employer identification number (31-1705370)

Part I-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c) or is a section 527 organization.

- 1 Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV
2 Political expenditures \$
3 Volunteer hours

Part I-B Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955 \$
2 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955 \$
3 If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year? Yes No
4a Was a correction made? Yes No
b If "Yes," describe in Part IV

Part I-C Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).

- 1 Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities \$
2 Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities \$
3 Total exempt function expenditures Add lines 1 and 2 Enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b \$
4 Did the filing organization file Form 1120-POL for this year? Yes No
5 Enter the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which the filing organization made payments

Table with 5 columns: (a) Name, (b) Address, (c) EIN, (d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds, (e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization

**Part II-A Complete if the organization is exempt under section 501(c)(3) and filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)).**

- A** Check  if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group (and list in Part IV each affiliated group member's name, address, EIN, expenses, and share of excess lobbying expenditures)
- B** Check  if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply

**Limits on Lobbying Expenditures**  
(The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)

(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals
----------------------------------	-----------------------------

<b>1a</b> Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)														
<b>b</b> Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)														
<b>c</b> Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)														
<b>d</b> Other exempt purpose expenditures	7,281,745													
<b>e</b> Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)	7,281,745													
<b>f</b> Lobbying nontaxable amount Enter the amount from the following table in both columns	514,087													
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th> <th>The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Not over \$500,000</td> <td>20% of the amount on line 1e</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td> <td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td> <td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$1,000,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:													
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e													
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000													
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000													
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000													
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000													
<b>g</b> Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)	128,522													
<b>h</b> Subtract line 1g from line 1a If zero or less, enter -0-	0													
<b>i</b> Subtract line 1f from line 1c If zero or less, enter -0-	0													
<b>j</b> If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?														

Yes  No

**4-Year Averaging Period Under section 501(h)**  
(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the separate instructions for lines 2a through 2f.)

**Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2012	(b) 2013	(c) 2014	(d) 2015	(e) Total
<b>2a</b> Lobbying nontaxable amount	417,587	424,469	511,483	514,087	1,867,626
<b>b</b> Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column (e))					2,801,439
<b>c</b> Total lobbying expenditures			40,350		40,350
<b>d</b> Grassroots nontaxable amount	104,397	106,117	127,871	128,522	466,907
<b>e</b> Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					700,361
<b>f</b> Grassroots lobbying expenditures					



SCHEDULE D (Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b. Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

Employer identification number 31-1705370

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

Table with 2 columns: (a) Donor advised funds, (b) Funds and other accounts. Rows 1-4: Total number at end of year, Aggregate value of contributions to (during year), Aggregate value of grants from (during year), Aggregate value at end of year.

- 5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?
6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

- 1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)
2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

Table with 2 columns: Held at the End of the Year. Rows 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d.

- 3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year
4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located
5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?
6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?
9 In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

- 1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items
1b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items
2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

- 3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)
a Public exhibition
b Scholarly research
c Preservation for future generations
d Loan or exchange programs
e Other
4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII
5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?

Table with 2 columns: Description (1c-1f) and Amount. Rows include Beginning balance, Additions during the year, Distributions during the year, and Ending balance.

- 2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?

- b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII. Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII.

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

Table with 6 columns: (a) Current year, (b) Prior year, (c) Two years back, (d) Three years back, (e) Four years back. Rows include Beginning of year balance, Contributions, Net investment earnings, gains, and losses, Grants or scholarships, Other expenditures for facilities and programs, Administrative expenses, and End of year balance.

- 2 Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as:

- a Board designated or quasi-endowment
b Permanent endowment
c Temporarily restricted endowment
The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

- 3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

Small table with 2 columns: Yes, No. Rows: 3a(i) unrelated organizations, 3a(ii) related organizations, 3b.

- b If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?
4 Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Table with 5 columns: Description of property, (a) Cost or other basis (investment), (b) Cost or other basis (other), (c) Accumulated depreciation, (d) Book value. Rows include Land, Buildings, Leasehold improvements, Equipment, Other, and Total.

**Part VII Investments—Other Securities.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives		
(2) Closely-held equity interests		
(3) Other		
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12 )	▶	

**Part VIII Investments—Program Related.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13 )	▶	

**Part IX Other Assets.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1) Due from Common Cause	197,133
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col.(B) line 15.)	197,133

**Part X Other Liabilities.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
Federal income taxes	
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25 )	▶

**2. Liability for uncertain tax positions** In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740) Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

**Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	8,569,686
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
<b>a</b>	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments . . . . .	<b>2a</b>	-87,113	
<b>b</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Recoveries of prior year grants . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>		
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .	<b>2e</b>	-87,113	
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .	<b>3</b>	8,656,799	
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line <b>1</b>			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .	<b>4c</b>	0	
<b>5</b>	Total revenue Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12 ) . . . . .	<b>5</b>	8,656,799	

**Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	7,281,745
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25			
<b>a</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Prior year adjustments . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Other losses . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>		
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .	<b>2e</b>	0	
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .	<b>3</b>	7,281,745	
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line <b>1</b> :			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .	<b>4c</b>	0	
<b>5</b>	Total expenses Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18 ) . . . . .	<b>5</b>	7,281,745	

**Part XIII Supplemental Information**

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b Also complete this part to provide any additional information

Return Reference	Explanation



**Schedule J**  
(Form 990)

**Compensation Information**

OMB No 1545-0047

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.  
▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

**2015**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

Employer identification number

31-1705370

**Part I Questions Regarding Compensation**

	Yes	No								
<p><b>1a</b> Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions	<input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments	<input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees	<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)		
<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use									
<input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions	<input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence									
<input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments	<input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees									
<input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)									
<p><b>b</b> If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain.</p>										
<p><b>2</b> Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?</p>	Yes									
<p><b>3</b> Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study	<input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract									
<input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study									
<input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee									
<p><b>4</b> During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:</p> <p><b>a</b> Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?</p> <p><b>b</b> Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?</p> <p><b>c</b> Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?</p> <p>If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.</p>										
<p><b>Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.</b></p>										
<p><b>5</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:</p> <p><b>a</b> The organization?</p> <p><b>b</b> Any related organization?</p> <p>If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.</p>		No								
<p><b>6</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:</p> <p><b>a</b> The organization?</p> <p><b>b</b> Any related organization?</p> <p>If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.</p>		No								
<p><b>7</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III.</p>		No								
<p><b>8</b> Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III.</p>		No								
<p><b>9</b> If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?</p>										

**Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees.** Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii) Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII

**Note.** The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column(B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		Base (i) compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
<b>1</b> Miles Rapoport PRESIDENT AND CEO (to June 2016)	(i)	182,000	0	0	5,037	371	187,408	0
	(ii)	143,000	0	0	3,957	291	147,248	0
<b>2</b> Karen Hobert Flynn President (from June 2016)	(i)	166,991	0	0	10,320	22,888	200,199	0
	(ii)	27,185	0	0	1,680	3,726	32,591	0
<b>3</b> Elizabeth Marchant CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	(i)	96,905	0	0	6,000	7,130	110,035	0
	(ii)	96,905	0	0	6,000	7,130	110,035	0
<b>4</b> Wendy Fields Sr VP Strategy & Campaigns	(i)	79,583	0	0	1,800	700	82,083	0
	(ii)	79,583	0	0	1,800	700	82,083	0
<b>5</b> Jenny Flanagan VP State Operations	(i)	102,506	0	0	6,864	30,154	139,524	0
	(ii)	13,978	0	0	936	4,112	19,026	0

**Part III Supplemental Information**

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

**Return Reference****Explanation****Schedule J (Form 990) 2015**

SCHEDULE M (Form 990)

Noncash Contributions

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

- Complete if the organizations answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 29 or 30.
Attach to Form 990.
Information about Schedule M (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

Employer identification number

31-1705370

Part I Types of Property

Table with 4 columns: (a) Check if applicable, (b) Number of contributions or items contributed, (c) Noncash contribution amounts reported on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1g, (d) Method of determining noncash contribution amounts. Row 9 shows 12 contributions valued at 103,422 FMV.

29 Number of Forms 8283 received by the organization during the tax year for contributions for which the organization completed Form 8283, Part IV, Donee Acknowledgement

30a During the year, did the organization receive by contribution any property reported in Part I, lines 1 through 28, that it must hold for at least three years... 31 Does the organization have a gift acceptance policy... 32a Does the organization hire or use third parties... 33 If the organization did not report an amount in column (c) for a type of property for which column (a) is checked...

**Part III Supplemental Information.**

Provide the information required by Part I, lines 30b, 32b, and 33, and whether the organization is reporting in Part I, column (b), the number of contributions, the number of items received, or a combination of both. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Part I, Column (b)	There were 12 separate contributions of stock during FY 2016, some of which were contributed by the same contributors

**SCHEDULE O**  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

**2015**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

Employer identification number

31-1705370

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 1	The Executive Committee, and any other duly appointed committee, shall have and exercise the authority and act on behalf of the Board of Directors in the management of the Corporation, to the extent allowable by law, provided, however, that no such committee shall have power to amend the Corporation's Certificate of Incorporation, adopt an agreement of merger or consolidation, or amend the Bylaws of the Corporation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 11	The chief financial Officer provides the Form 990 to the audit committee for review. Once that committee has approved the document it is sent to the full board for review. The board members have two (2) days to respond with any comments they might have before the document is filed.
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 12c	<p>Procedure for monitoring and enforcing compliance with conflict of interest policy</p> <p>Board -- Whenever a director, officer, or committee member becomes aware of a potential conflict of interest, whether financial or otherwise, he or she shall make the situation known to the board or governance committee (as the case might be) and provide all facts material to understanding the nature and scope of the conflict, including whether the interested person believes his or her ability to make an independent decision based solely on the best interest of the corporation has been compromised. If the interested person involved does not make this disclosure, another director or committee member with knowledge of the potential conflict should draw it to the body's attention. The interested person with the potential conflict must retire from the meeting and not participate in final discussion and voting on the existence of the conflict. If a conflict is found to exist, the interested person may be invited to provide any relevant information that could be of use to the board in making its decision, but shall again retire and not participate in the final discussion and voting regarding the transaction. The board or committee's decision shall be based on consideration of whether the transaction a) is in the organization's best interest and for its own benefit, b) is fair and reasonable to the organization, and c) is the most advantageous transaction or arrangement the organization can obtain with reasonable efforts under the circumstances.</p> <p>Staff -- Whenever a staff member becomes aware of a potential conflict of interest in an area where he or she exercises any discretion in carrying out his or her duties for The Fund, he or she shall promptly disclose the potential conflict to an immediate supervisor or to the President. If the President has a potential conflict, he or she shall disclose it to the board or an executive committee. The person or body to whom disclosure is made (hereinafter "supervisor") shall determine whether there is a conflict that requires recusal of the interested person. When a conflict is found to exist, the interested person shall provide the supervisor with all information he or she has relevant to any decision to be made in which he or she has an interest, and the final decision shall be made by the supervisor.</p>
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 15a	PERSONS PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE EDUCATION FUND ARE EMPLOYED BY COMMON CAUSE, A SISTER ORGANIZATION. THE NARRATIVE BELOW DESCRIBES COMMON CAUSE'S DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNING BOARD CONDUCTS A 360 DEGREE REVIEW OF THE CEO PRIOR TO DETERMINING THE ANNUAL COMPENSATION. THE COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS THE SENIOR STAFF, REVIEWS A COMPARABILITY STUDY, AND THEN CONFERS AS A COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE BRINGS ITS RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL BOARD AT THE LAST BOARD MEETING OF THE YEAR. MINUTES ARE TAKEN OF THE SALARY DELIBERATIONS. OTHER OFFICERS OR KEY EMPLOYEES: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONDUCTS A REVIEW OF THE CFO, REVIEWS A COMPARABILITY STUDY, AND THEN CONFERS AS A COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE BRINGS ITS RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL BOARD AT THE LAST BOARD MEETING OF THE YEAR. MINUTES ARE TAKEN OF THE SALARY DELIBERATIONS. THE COMMITTEE DOES NOT REVIEW COMPENSATION OF KEY EMPLOYEES, THAT IS PERFORMED BY MANAGEMENT.
Form 990, Part VI, Section C, line 19	Common Cause Education Fund seeks to be faithful to its mission by being open and accountable to our members and supporters. We will make our governance documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available for public inspection upon request. Our financial statements are also part of our annual report which is available on our website.
Form 990, Part XII, Line 2C	There was no change to the review and selection process during the year.

**SCHEDULE R  
(Form 990)**

**Related Organizations and Unrelated Partnerships**

OMB No 1545-0047

**2015**

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33, 34, 35b, 36, or 37.

▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule R (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
COMMON CAUSE EDUCATION FUND

Employer identification number

31-1705370

**Part I Identification of Disregarded Entities** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33.

(a) Name, address, and EIN (if applicable) of disregarded entity	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Total income	(e) End-of-year assets	(f) Direct controlling entity

**Part II Identification of Related Tax-Exempt Organizations** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related tax-exempt organizations during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Exempt Code section	(e) Public charity status (if section 501(c)(3))	(f) Direct controlling entity	(g) Section 512(b)(13) controlled entity?	
						Yes	No
(1)COMMON CAUSE 805 15th Street Suite 800  WASHINGTON, DC 20005 52-6078441	ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION RELATED TO CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE NAT'L PROCESS	DC	501(c)(4)				No

**Part III Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Partnership** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a partnership during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Predominant income(related, unrelated, excluded from tax under sections 512- 514)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of-year assets	(h) Disproportionate allocations?		(i) Code V-UBI amount in box 20 of Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)	(j) General or managing partner?		(k) Percentage ownership
							Yes	No		Yes	No	

**Part IV Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Corporation or Trust** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a corporation or trust during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Type of entity (C corp, S corp, or trust)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end- of-year assets	(h) Percentage ownership	(i) Section 512 (b)(13) controlled entity?	
								Yes	No

**Part V Transactions With Related Organizations** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34, 35b, or 36.

**Note.** Complete line 1 if any entity is listed in Parts II, III, or IV of this schedule

**1** During the tax year, did the organization engage in any of the following transactions with one or more related organizations listed in Parts II-IV?

- a** Receipt of **(i)** interest, **(ii)** annuities, **(iii)** royalties, or **(iv)** rent from a controlled entity . . . . .
- b** Gift, grant, or capital contribution to related organization(s) . . . . .
- c** Gift, grant, or capital contribution from related organization(s) . . . . .
- d** Loans or loan guarantees to or for related organization(s) . . . . .
- e** Loans or loan guarantees by related organization(s) . . . . .
- f** Dividends from related organization(s) . . . . .
- g** Sale of assets to related organization(s) . . . . .
- h** Purchase of assets from related organization(s) . . . . .
- i** Exchange of assets with related organization(s) . . . . .
- j** Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets to related organization(s) . . . . .
- k** Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets from related organization(s) . . . . .
- l** Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations for related organization(s) . . . . .
- m** Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations by related organization(s) . . . . .
- n** Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, or other assets with related organization(s) . . . . .
- o** Sharing of paid employees with related organization(s) . . . . .
- p** Reimbursement paid to related organization(s) for expenses . . . . .
- q** Reimbursement paid by related organization(s) for expenses . . . . .
- r** Other transfer of cash or property to related organization(s) . . . . .
- s** Other transfer of cash or property from related organization(s) . . . . .

	Yes	No
<b>1a</b>		No
<b>1b</b>		No
<b>1c</b>		No
<b>1d</b>		No
<b>1e</b>		No
<b>1f</b>		No
<b>1g</b>		No
<b>1h</b>		No
<b>1i</b>		No
<b>1j</b>		No
<b>1k</b>		No
<b>1l</b>		No
<b>1m</b>		No
<b>1n</b>	Yes	
<b>1o</b>	Yes	
<b>1p</b>	Yes	
<b>1q</b>		No
<b>1r</b>		No
<b>1s</b>		No

**2** If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," see the instructions for information on who must complete this line, including covered relationships and transaction thresholds

(a) Name of related organization	(b) Transaction type (a-s)	(c) Amount involved	(d) Method of determining amount involved
<b>(1)</b> Common Cause	N	476,326	actual cost
<b>(2)</b> Common Cause	O	5,266,027	actual cost
<b>(3)</b> Common Cause	P	458,722	actual cost



**Part VII Supplemental Information**

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule R (see instructions)

**Return Reference****Explanation**