

Co-op Coalition Survey: Vendor Gifts Policy

Thanks to the 13 members who took the time to respond to this survey. Only two reported having an employee vendor gift policy. Others reported that they do not have a policy on employees accepting gifts from vendors because they either have no employees or their staff are independent contractors or employees of a management company (I reproduced responses from 3 who do not have policies as illustrative examples of what others with similar situations also reported). Following is the original question and the table of responses.

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In a message dated: Monday, October 08, 2018 4:16 PM

Does your co-op have a policy on gifts given to your employees from vendors? This member-requested survey addresses that question (below). Please respond by Friday, 10/26.

DC Cooperative Housing Coalition
www.CoopsDC.org

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Our Board is considering changing our policy for management and employees receiving gifts from vendors. Currently our policy states any gifts over \$50 have to be reported to the Board. What policies do other co-ops have?

<50 units	We do not have a policy on gifts from vendors. Staff members are employees of our management company so any such policies would have to come from them.
50 – 99 units	As far as I know, we have never had a policy on this. Almost three years ago, we ceased hiring our employees directly. We now contract with our management company for these services.
100 – 199 units	No gifts over \$50 can be accepted by staff or management. The manager cannot accept any tip or cash from shareholders or residents. All compensation must come from the Board of Directors.
100 – 199 units	Sorry we do not, but it is frown upon.
200+ units	We have an employee manual that includes this as one of the items that is grounds for immediate termination. The exact language is: "Grounds for immediate termination for cause, without prior warning include to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engaging in improper transactions with residents, vendors, contractors or other employees, including the acceptance of money, gifts or kickbacks."