

DC OFFICE OF
CAMPAIGN FINANCE



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ABOUT THE

OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE

The Office of Campaign Finance (OCF) is established within the D.C. Board of Elections. The OCF is responsible for the operations of the Board pertaining to the administration, interpretation, and enforcement of the Campaign Finance Act of 2011, as amended.



DC Office of Campaign Finance
1015 Half Street, SE, Suite 775
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Office Hours

Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
except on filing deadlines until 5:30 pm

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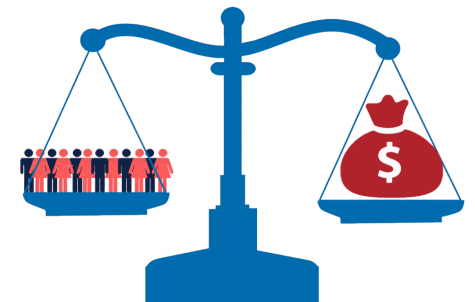
DC OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE



VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE THROUGH
EDUCATION AND DISCLOSURE

PUBLIC FINANCING

PROGRAM



**“FAIR ELECTIONS
AMENDMENT ACT
OF 2018”**

PUBLIC FINANCING PROGRAM FOR POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

How It Works

The Fair Elections Act of 2017 establishes the voluntary Public Financing Program for local political campaigns. The program is operated within the District of Columbia's Office of Campaign Finance. The Fair Elections legislation goes into effect for the election cycle beginning November 7, 2018 or when funding is provided. That's based on whichever is later.

Who is Eligible?

The program is available to candidates running for the office of Mayor, Attorney General, Councilmember, (Chairman, At-Large, and Ward), and the State Board of Education (At-Large and Ward). The program is voluntary and candidates are not required to participate. A candidate is deemed eligible if they accept the program's requirements which include contribution limits and meeting the minimum small-dollar amounts for the office sought.

Once a candidate qualifies and becomes a participating candidate they receive a base grant considered as start-up funds for their campaign. The amounts are outlined below.

- ⇒ **Mayor:** \$160,000
- ⇒ **Attorney General:** \$40,000
- ⇒ **Council Chairman:** \$40,000
- ⇒ **At-Large and Ward Councilmember:** \$40,000
- ⇒ **At-Large and Ward State Board of Education Member:** \$10,000

What Qualifications are Required?

Candidates must secure a minimum amount of money from small-dollar contributions from District of Columbia residents. The amount depends on the office sought as outlined below:

OFFICE COVERED	MINIMUM AMOUNTS	SMALL-DOLLAR CONTRIBUTORS	CONTRIBUTION LIMITS
Mayor	\$40,000	1000	\$200 (currently \$2,000 under the traditional system)
Attorney General	\$20,000	500	\$200 (currently \$1,500)
Council Chairman	\$15,000	300	\$200 (currently \$1,500)
At-Large Councilmember	\$12,000	250	\$100 (currently \$1,000)
Ward Councilmember & At-Large State Board of Education Member	\$5,000	150	\$50 (currently \$500)
Ward State Board of Education Member	\$1,000	50	\$20 (currently \$200)

Qualifying candidates can receive qualified small-donor contributions (not from DC residents) matched with public funds at a 5:1 rate. For example that would mean \$50.00 maximum contribution for a Ward Councilmember would be matched with \$250.00 for a total contribution of 300.00. The Office of Campaign Finance will disburse matching funds **no more than 5 days after** receiving a participating candidates report.

Candidates are allowed to raise as much money from qualified small-dollar contributions and contributions from individual non-District residents within the contribution limits as they choose. A cap is placed on matching funds based on past expenditures for each office.

A candidate can elect to continue raising small-dollar contributions after exceeding the matching fund limit, but those funds are not matched. See the office breakdowns below:

- ⇒ Mayor, Attorney General, and Council Chairman: 110% of the average expenditures of the winning candidates for that office in the prior four election cycles
- ⇒ At-Large and Ward Councilmembers and At-Large and Ward State Board of Education members: 110% of the average expenditures for all winning candidates for that office in the prior two election cycles (so all Ward Councilmembers are averaged together over two cycles)



No caps are placed on the amount a candidate can raise.



Cash Contributions are allowed