



**OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

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**THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ANNOUNCES THE INAUGURAL 2020 DC
DEBATES**

The Office of Campaign Finance will host debates for the At-Large Member of the State Board of Education and At-Large Member of the Council of the District of Columbia races

Washington D.C. – (September 9, 2020) - The Office of Campaign Finance (OCF) today announced the details of the virtual 2020 DC Debates. The 2020 DC Debates are the inaugural debates under the Fair Elections Program (FEP). Started in 2018, FEP is a voluntary public financing program, operated by the Office of Campaign Finance, to support candidates for local political office in the District of Columbia.

“Our team has been working around the clock to ensure that District voters are able to hear from all the candidates for citywide public offices, in what we know will be a very closely watched election, said Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery, Director of the Office of Campaign Finance. OCF looks forward to providing a platform for District voters and residents to hear directly from all of the candidates in a virtual format that is convenient and safe.”

The FEP has a mandatory requirement that all **certified** candidates running in a city-wide contested election for certain offices must participate in a minimum of one debate for the covered office. Any non-participating candidate (candidates registered within the Traditional Program and not in the FEP), who have registered for the covered office and qualified for the Ballot, may also participate in the debate. Where there is no other viable opposing FEP certified candidate, or other non-participating candidate willing to debate, the mandatory debate requirement shall be waived by OCF. OCF will hold debates for the 2020 At-Large Member of the State Board of Education and At-Large Member of the Council of the District of Columbia races.

The debate for At-Large Member of the State Board of Education candidates will be held on September 29th, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

The debate for At-Large Member of the Council of the District of Columbia candidates will be held on September 30th and all FEP candidates are mandated to attend. Due to the number of candidates, OCF will finalize time slots for the At-Large Member of the Council debate after final confirmation from the participants.

The debates will be streamed live online, and recordings will remain online for viewing after the debates through the remainder of the calendar year. OCF will release additional details over the

next three weeks via press releases, a public information campaign and our official twitter account (@DCOCF15).

Please stay tuned for more information!