

# STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE REGISTRATION AND DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATES INVOLVED IN TOWN COMMITTEE PRIMARIES FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – 2024



Rev. December 2023

Each candidate for town committee member in a March 5, 2024 town committee primary is required to comply with the registration and financial reporting provisions of Connecticut's campaign finance laws as contained in Chapter 155 of the General Statutes. The State Elections Enforcement Commission has prepared this list of frequently asked questions that highlights the basic requirements pertaining to candidates in a primary for town committee member. Generally, these candidates have the same disclosure and reporting obligations as candidates for election to a state or municipal public office.

Please note that a candidate who is involved in a town committee primary and who does not file the required registration form with the Town Clerk, as fully explained in this fact sheet, will be responsible for mandatory penalties.

Those who use this fact sheet should also refer to the provisions of Chapter 155 of the General Statutes to obtain a greater understanding of these requirements. Please contact the Commission at the number listed below on page 11 if you have any questions.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

In 2015, Public Act 15-225 was passed that amended General Statutes § 9-391 to require that certificates of endorsement be signed by the endorsed candidates in order for the endorsements to be valid. Any questions about this change in law and its impact on candidates for town committee member should be directed to the Office of the Secretary of the State. Please note that this change in law does not impact the campaign finance registration and disclosure requirements of candidates in a town committee primary as described herein.

55 Farmington Avenue • Hartford, Connecticut • 06105

Phone: (860) 256-2940 • Toll Free-CT Only: 1-866-SEEC-INFO • Email: [SEEC@ct.gov](mailto:SEEC@ct.gov) • Internet: [www.ct.gov/seec](http://www.ct.gov/seec)



**1. I am currently on the town committee and wish to seek another term. Do I have to register in order to raise funds for my campaign?**

**It depends:**

- You are required to register if your name will appear on the ballot in a party primary for town committee members.
- You are not required to register if there is no such primary (nor are you required to disclose monies received or spent on your campaign if there is no primary).

*If there is a primary, the Town Clerk is required to prepare a legal notice for publication in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality. See General Statutes § 9-435.*

**2. My party recently held a caucus, and I was chosen as an endorsed candidate for the position of town committee member. Although there was a challenge slate offered at the caucus, they were not endorsed and did not obtain a sufficient number of signatures on primary petitions. Am I, or are any of the candidates who were endorsed, required to register as candidates and designate our source of funding?**

- No. If there is no party primary, you are not required to register. The registration and disclosure requirements apply only to candidates that compete in a primary.

**3. I am currently on the town committee and wish to seek another term. Do I have to register in order to raise funds for my campaign?**

- Yes, you are required to register as a candidate since there will be a party primary. You must (a) register as a candidate, and (b) designate a funding source, as further described in the answer to Question 6.

**4. When must my registration form be filed?**

- You must file your registration form within ten calendar days of becoming a candidate. In the case of a town committee primary where there will not be a primary unless a challenging candidate or slate of candidates successfully petitions to trigger the primary, your ten-day window does not begin until the challenging candidate or slate's petition is approved.



**5. My town committee does not endorse candidates. I will be petitioning onto the primary ballot with a slate of candidates. When must I register?**

- If there is no slate opposing your slate, then you never have to register.
- If there is an opposing slate, then the candidates on both slates will be required to register within ten days of the petitions of both slates having been approved. In other words, if, at the time your petition is approved, the other slate's petition has not yet been approved, you are not yet required to register.

**6. Which registration forms must be filed?**

- You must give public notice of your candidacy and the manner in which your campaign will be funded by filing a "Registration by Candidate," SEEC Form 1. You must also file either a SEEC Form 1A ("Candidate Committee Registration") OR a SEEC Form 1B ("Certification of Exemption From Forming a Candidate Committee"), which are both attached to the SEEC Form 1. You must file these forms with the Town Clerk.

**7. What is the difference between the various funding options?**

- If you do not qualify for any of the exemptions described below (or if you qualify but do not choose one of the exemptions), you must form a candidate committee and file SEEC Form 1A. A candidate committee is a committee formed by a single candidate to promote the election of the candidate who formed the committee.

If you qualify for one of the following exemptions from forming a candidate committee, you may file SEEC Form 1B:

- (a) You are one of a slate of candidates in the primary whose campaigns are being funded solely by an existing town committee or a newly created political slate committee established by two or more candidates; or
- (b) You will be funding your campaign entirely from your own personal funds and do not intend to solicit or receive funds from other persons or committees; or
- (c) You do not intend to receive or spend funds exceeding \$1,000; or
- (d) You do not intend to spend or receive any funds.



If you qualify for one of the 1B exemptions, and your circumstances change such that you no longer qualify for that 1B exemption, you must amend your registration within three days of the change in circumstance. If you qualify for another 1B exemption, you may file an amended 1B. If you do not qualify for any of the 1B exemptions, you are required to form a candidate committee by filing a Form 1A.

**All candidates must file SEEC Form 1 AND either Form 1A or Form 1B.** Campaign finance registration and reporting forms are available at the Town Clerk's office and at the State Elections Enforcement Commission's website ([portal.ct.gov/seec](http://portal.ct.gov/seec)).

#### 8. Where do I file the required forms?

- With the Town Clerk of the municipality holding the primary.

#### 9. What is the effect of filing a Certification of Exemption, SEEC Form 1B?

- A candidate who qualifies for a 1B exemption and who files SEEC Form 1 and 1B need not establish or register a separate candidate committee, open a separate bank account, or appoint their own treasurer for the primary campaign. If opting to be funded by a town committee or slate committee, as further explained below, that committee will have reporting requirements, also further explained below.

#### 10. What are the consequences if I do not file SEEC Form 1, and either SEEC Form 1A or 1B?

- The candidate is assessed a mandatory late fee of \$100 if they fail to file a registration form by the tenth day after becoming a candidate. Late filing fees cannot be waived. In addition, if the candidate does not file within seven days after receiving a delinquency notice, the matter will be referred to the State Elections Enforcement Commission's Enforcement Unit and the candidate may then be liable for additional civil penalties between \$200 and \$2,000 per violation.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**11. I have filed SEEC Form 1B and have certified that I am exempt from the candidate committee registration requirement because I intend to finance my campaign entirely from my own funds. My neighbor has since indicated that they want to donate \$100 by check to my campaign. May I accept the contribution, and if I do, does this mean I am required to register a candidate committee (open a checking account and appoint a treasurer)?**

- If you accept the contribution, then you no longer qualify for the 1B exemption that you intend to finance your campaign entirely from your personal funds. You have several options:
  - a. If you wish to continue to fund your campaign entirely from personal funds, then you must not accept the contribution.
  - b. If you wish to accept the contribution, you must amend your registration and designate a new funding source within three days of receiving the contribution. If you qualify for another 1B exemption (please see the answer to Question 7 for a description of the 1B exemptions), you may amend your registration and designate your new 1B exemption funding source. For example, if the aggregate amount of your personal funds spent on your candidacy plus the \$100 contribution from your neighbor does not exceed \$1,000, you may choose the 1B option that you do not intend to receive or spend funds exceeding \$1,000 for your campaign (11c).
  - c. If you wish to accept the contribution and do not qualify for any of the other 1B exemptions, you will need to register a candidate committee by filing an amended SEEC Form 1 and 1A within three days following receipt of the contribution.

**12. Am I required to appoint someone as my campaign treasurer if I finance my campaign entirely from my own personal funds or do not receive or spend more than \$1,000 from other sources?**

- No. In either case, you are not required to designate another person as your treasurer, although you should keep internal records of all of your receipts and expenditures like a treasurer would do. If you have selected to spend entirely from personal funds and spend over \$1,000, you will be required to file certain financial disclosure statements, but you do not need a treasurer to do so. (See Question 22 for more information.)



**13. I am a candidate on the petitioning slate of candidates, and a separate political committee has been formed to finance the campaigns of all candidates on the slate. What are my registration obligations as a candidate?**

- All candidates must file a registration statement and designate a funding source. You are exempt from the requirement of registering a candidate committee if you are part of a slate of candidates whose campaigns are financed solely by a political slate committee, and you file SEEC Form 1 along with Form 1B, "Certification of Exemption from Forming a Candidate Committee," entering the name of the political slate committee that has been registered to finance the slate of candidates. Additionally, the chairperson of the slate committee is required to register such committee using the form entitled "Political Committee Registration," SEEC Form 3, with the Town Clerk of the municipality holding the primary.

**14. For a political slate committee established by two or more candidates to finance a slate of candidates in the primary, what is required of the chairperson to complete the registration process?**

- In addition to filing the political committee registration form, SEEC Form 3, the chairperson is required to appoint one registered Connecticut elector to serve as the treasurer and establish a single checking account in a bank or other financial institution in Connecticut to serve as the depository for the committee's funds. The designation of the treasurer and depository must be made on the committee registration form.
- In addition, although not required, it is strongly recommended that the slate committee chair designate a deputy treasurer who can perform the duties of the treasurer in the treasurer's absence.
- The treasurer of the slate committee must also file a SEEC Form 20 "Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement" to report the initial contribution received by the committee. If the political slate committee's initial contribution precedes the filing of the registration statement, then the committee's treasurer must file a campaign finance disclosure statement itemizing this transaction (SEEC Form 20) when the committee files its registration statement. If the contribution is received after the filing of the registration statement, the treasurer must file an itemized report (SEEC Form 20) within 48 hours of receiving that initial contribution. Further disclosure statements will also be required, as more fully explained below.



**15. For a candidate committee of a single candidate in the primary, what is required to complete the registration process?**

- In addition to filing the candidate committee registration, SEEC Form 1 and 1A, the candidate has the same responsibilities as the chairperson of a political slate committee (see Question 14) and must designate the name of the depository, treasurer, and deputy treasurer, if applicable, on the registration form. An initial SEEC Form 20 is not required, however. The first disclosure statement would be due whenever the next regular filing would be due (see the calendar below).

**16. Are there any requirements pertaining to the committee's depository?**

- The depository institution may be a bank, savings and loan, or credit union and must be situated in the State of Connecticut. A single checking account must be established in the depository in which all receipts are deposited and from which all expenditures are made. Only the treasurer and/or deputy treasurer, if applicable, may deposit funds into or expend funds from this account. The registration form requires only that you list the name of the depository (and not the actual account number) so you may register a committee before you have opened your account.

**17. Do any restrictions apply to a campaign treasurer?**

- Yes. The campaign treasurer and deputy treasurer must be registered voters in Connecticut. Also, a candidate may not serve as their own treasurer or deputy treasurer. This prohibition extends to the treasurer of a political slate committee or town committee seeking to run for town committee member and wanting to be funded by that particular committee. In that situation, the treasurer should resign as treasurer or choose a different funding source.
- There are some additional restrictions on who may serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer of a candidate committee, political slate committee, or town committee. First, in order to serve in such a capacity, the person must have paid any civil penalties or forfeitures assessed against them under the campaign finance statutes. In addition, if the person has been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to any felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny, embezzlement or bribery, or any criminal offense under the state election or campaign finance laws, the law will not permit such person to serve as a treasurer or deputy treasurer unless at least eight years have elapsed from the date of the conviction or plea or the completion of any sentence, whichever date is later, without a subsequent conviction of or plea to another such felony or offense.



**18. What are the campaign treasurer's chief responsibilities?**

- a. To deposit funds in the checking account within twenty days of receipt.
- b. To authorize and pay all committee expenditures by check drawn on the depository institution.
- c. To complete and file required financial disclosure statements in a timely manner.
- d. To appoint solicitors to receive funds on behalf of the committee, if necessary.
- e. To oversee all financial transactions of the committee.
- f. To retain records and receipts documenting all expenditures.

**19. When must the committee treasurer file the detailed statements of committee receipts and expenditures (financial disclosure statements)?**

- Please see the printed calendar of filing dates attached to this FAQ Sheet, which sets forth the various campaign finance disclosure deadlines.

**20. What form must the treasurer use to comply with the financial disclosure requirements?**

- If the committee has received or made or incurred the expenditure of funds exceeding \$1,000 in the aggregate, the campaign treasurer must file SEEC Form 20 entitled "Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement."
- If this \$1,000 threshold has not been reached by the close of the reporting period and the committee has not previously filed a SEEC Form 20, the campaign treasurer may file SEEC Form 21 entitled "Short Form Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement."

**21. If I filed a 1B exemption and did not designate any committee as my funding source, do I need to file the campaign finance disclosure statements?**

- Typically, no. The requirement to file a financial disclosure report on the filing date does not apply to a candidate who is exempt from registering a candidate committee and has filed SEEC Form 1B unless the candidate had opted for the self-financing exemption and has made or incurred expenditures over \$1,000 in the aggregate (See Question 22). In the case of a candidate who is solely funded by a town committee or a political slate committee, that committee's treasurer must do the appropriate disclosure filings.



**22. If the candidate has filed SEEC Form 1B as self-financing, are there additional filing requirements?**

- There may be. If the candidate has claimed reason number (2) on SEEC Form 1B ("11b", self-financing) and has made or incurred expenditures exceeding \$1,000, the candidate must file a report of their expenditures using SEEC Form 23 entitled "Self Funded Candidate's Expenditure Statement" in accordance with the same schedule of filings as a treasurer of a candidate committee. The self-funded candidate's first report must include all expenditures made or incurred since the start of the campaign, including those they made before reaching the \$1,000 threshold. Please see the printed calendar of filing dates attached to this FAQ Sheet, which sets forth the various campaign finance disclosure deadlines.

**23. Where must financial disclosure statements be filed?**

- With the Town Clerk of the municipality holding the primary.

**24. What are the penalties for a treasurer who fails to file either form (SEEC Form 20 or SEEC Form 21) by the day it is due?**

- The treasurer is subject to a mandatory late filing fee of \$100, which is the personal liability of the treasurer and cannot be paid from committee funds. Late filing fees cannot be waived. In addition, if the campaign treasurer does not promptly file after receiving a delinquency notice, the treasurer is referred to the State Elections Enforcement Commission's Enforcement Unit and may then be liable for additional civil penalties between \$200 and \$2,000 per violation.

**25. What must be disclosed on the "Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement" (SEEC Form 20)?**

- Generally, the disclosure requirements applicable to candidates' campaigns for election, or nomination to a state or municipal public office apply with equal effect to candidates in town committee primaries. This includes the disclosure of the name and address of each contributor of more than \$50 in total contributions to the committee and whether each contributor is a communicator lobbyist or the spouse or dependent child of a communicator



- lobbyist as well as the employer and principal occupation of the contributor if the contribution exceeds \$100, the sum of all contributions that are less than \$50 in the aggregate (treasurer must still keep internal records of such contributors' names and addresses), the name and address of each payee to whom an expenditure is made or incurred, the purpose of each expenditure, and a statement of the balance on hand and outstanding expenses or other committee obligations. The "Itemized Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement" contains detailed instructions for completion of the form.

**26. What about receipts and expenses before the candidate/committee was required to register? Must these be disclosed?**

- For a town committee primary, you must disclose all activity that occurred after you became a candidate, i.e., after the petition of a challenging candidate or slate of candidates has been approved and a primary has therefore been established. See Questions 4 and 5 for more information on when you become a candidate. Please note that candidates who have filed a 1B exemption should maintain internal records of all receipts and expenditures in case circumstances change and they are required to register a candidate committee, in which case they will be required to report all activity that occurred since becoming a candidate.

**27. Are there any restrictions on contributions made in cash?**

- Yes. Only the first \$100 from an individual (or from any business entity or labor union if otherwise permissible – see Questions 30 and 31) in the aggregate is permitted to be made in cash. Once the source has contributed \$100 in the aggregate in any form, any remaining monetary contributions must not be made by cash.

**28. Are there any limitations on contributions made by check from an individual?**

- An individual may give without limit to a candidate committee formed for the position of town committee member or to a political slate committee formed for a slate of candidates for the position of town committee member.

**Important Note:** *If a candidate in a town committee primary has designated the town committee as their sole funding source, the contribution limits to a town committee apply, and an individual may contribute no more \$2,000 to a town committee per calendar year. State contractor and lobbyist restrictions also apply.*

**29. May business entities, such as partnerships and corporations, make direct contributions?**

- Generally, a business entity may not contribute to a candidate for public office or a political or party committee. However, a business entity, which is incorporated or licensed to do business in Connecticut, may give without limit to a candidate committee formed for the position of town committee member or to a political slate committee formed for a slate of candidates for the position of town committee member.

**Important Note:** A town committee may not receive contributions from a business entity. If a candidate in a town committee primary has designated the town committee as their sole funding source, a business entity may not make any contributions or non-independent expenditures to promote such candidate.

**30. May labor unions make direct contributions?**

- Generally, a labor union may not contribute to a candidate for public office or a political or party committee without first forming its own political committee. However, a labor union may give without limit to a candidate committee formed for the position of town committee member or to a political committee formed for a slate of candidates for the position of town committee member.

**Important Note:** A town committee may not receive contributions from a labor union. If a candidate in a town committee primary has designated the town committee as their sole funding source, a labor union may not make any contributions or non-independent expenditures to promote such candidate.

**31. May an existing ongoing political committee make contributions to town committee candidates?**

- Yes, but only if the ongoing political committee is properly registered as a political committee with the State Elections Enforcement Commission or the Town Clerk, as the case may be. A registered political committee may make unlimited contributions to a candidate committee formed for the position of town committee member or to a political slate committee formed for a slate of candidates for the position of town committee member. A town committee that is the sole funding source for a town committee slate may receive contributions from a registered political committee up to \$1,500 per calendar year.



**32. Are there any other prohibitions that pertain to the campaign financing of candidates in town committee primaries?**

- Yes. For example, vote buying and selling is prohibited. A promise of appointment to a public position made in exchange for support in the primary is prohibited. False disclosure of the name of a contributor on any campaign finance statement is also prohibited. These are classified as corrupt election practices. Other prohibited practices are contained in General Statutes § 9-622.

**33. What are the penalties if I make or accept an improper contribution or engage in a corrupt election practice?**

- Any single violation of the campaign finance laws subjects the offender to a civil penalty of up to \$2,000 that can be imposed by the State Elections Enforcement Commission. The Commission may order any improper contributions or payments to be remitted to the Commission for deposit in the State's treasury or to be returned to the contributor. If the offender is found to have knowingly and willfully violated any provisions of the campaign finance statutes, they will be guilty of a Class D felony.

**34. Is "claim your speech" identification required on political communications that advocate for the election or defeat of a candidate in a primary for town committee member?**

- Yes. The "claim your speech" attribution rules applicable to communications for candidates for public office are also applicable to campaign communications that advocate the election or defeat of a candidate in a primary for town committee member. For printed communications including those delivered by mail, the attribution required to be on the face of the communication must be at least an eight-point size type of uniform font.
  - If a candidate committee pays for the communication, it must include on its face the text "Paid for by" followed by the name of the committee and its treasurer and the text "Approved by" followed by the name of the candidate.
  - If a candidate not funded by a committee pays for the communication, it must include on its face the text "Paid for by" followed by the candidate's name and address and the text "Approved by" followed by the name of the candidate.



- If a town committee pays for the communication, it must include on its face the text “Paid for by” and the name of the committee and the text “Approved by” followed by the name of the candidate. Where the communication is in print, television, or social media and promotes a slate of candidates (i.e., more than one candidate), it does not need to include the “Approved by” language.
- If a political slate committee pays for the communication, it must include on its face the text “Paid for by” and the name of the committee and its treasurer and the text “Approved by” followed by the name of the candidate. If the communication features five or more identified candidates, the Commission will not otherwise take any action against a committee whose attribution includes “Approved by,” followed by a broad reference to the candidates (e.g., “Approved by the Above Listed Candidates”) rather than listing all of the candidates’ names, provided they are all otherwise clearly identified in the communication.
- If an individual pays for the communication and it is made with the cooperation of, at the request or suggestion of, or in consultation with the candidate, candidate committee, or candidate’s agent, the communication must include on its face the text “Paid for by” followed by the name and address of the individual and the text “Approved by” followed by that candidate’s name.

*Candidates and candidate committees have additional attribution requirements for television, Internet video, radio, and Internet audio advertising, as well as automated telephone calls (robo calls). See General Statutes § 9-621 for more information.*

### **35. Where can I obtain the forms necessary to register a committee or claim an exemption, or to disclose contributions and expenditures?**

- All campaign finance forms and statements are available at your Town Clerk’s office and the State Elections Enforcement Commission website ([portal.ct.gov/seec](http://portal.ct.gov/seec)).

### **36. What if my candidate committee or the political committee established for the slate of candidates for the town committee primary has a surplus after the primary?**

- The committee must distribute its surplus not later than ninety days after the primary to one of the following: (a) an ongoing political committee which has not been established to finance the candidate’s/candidates’ future campaigns for elective office; (b) a party committee; (c) a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; (d) all contributors on a prorated basis by contribution; (e) a veterans’ organization under Section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code; or (f) the Citizens’ Election Fund.

*The committee must terminate within seven days of surplus distribution.*



**37. What if my candidate committee or the political committee established for the slate of candidates for the town committee primary has a deficit after the primary?**

- Your committee must remain in existence until the deficit is eliminated.
- Your treasurer is required to file a financial disclosure statement on the ninetieth day following the primary and must thereafter file additional financial disclosure statements on the seventh day of any succeeding month where there is an increase or decrease that is greater than \$500 from the last disclosure statement. If your committee solicits funds to eliminate your deficit in any written or printed communications, such communication must include a statement that the funds are being sought to eliminate a deficit.

**38. Where can I obtain an interpretation of campaign finance law or file a complaint if I know a violation has been committed?**

**State Elections Enforcement Commission**

- 55 Farmington Avenue, 8th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105
- Internet: [portal.ct.gov/seec](http://portal.ct.gov/seec)

**Complaint Form**

- Telephone: (860) 256-2940; Toll Free within Connecticut: 866) 733-2463
- Email: [SEEC@ct.gov](mailto:SEEC@ct.gov)



## Campaign Finance Filing Dates

### Campaign Finance Filing Dates for all Candidate Committees and Political Slate Committees Funding Candidates for the Position of Town Committee Member in the March 5, 2024 Town Committee Primary

Type of Statement	Period Covered	Filing Deadline
7th Day Preceding Primary	date of formation through 02/25/24	02/27/24
30 Days Following Primary (candidate committees only)	02/26/24 through 3/31/24	04/04/24 <sup>1</sup>
April 10 filing (political slate committees)	02/26/24 through 03/31/24 (political slate committees)	04/10/24 <sup>2</sup>
Deficit	04/01/24 through 05/27/24	06/03/24
Termination	04/01/24 through 06/03/24	06/10/24 <sup>4</sup>

**\*\*Important Note:** If a town committee or ongoing political committee raises or spends funds in connection with a town committee primary, the treasurer must file the 7th day preceding primary report by, February 27, 2024, covering the period beginning January 1, 2024, and ending at 11:59 p.m. on February 25, 2024.

- This filing is required of candidate committees only; political slate committees need not file it. A candidate committee which has distributed any surplus or has eliminated any deficit within 30 days of the primary may terminate with the filing of this report by selecting "Termination" as the type of report.
- Since candidate committees will have already reported their relevant activity in the 30 days following primary report, only political slate committees funding candidates in the primary must file this report. Political slate committees are required to file a report 45 days after the primary – however, because the period covered by the statement will have already been covered by the April 10th filing, they need not file a 45th day post-primary report. If the committee has no balance and no outstanding expenses incurred, it may terminate with the filing of this report by selecting "Termination" as the type of report.
- A committee of a candidate formed in connection with the March 5, 2024 town committee primary, which has a deficit on the 90th day following the primary, must file this statement and will thereafter be required to file an additional statement on the 7th day of any succeeding month when there is an increase or decrease in the deficit which is greater than \$500 from the last filed financial disclosure statement.





## Permissible Contributions

- A committee formed in connection with the March 5, 2024 town committee primary that has a surplus must distribute or expend its surplus within 90 days following the primary and file a termination statement within seven days of surplus distribution.

## Permissible Contributions Town Committee Primary Aggregate Dollar Limits

### Contributor Sources

Recipient Committee	Individual	Candidate Committee	Party Committee	Political Committee formed by two or more Individuals	Political Committee formed by a Business Entity or Organization	Political Committee established for a Single Election	Legislative Leadership or Caucus Committee	Referendum Committee	Entities and Organizations
Political Slate Committee of two or more candidates for Town Committee Member	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Unlimited
Town Committee as authorized funding vehicle for two or more candidates for Town Committee Member	\$2,000	Prohibited	Unlimited	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
Candidate Committee of individual candidate for Town Committee Member	Unlimited	Prohibited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Unlimited

- Only contributions from committees that are registered in Connecticut may be accepted.
- For town committees, the aggregate limit is a calendar year limit. State contractors, prospective state contractors, and principals thereof with respect to either legislative or executive branch contracts may not contribute to town committees. See General Statutes § 9-612 (f) (2). Communicator lobbyists, members of the immediate family of communicator lobbyists, and political committees established or controlled by a communicator lobbyist may only give up to \$100 per year to a town committee. See General Statutes § 9-610 (g).



**11. I have filed SEEC Form 1B and have certified that I am exempt from the candidate committee registration requirement because I intend to finance my campaign entirely from my own funds. My neighbor has since indicated that they want to donate \$100 by check to my campaign. May I accept the contribution, and if I do, does this mean I am required to register a candidate committee (open a checking account and appoint a treasurer)?**

- If you accept the contribution, then you no longer qualify for the 1B exemption that you intend to finance your campaign entirely from your personal funds. You have several options:
- (a) If you wish to continue to fund your campaign entirely from personal funds, then you must not accept the contribution.
- (b) If you wish to accept the contribution, you must amend your registration and designate a new funding source within three days of receiving the contribution. If you qualify for another 1B exemption (please see the answer to Question 7 for a description of the 1B exemp-

**9. What is the effect of filing a Certification of Exemption, SEEC Form 1B?**

- A candidate who qualifies for a 1B exemption and who files SEEC Form 1 and 1B need not establish or register a separate candidate committee, open a separate bank account, or appoint their own treasurer for the primary campaign. If opting to be funded by a town committee or slate committee, as further explained below, that committee will have reporting requirements, also further explained below.

**10. What are the consequences if I do not file SEEC Form 1, and either SEEC Form 1A or 1B?**

- The candidate is assessed a mandatory late fee of \$100 if they fail to file a registration form by the tenth day after becoming a candidate. Late filing fees cannot be waived. In addition, if the candidate does not file within seven days after receiving a delinquency notice, the matter will be referred to the State Elections Enforcement Commission's Enforcement Unit and the candidate may then be liable for additional civil penalties between \$200 and \$2,000 per violation.