



Understanding Connecticut Campaign Finance Laws

A 2026 Guide for Statewide Office and General Assembly Candidates Participating in the Citizens' Election Program

STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION
Rev. March 2026





Contact Us

Address:	<i>Citizens' Election Program State Elections Enforcement Commission 55 Farmington Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06105</i>
Main Telephone:	860-256-2940
Toll Free (outside Hartford area):	866-SEEC-INFO
Candidate Services Unit:	860-256-2985
Website:	https://portal.ct.gov/seec
E-Mail:	public.finance@ct.gov

Cite this publication as:

Understanding Connecticut Campaign Finance Laws: A Guide for 2026 Statewide Office and General Assembly Candidates Participating in the Citizens' Election Program (Connecticut State Elections Enforcement Commission, Hartford, Connecticut) March 2026.



Table of Contents

- I. OVERVIEW..... 1**
 - A. Purpose of this Guide 1
 - B. Changes in the Law 1
 - C. Changes in this Guide 2
 - D. Basics of the Program 2
 - E. Goals of the Program 3
 - F. Candidate Services Unit 3
 - G. Electronic Campaign Reporting Information System (eCRIS) 4
- II. GETTING STARTED..... 6**
 - A. Before Joining the Program..... 6
 - B. Who is a Candidate?..... 6
 - C. What is an Exploratory Committee? 7
 - D. What is a Candidate Committee? 9
 - E. When and How to Amend a Registration Statement 11
 - F. Appointment of Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer 11
 - G. Resignation and Replacement of the Treasurer..... 12
 - H. Designation of a Depository Institution for Committee Funds 13
 - I. Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) Requirement 13
 - J. Joining the Program: Affidavits of Intent 14
 - K. Withdrawal from the Program..... 15
 - L. Spending Limits..... 15
 - M. Electronic Funds Transfer 16
 - N. Personal Funds..... 17
 - O. Reusing Campaign Materials from a Previous Campaign 18
 - 1. Lawn Signs..... 18
 - 2. Other Prior Assets 19
 - P. Using Exploratory Committee Goods and Services in Candidate Committee 20
 - Q. Loans to the Candidate Committee..... 20
- III. QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTIONS..... 22**
 - A. Two Components of Qualifying Contributions..... 22



1.	General Assembly Candidates: "In-District" Defined.....	22
2.	Statewide Office Candidates: "In-State" Defined	23
3.	Required Aggregate Dollar Amounts.....	24
4.	General Assembly Candidates: Required Aggregate Dollar Amounts for a Special Election	25
B.	What Is a Qualifying Contribution?.....	25
C.	Excess ("Buffer") Qualifying Contributions	26
D.	How to Calculate the Amount of the Buffer Check	27
E.	What Contributions are Non-Qualifying?	28
1.	Contributions Lacking the Criteria for a Qualifying Contribution	28
a.	Non-Monetary ("In-Kind") Contributions	28
b.	Portions of Contributions Over the Aggregate Limit.....	29
c.	Contributions from Party Committees and Political Committees.....	29
d.	Contributions Lacking Adequate Documentation.....	30
e.	The Candidate	30
2.	Prohibited and Restricted Sources.....	30
a.	Business Entities and Unions	30
b.	Lobbyists in any Amount During the Legislative Session and in Excess of \$100 at any Time	30
c.	Principals of Current and Prospective State Contractors	31
d.	Investment Services Contribution and Solicitation Provisions	32
e.	Restrictions on Contributions by Certain State Governmental Officials and Unclassified Employees in the Executive and Legislative Branches.....	33
f.	Retirement Security Authority Contribution and Solicitation Provisions.....	34
g.	Anonymous Donations.....	34
h.	Foreign Nationals.....	34
i.	Contributions from Minors Under the Age of 12 or Over \$30	34
j.	Qualifying Contributions from a Joint Checking Account.....	34
k.	Contributions Lacking Full Name and Complete Address.....	35
F.	Documentation for Qualifying Contributions.....	35
G.	Raising Additional Qualifying Contributions.....	36
1.	In Exploratory Committee.....	36



2.	Solicitors.....	37
a.	Solicitors Generally	37
b.	Limitations on Who May be a Solicitor.....	38
3.	Fundraising in the Program.....	40
4.	Volunteers, Travel, House Parties, and Facility Space	40
5.	Electronic forwarding of Fundraising Links and Invitations by Party Committees, Leadership and Caucus Committees and other Organization Expenditures ...	43
H.	Joint Fundraising.....	44
I.	Raising Additional Qualifying Contributions.....	45
J.	Spending Qualifying Contributions.....	46
IV.	APPLYING FOR GRANTS	47
A.	Ballot Requirement.....	47
B.	Completing a Grant Application	47
1.	The Application Form (SEEC Form CEP 15)	48
2.	Ballot Qualification.....	49
3.	Cumulative Itemized Accounting—Initial Itemized Statement Accompanying Application for Public Grant (SEEC Form 30)	50
4.	Documentation for All Qualifying Contributions.....	51
5.	The “Buffer” Qualifying Contributions	51
C.	Initial Review of Disclosure Statement Before Submission with Grant Application	51
D.	Grant Determinations	52
E.	Continuance or Re-Application	53
F.	No Deposits after Grant is Received	53
G.	Deadlines for Receipt of Grant Applications.....	54
H.	General Assembly Application Deadlines & Commission Meeting Dates	55
I.	Statewide Office Application Deadlines & Commission Meeting Dates	56
J.	Grant Reduction Schedule	57
K.	Checklist for Grant Application	59
V.	CAMPAIGN GRANTS	64
A.	Convention Campaign Grant	64
B.	Primary Campaign Grants.....	65
1.	Primary Campaign Grant Amounts	65
2.	General Assembly Candidates in Party-Dominant Districts	65



C.	General Election Campaign Grants.....	66
1.	Grant Reduction Schedule.....	66
2.	Major Party Candidates	67
3.	Minor Party and Petitioning Candidates	69
4.	Committees of Candidates Who Received a Grant Who Face Court Ordered and/or Adjourned Primary or Election May Be Eligible for an Additional Grant	72
VI.	CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES	74
A.	Permissible Expenditures Generally	74
B.	Joint Expenditures with Another Committee	75
C.	Impermissible Expenditures.....	77
1.	Personal Use.....	77
2.	Payments to Candidate or Candidate's Family Members or their Businesses ..	77
3.	Contributions to Other Committees or Gifts of Any Kind to Any Person	78
4.	Payments for Goods or Services Above or Below Fair Market Value	79
5.	Expenditures Lacking Sufficient Contemporaneous Documentation of a Campaign-Related Purpose.....	79
6.	Bank Interest	79
7.	Other Improper Expenditures	80
D.	Expenditure Limits.....	80
1.	Pre-Primary/Pre-General Election Campaign Period Expenditure Limits.....	80
2.	Primary & General Election Campaign Expenditure Limits.....	82
3.	What Happens if a Participating Campaign Makes an Excess Expenditure? ...	83
E.	Advertising Expenditures and Attribution (Disclaimer) Requirements.....	84
1.	Core Attribution Requirements for Written, Typed, Printed, or Web-Based Written Communications	84
a.	“Paid For By”	85
b.	“Approved By”	85
2.	Attribution Requirements for Television or Internet Video Advertising Communications	86
3.	Attribution Requirements for Radio or Internet Audio Advertising Communications	86
4.	Attribution Requirements for Campaign “Robo” Telephone Calls	86
5.	Special Attribution Requirements for State Treasurer Candidates	87
6.	Exceptions to the Attribution Requirements.....	87



F.	Post-Election Spending	87
VII.	EXPENDITURES BY OUTSIDE SOURCES	89
A.	Non-Independent (Coordinated) Expenditures	89
B.	Organization Expenditures	90
1.	Types of Organizational Expenditures	91
2.	Limits on Organizational Expenditures	92
a.	Other types of assistance allowed by these committees	92
C.	Independent Expenditures	93
VIII.	TREASURERS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND RECORDKEEPING	94
A.	Monitors and Authorizes All Expenditures	94
B.	Oversees and Authorizes the Deposits of All Monetary Receipts	95
C.	Files Periodic Financial Disclosure Statements	97
D.	Appoints Solicitors	97
E.	Obtains and Keeps All Committee Records	98
1.	Internal Records	98
2.	Contribution Records	99
3.	Qualifying Contribution Documentation	99
4.	Contribution Certification Documentation	101
a.	Contribution Certification Forms	101
b.	Contribution ID Number	101
c.	Documenting Cash, and Money Order Contributions	102
d.	Documenting Check Contributions	102
e.	Documenting Debit Card and Credit Card Contributions	103
f.	Treasurer's Best Practices Checklist: Qualifying Contributions	108
5.	Expenditure Documentation	110
a.	Expenditure Records	110
b.	What is "Contemporaneous Detailed Documentation"?	111
c.	Form of Payment for Committee Expenditures	117
d.	Documenting contribution refunds	118
IX.	DISCLOSURE	120
A.	Reporting Calendar and Filing Deadlines	120
B.	Declaration of Excess Expenditures Statement	121



1.	Excess Expenditure Triggers	121
a.	Participating Candidates in the Primary	121
b.	Participating Candidates in the General Election	122
2.	Penalties for Exceeding Expenditure Limits	122
C.	How to File Weekly Supplemental Statements	122
D.	Organization Expenditure Disclosure Requirements	123
E.	Expenses Incurred but Not Paid	124
X.	Termination of the Committee: Distribution of Surplus and Elimination of Deficits	125
A.	Termination of Exploratory Committees	125
1.	Triggering Events Requiring Dissolution	125
2.	Checklist for Dissolving the Exploratory Committee	126
3.	Checklist for Forming the Candidate Committee	127
4.	Distribution of Surplus Monies from Exploratory Committee to Candidate Committee that Intends to Participate.....	127
5.	Carrying Forward Goods and Services from Exploratory Committee to Candidate Committee	129
6.	Exploratory Committee Surplus Distribution Checklist	130
7.	Exploratory Committee Deficit.....	131
8.	Exploratory Candidates Deciding Not to Transition into Candidate Committee	131
B.	Termination of Candidate Committees	132
1.	Timing of Termination	132
2.	Sale of Committee Furniture and Equipment	133
3.	Distribution of Surplus Funds.....	134
a.	Participating Candidates Who Received Grants	134
b.	Participating Candidates Who Did Not Receive Grants.....	134
4.	Treatment of Liabilities (Deficit)	135
5.	Uncashed Checks	135
6.	Obtaining Bank Records.....	136
7.	Closing out your On-line Merchant Account Processor Account.....	136
XI.	Post-Election Review.....	137
A.	Candidate Committees Subject to Post-Election Review	138
B.	Notice of Review and Committee Obligations	139



C.	Preparing for a Post-Election Review.....	139
D.	Documentation Required for Post-Election Review	140
1.	Request for Documentation.....	140
2.	How to Respond to a Request for Documentation.....	141
E.	Post-Election Draft Summary of Examination.....	142
F.	Post-Election Final Summary of Examination	142
XII.	COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	144
A.	Avoiding Violations	144
B.	Written Advice.....	144
1.	Opinions of Counsel.....	144
2.	Advisory Opinions.....	145
3.	Declaratory Rulings	145
C.	Violations.....	146
D.	Who May File a Complaint?.....	147
E.	Form of Complaint	147
	GLOSSARY	149
	Appendix A – Request for Documentation and Internal Records Committee Treasurer required to maintain for compliance with SEEC Post-Election Review.....	159
	Appendix B – CEP Overview	165
	Appendix C – 2026 Party-Dominant Districts	185
	Appendix D – In-District Cities, Towns, Villages & Neighborhoods	188
	Appendix E – Sample Documentation.....	209



I. OVERVIEW

A. Purpose of this Guide

This Guide is intended to clarify and summarize the most important provisions and requirements for participation in the Citizens' Election Program (the "Program" or "CEP"), Connecticut's voluntary public campaign financing program. Its purpose is to provide candidates and campaign treasurers with useful plain language, about the Program's rules and requirements.

This Guide provides a broad overview of the CEP and addresses the most common questions received by the Commission. It is not a substitute for the statutes and regulations governing the Program. Those authorities are available on the Connecticut State Elections Enforcement Commission's website at <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>. Users of this Guide are encouraged to consult the specific statutory provisions, regulations, declaratory rulings, and advisory opinions of the Commission referenced throughout. For a summary of the Program's features, please refer to the publication "Citizens' Election Program Overview: 2026 Statewide Office and General Assembly Primary and General Elections," also available on the Commission's website.

Online training videos are available [here](#) for those who prefer to review the material in shorter segments, and the Commission also offers live scheduled online training sessions. Anyone seeking guidance on questions not addressed in this Guide or wishing to discuss a specific scenario, is welcome to contact Commission staff.

B. Changes in the Law

During the 2025 legislative session, the legislature passed Public Act 25-26. Among other things, the Act made the following law changes:

- 1. Organization Expenditures and Solicitations:** Expands the definitions of "organization expenditure" and "solicit" to:
 - (a) include the electronic sharing of content of de minimis value created by, or on behalf of, a candidate committee by party committees, legislative leadership committees, and legislative caucus committees as an organization expenditure under party candidate listings; and
 - (b) exclude from the definition of "solicitation" the electronic sharing of a link, whether or not related to a fundraiser or fundraising website, when such sharing is done by a party committee, legislative caucus committee, or legislative leadership committee.
- 2. Grant Application Process:** Modifies the grant application process, by revising procedures for reviewing qualifying contributions, returning non-qualifying contributions, and adjusting grant application requirements related to the grant reduction schedule.
- 3. Post-Election Reviews:** Reduces from 50% to 20% the maximum percentage of General Assembly candidate committees for which the Commission may conduct a post-election review; requires the Commission to complete any such review within 12 months after a committee is selected; and requires the Commission to report to the legislature regarding compliance.



4. **Post-Election Review Materials:** Requires the Commission to publish a list of materials that treasurers must maintain and submit purposes of post-election review compliance.
5. **Inflation Adjustments:** Changes when and how CEP qualifying contribution thresholds and aggregate fundraising amounts are adjusted for inflation.
6. **Attribution Requirements:** Modifies attribution requirements for candidate committee communications and advertisements by:
 - (a) removing the requirement that a treasure be identified in candidate committee's attribution;
 - (b) clarifying how attributions must appear on text messages sent within the same timeframe; and
 - (c) eliminating the requirement that television, internet, or video communication include a personal audio disclaimer by the candidate.
7. **House Parties:** Increases the maximum amount an individual may spend on a house party.

In January 2026, pursuant to section 9-706 2 (C) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Commission voted to increase the amounts that CEP campaigns may spend on food and beverages for campaign staff to \$25 for breakfast, \$30 for lunch and \$45 for dinner, per person, per occasion, inclusive of tax and gratuities.

C. Changes in this Guide

This Guide will highlight the relevant above-referenced change to the law. It now also contains the list required by Public Act 25-26 with respect to documentation required for post-election reviews as well as a series of illustrative examples. The Guide also offers additional clarification of existing laws based on questions received by Commission staff during previous election cycles.

We wholeheartedly welcome suggestions for future improvements to this Guide from you, the candidates and candidate committee treasurers, and committee workers that are its intended audience. Please remember, the Guide is not a substitute for statutes and regulations. Anyone using this Guide should refer to the specific statutory provisions, regulations, declaratory rulings, and advisory opinions of the Commission referenced throughout.

D. Basics of the Program

The Citizens' Election Program is a voluntary program that provides full public financing to qualified candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, or Attorney General ("statewide office") or for state senator or state representative ("General Assembly"). The Program, administered by the State Elections Enforcement Commission (the "Commission"), is financed through the Citizens' Election Fund, a non-lapsing fund that receives most of its funding from the sale of abandoned property in the State of Connecticut's custody. Individuals, businesses, labor unions, candidate committees, party committees, political committees and



entities of any other type may also contribute funds to the Citizens' Election Fund. The Program has no effect on the tax liability of Connecticut residents.

Candidates running for statewide office or General Assembly in November 2026 may join the Program.

Although participation in the Program is voluntary, certain requirements apply to *all* candidates, whether they join the Program or not. All candidates must file a candidate registration ([SEEC Form 1](#)) and either a candidate committee registration ([SEEC Form 1A](#)) or an exemption from forming a candidate committee ([SEEC Form 1B](#)). All candidates with registered candidate committees must file an affidavit of intent to abide by the Program's expenditure limits ([SEEC Form CEP 10](#)) or an affidavit of intent not to abide by those limits ([SEEC Form CEP 11](#)). However, those candidates who file an exemption from forming a candidate committee ([SEEC Form 1B](#)) no longer have to file either affidavit and are presumed to be nonparticipating. All candidate committees also must be aware of and adhere to additional disclosure requirements, including supplemental campaign finance disclosure reporting.

The Commission serves as the filing repository for all statewide office and General Assembly registration forms, campaign finance disclosure statements, and other campaign finance related forms.

E. Goals of the Program

The voluntary public financing Program is designed to improve the electoral process in the following ways:

1. Allowing candidates to compete without reliance on special interest money;
2. Allowing legislators the ability to make decisions free of the influence of, or the appearance that they have been influenced by, donations from special interests;
3. Restoring public confidence in the electoral and legislative processes;
4. Increasing meaningful citizen participation; and
5. Providing the public with useful and timely disclosure of campaign finances.

To participate, candidates must agree to abide by certain requirements, including contribution and expenditure limits and mandatory financial disclosure. This Guide describes those requirements and strives to make the Program understandable and accessible to all candidates, campaign staff, and the public.

F. Candidate Services Unit

The Commission's Candidate Services Unit assists candidates, treasurers and campaign staff in understanding and complying with Program rules and requirements. Each campaign is assigned an elections officer from the Candidate Services Unit to answer questions, listen to suggestions and provide support with all aspects of the Program. The elections officers are part of the campaign finance compliance team, and work with compliance attorneys, disclosure staff, and information technology staff.



Important Note: Every campaign will be assigned an elections officer. The assigned elections officer should *always* be the **first point of contact** for candidates, treasurers and campaign staff with questions about the Program. The Candidate Services team may be reached at 860-256-2985 or public.finance@ct.gov.

G. Electronic Campaign Reporting Information System (eCRIS)

An essential goal of Connecticut's landmark campaign finance reform legislation is to increase transparency in the financing of political campaigns. To accomplish this goal, the Commission implemented and maintains an Electronic Campaign Reporting Information System ("eCRIS") for statewide office and General Assembly candidates, judge of probate candidates, party committees, and political committees that are required to file with the Commission.

eCRIS allows candidates, treasurers, and deputy treasurers to electronically submit committee registration information and campaign finance statements detailing the receipts and expenditures of the committee.

Committees may electronically file their original and any amended registration statements through eCRIS and are encouraged to do so. A video on how to electronically register may be found [here](#).

All candidate committees and exploratory committees of candidates running for statewide office and General Assembly that raise or spend \$1,000 or more are required to file through eCRIS. Moreover, any candidate committee that reaches this threshold must refile through eCRIS any statements that were not previously filed electronically.

[General Statutes § 9-675(b)]

eCRIS users benefit from the following advantages:

- eCRIS is easy to use. The application is built using the familiar web-based interface, which users can relate to, and can be used on both Mac and PC compatible platforms.
- eCRIS is safe and convenient. Users can work on financial reporting at their own pace by entering and saving financial transactions periodically. The information entered and saved in the application is protected and backed up on a daily basis using state-of-the-art backup technologies.
- eCRIS is cost-efficient. The cost associated with postage and printing of the reports is minimized, or in many cases, eliminated.
- Treasurers can amend a committee's previously filed electronic reports quickly and efficiently because eCRIS preserves the original transactions, thus eliminating the need to retype the data.
- eCRIS helps with compliance, by generating the calculations required by law, including aggregates for contributions and expenditures, thereby reducing time and costly mistakes.
- eCRIS is flexible, because treasurers in large campaigns who are using third party campaign management software can upload data into the application by



using eCRIS' upload feature. This prevents users from double entering data into two separate applications.

- eCRIS users can request a private training session with one of our eCRIS mentors. We also now have all of our trainings available in easy-to-digest online video segments.
- eCRIS users have access to custom reports which can be downloaded in MS Excel or CSV formats listing all the contributors, contributions and expenditures. For example, the list of all the contributors can be used at the end of the campaign to send thank you notes.
- eCRIS users can choose to have a single login which provides access to all the committees the user is associated with.
- eCRIS is open for business twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The users can access financial reporting data and submit financial reports to the State at any time.
- Treasurers who are not computer-savvy or prefer to delegate data entry tasks may assign the data entry function to another individual and review the report for accuracy and for errors before filing.
- Drafts of disclosure statements can be created and continually updated during each reporting period, and are not visible to anyone else until the final disclosure statement is submitted to the State during the filing period.

If you are currently serving as a candidate, treasurer, deputy treasurer, or data entry operator of a candidate committee, go to the [Commission's website](#) to set up an eCRIS user ID and to learn more about the [eCRIS system](#).

Important Note: Our eCRIS helpdesk is always available to help you with your technical questions, both during business hours and after hours as well. To contact eCRIS support, please leave a message at 860-256-2930 or send an email with your question to seec.eCRIS.info@ct.gov, and you will receive a prompt response.

Please be sure that your message contains your name, the committee that you are calling about, your role with that committee, a phone number where you can be reached, and a brief description of your question or issue.

The information you provide will assist our eCRIS staff in preparing a response before returning your call so that we can assist you more efficiently. Your call will be returned in the order in which it was received, and every effort will be made to return your call within one hour if it is received during regular business hours.



II. GETTING STARTED

A. Before Joining the Program

Before deciding to join the Citizens' Election Program, a candidate must consider several important factors. Joining the voluntary Program requires that candidates and treasurers abide by restrictions on fundraising and spending. It also requires comprehensive and detailed recordkeeping and financial disclosures. By freeing candidates from reliance on special interests, however, participation in the Program allows candidates to rely on small-dollar donations and compete for elective office using citizen-owned democracy. *Regardless of whether or not a candidate joins, the Program requires all candidates for statewide office or General Assembly to adhere to certain requirements involving the timely disclosure of contributions and expenditures.* These requirements are highlighted in this Guide.

Candidates and campaign treasurers should become familiar with the rules and requirements of the Program by reviewing this Guide and the law, including the statutes, regulations, declaratory rulings, and advisory opinions relating to the Program. See the Program's website for more information, <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>.

Candidates should exercise care in selecting a treasurer, deputy treasurer, and campaign staff who are capable and prepared to undertake the effort to understand and comply with Program requirements. The candidate as well as the treasurer and/or deputy treasurer are legally responsible for Program compliance. To this end, it should be noted that candidates are permitted to pay treasurers for the responsibilities that they take on and they are encouraged to do so in order to ensure that they have experienced and capable assistance.

Candidates who intend to participate in the Program first must complete several steps, which are discussed in greater detail throughout this Guide:

- Register a candidate committee with the Commission;
- Obtain a federal employer identification number (EIN) from the IRS; and
- File an Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits.

B. Who is a Candidate?

A candidate is an individual who seeks nomination or election to public office, even if that effort proves unsuccessful. An individual becomes a candidate if they personally, or through another person:

1. Has solicited or received contributions, or made expenditures, including expenditures from personal funds, for the purpose of bringing about their nomination or election to any office (this means that an individual may become a "candidate" even if they never obtain ballot access);



Important Note: Individuals may, however, solicit or receive contributions on behalf of a party committee or give a party committee consent to make expenditures on their behalf without triggering the need to register as a candidate. General Statutes § 9-601(11). This is a limited exception, only applicable to their involvement with a party committee (i.e., a town committee or a state central committee).

2. Has been endorsed or nominated by a political party and is thus entitled to a position on the ballot at an election or primary (whether or not funds or resources have been solicited, received or expended);
3. Is otherwise qualified for the ballot pursuant to the election laws (i.e., petitioning candidates); or
4. Registers with the Commission as a candidate (whether or not funds or resources have been solicited, received or spent).

All candidates are required to register with the Commission no later than ten days after becoming a candidate. They can also register at any time regardless of whether any of these triggers have occurred.

Individuals looking to run for a General Assembly seat in a **special election** should review our [special election FAQs](#) on when they can register.

Important Note: For individuals who become candidates by virtue of being endorsed by a party, it is the date of receipt by the proper authority (i.e., the Secretary of the State's Office) of the endorsement paperwork that marks the beginning of the ten-day time period in which the candidate must file their registration. See [File No. 2015-181](#).

As discussed more fully below, candidates who intend to participate in the Program register by: (1) filing [SEEC Form 1 and 1A](#) to form a candidate committee, or (2) if applicable, filing [SEEC Form 4](#) to form an exploratory committee.

At registration, a candidate forming a committee must appoint a treasurer, and should also appoint a deputy treasurer. After that, the candidate must work closely with his treasurer and deputy treasurer to ensure that all contributions and expenditures are properly reported, including expenditures made by the candidate herself.

Important Note: Failure to file [SEEC Form 1](#) within ten days of becoming a candidate will result in the imposition of a mandatory \$100 late filing fee by the Commission. This fee may not be paid with committee funds. Additional sanctions may be imposed if the failure to register is not timely remedied.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601(11), 9-604 (a) and (b), 9-623(b)]

C. What is an Exploratory Committee?

An *exploratory committee* is a committee formed by a candidate who has not yet decided whether or not to seek a particular public office, so that they can “test the waters.” An exploratory committee must be tied to a specific election and only one exploratory committee may be formed per election cycle.

An exploratory committee established for a particular election may only be used for that specific election. This means that if a special election is announced, a candidate



who has formed an exploratory committee for the November regular election cannot use any funds raised by such exploratory committee for the special election.

Important Note: A candidate considering participating in the Program may begin collecting and properly documenting qualifying contributions during the exploratory committee stage, and expenditures made by the exploratory committee for mailings or websites that solicit such contributions are permissible. For more information, see [Raising Qualifying Contributions in Exploratory Committee in Chapter III](#).

A candidate registers an exploratory committee by filing a [SEEC Form 4](#) (entitled "Exploratory Committee Registration") with the Commission. The registration statement must designate the name and address of the committee treasurer, deputy treasurer (if any), the depository institution of the committee's checking account, and the date of the election. The [SEEC Form 4](#) may be submitted online, via eCRIS, by any candidate and treasurer who have obtained eCRIS user IDs.

The purpose of an exploratory committee is to allow a candidate to raise and spend funds in order to determine whether they would have a viable candidacy. Under Connecticut law, the legitimate activity of an exploratory committee includes promoting one's nomination to the ballot. Once the candidate has actually decided to pursue nomination or election to a particular office, the underlying purpose of their activities is no longer exploration, and therefore the candidate must terminate their exploratory committee and form a candidate committee.

Several events trigger the dissolution of an exploratory committee:

- The candidate makes a "public declaration" of their intent to seek nomination or election to a particular public office;
- The candidate receives a party endorsement for a particular public office at a convention, caucus or town committee meeting;
- The candidate files candidacy for nomination under Section 9-400 or 9-405 of the General Statutes (forcing a party primary); or
- The candidate decides, before any triggering event mentioned above, to terminate the exploratory committee and form a candidate committee for a particular public office in the same election cycle.

For further information regarding what constitutes a "public declaration," see [Declaratory Ruling 2009-01: "Public Declarations by Candidates in Exploratory Committee"](#).

It is particularly important for candidates who intend to participate in the Program to be aware of the triggering events. A candidate who remains in an exploratory committee after triggering the need to dissolve and form a candidate committee runs the two-fold risk of (1) violating the statutory requirements to timely dissolve the exploratory committee, and (2) making expenditures attributable to a candidate committee. If such expenditures deemed attributable to the candidate committee exceed the applicable expenditure limits for the Citizens' Election Program, a candidate could be ineligible for a grant. A candidate who chooses to participate in the voluntary Program agrees to abide by expenditure limits for their candidate committee.



When an exploratory committee is dissolved and a candidate committee is formed, any surplus or deficit of the candidate's exploratory committee transfers to that candidate's candidate committee. Such surplus and deficit can have a significant impact on a candidate's ability to participate in the Program. Moreover, expenditures made in the exploratory committee that fall outside the parameters of such committee's purpose of "testing the waters" and deciding whether to run, as opposed to actually running for election, are attributed to the candidate committee, and similarly impact the candidate's ability to participate in the Program.

Important Note: The candidate and treasurer should be aware that the treatment of surplus or deficits at this stage may have an effect on their ability to qualify for Program grants.

For more information on how to dissolve the exploratory committee, please see [Chapter X. Termination of the Committee](#) and the [Exploratory Dissolution/Candidate Committee Formation checklist](#), available on the Commission's website.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601 (5), 9-604(c), 9-608(f); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-02](#); [Declaratory Ruling 2009-01](#)]

D. What is a Candidate Committee?

A candidate committee means any committee designated by a single candidate, or established with the consent, authorization or cooperation of a candidate. The purpose of a candidate committee is to aid and promote the individual's candidacy for a particular public office. Once a candidate establishes a candidate committee for a particular office, that committee may only be used to support that candidate's campaign for that office.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601 (4), 9-604(a) and (c)]

A candidate registers a candidate committee by filing a form entitled [SEEC Form 1](#), "Registration by Candidate," and [SEEC Form 1A](#), "Candidate Committee Registration" with the Commission. Candidate committee registration includes the following information:

1. The name of the committee;
2. The name, address, telephone number, email address, and party affiliation of the candidate;
3. The name, address, telephone number, and email address of the committee's treasurer and deputy treasurer, if a deputy treasurer is appointed;
4. The name and address of the depository institution in Connecticut in which a single checking account is established for the committee's funds – if the candidate had an exploratory committee, the checking account associated with the candidate committee must be a **new** checking account with a unique account number;
5. Identification of the office being sought by the candidate and the date of the applicable election; *and*
6. Signed and dated certifications by the candidate, treasurer, and deputy treasurer (*if appointed*).



Important Note: A candidate is only required to list the name of his committee's depository institution on his registration statement (and is not required to disclose its account number). This means that they may register their candidate committee before the campaign treasurer opens an actual bank account. Only the treasurer and deputy treasurer (if applicable) may be signatories on the committee's campaign depository account. **The candidate should not be authorized as a signatory.**

[General Statutes §§ 9-602(a), 9-603(a), 9-604(a), 9-607, 9-616]

A candidate is prohibited from having more than one candidate committee registered as the funding vehicle for the campaign. A candidate who has registered a candidate committee may *not* establish, authorize or assist in the establishment of any other committee to promote the candidate's campaign.

Important Note: Candidates with personal political committees or control of other committees must exercise care to ensure that they stay within the rules of the Program.

Consistent with this prohibition, the chairperson of a political committee formed solely to support a single candidate is required to notify the candidate of the formation of the political committee by certified mail not later than seven days after the political committee is established. If the candidate does not disavow the political committee in writing to their filing repository (the State Elections Enforcement Commission, in the case of a statewide office or General Assembly candidate) within fourteen days after receiving such notification, or if the candidate disavows the committee but accepts any funds from the political committee before the disavowal, the political committee is automatically deemed to be the candidate's candidate committee. A violation of this prohibition against having two simultaneously existing committees is considered an extremely serious violation of the election laws.

[General Statutes § 9-604(a) and (c)]

Important Note: An **exploratory committee** may be formed by a potential candidate who wishes to "test the waters." This means that an exploratory committee is permitted where a candidate would like to run for public office, but is not sure which of several offices to run for (e.g., a candidate would like to run for office but is not sure whether to pursue the office of state representative or state senator), or is not sure whether they would be a viable candidate and wishes to explore their viability (e.g., they would run for state senator but are not sure if they would be a viable candidate and wishes to raise and spend a little money on activities, such as polls, so that they can make their ultimate decision on whether to pursue this office).

A **candidate committee** is the proper funding committee for a candidate who is not testing the waters, but who would like to raise and spend funds for the purpose of pursuing nomination or election to a specific office (e.g., a candidate who is certain that they would like to run for state senator and who wishes to raise and spend funds for that purpose).

Please consult Commission staff with any questions on this topic.



E. When and How to Amend a Registration Statement

Any additions or revisions to a registration statement (i.e. a change in treasurer) must be made in writing (original must be submitted to the Commission's office by mail or hand delivery) or electronically submitted (both the candidate and the treasurer and deputy treasurer, if applicable, must have eCRIS accounts) to the Commission by the candidate within ten days of the addition or revision. Completion of an amended [SEEC Form 1 and SEEC Form 1A](#) (if applicable) is required with any changed information. **Use of eCRIS expedites this process and ensures compliance.**

[General Statutes § 9-604 (b)]

F. Appointment of Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer

Each committee must appoint one treasurer and may also appoint a deputy treasurer. A treasurer or deputy treasurer is an individual who is a registered voter (elector) in Connecticut who is appointed by the candidate to serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer for the campaign. The treasurer and deputy treasurer, if applicable, are the only individuals who hold the authority to approve the deposit of funds into the committee's depository account and the only ones who can authorize expenditures from that account and file the committee's financial disclosure reports.

While appointing a deputy treasurer is optional, failure to do so may result in the committee's financial activities halting if, for example, the treasurer resigns. Deputy treasurers allow for seamless transitions in such instances. For more information, see [Chapter VIII. Treasurer's Responsibilities and Recordkeeping](#).

Important Note: There may be only one deputy treasurer appointed at a time. Since only an appointed deputy treasurer can authorize or make expenditures and approve the deposit of funds if the treasurer is unavailable, it is **strongly recommended** that all candidates appoint a deputy treasurer.

The treasurer and deputy treasurer (if applicable) must be registered voters in Connecticut. The following restrictions apply to individuals wishing to serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer of a statewide office or General Assembly candidate or exploratory committee:

- A candidate cannot serve as their committee's treasurer or deputy treasurer.
- State department heads and deputy department heads cannot serve as treasurers or deputy treasurers.
- Practically speaking, communicator lobbyists, their immediate family members (spouse and dependent children), and their agents may not serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer of a committee that is engaged in fundraising because they are prohibited from bundling contributions (forwarding five or more contributions) for a statewide office or General Assembly exploratory or candidate committee.
- Practically speaking, a member of the Investment Advisory Council may not act as treasurer or deputy treasurer for an exploratory or candidate committee for State Treasurer since they are not permitted to solicit contributions for such committees. Also, a principal of an investment services firm that does business



with the State Treasurer may not serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer for an exploratory or candidate committee established by the incumbent State Treasurer during the Treasurer's term of office since they cannot solicit contributions for such an exploratory or candidate committee.

- A person who has not paid civil penalties or forfeitures assessed against him under the campaign finance statutes may not serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer. In addition, a person may not serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer 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 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.

A principal of a state contractor may be designated as treasurer or deputy treasurer of a statewide office or General Assembly candidate's committee, subject to the state contractor contribution provisions and the narrowed solicitation provisions. If you are a candidate who wishes to designate a principal of a state contractor as your committee's treasurer or deputy treasurer, or you are a principal of a state contractor who would like to serve as treasurer or deputy treasurer, please see the section, "Limitations on Who May Solicit Contributions," in [Chapter III. Qualifying Contributions](#).

Important Note: It is a permissible committee expenditure to compensate treasurers and deputy treasurers for services provided to the campaign, and such compensation may be paid using CEP grant funds.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(d), 9-610(h), 9-612(f)(2)(A) and (B), 9-622(11)]

G. Resignation and Replacement of the Treasurer

A treasurer may resign, be replaced, or otherwise become incapacitated. If a treasurer wishes to resign, they must submit a written statement of resignation with the Commission in order to be relieved from his statutory obligations going forward. Any treasurer may submit a resignation by email at SEEC@ct.gov. If a candidate submits an amended registration statement appointing a new treasurer, signed by both the candidate and the new treasurer, the prior treasurer is also relieved of his duties even if they have not submitted a statement of resignation.

Upon a treasurer's resignation or permanent incapacity, the deputy treasurer, if any, automatically succeeds as treasurer until a new treasurer has been appointed. Where no deputy treasurer has been appointed, the failure to designate a successor treasurer within ten days of the resignation or incapacity is a violation of General Statutes § 9-602(c), for which a fine may be imposed against the candidate.

A committee may not deposit any contributions or make or incur any expenditures during a period in which the committee is without a treasurer or deputy treasurer. A



candidate is liable for any such violation and subject to a civil penalty of up to \$2,000 per each violation.

[General Statutes §§ 9-7b, 9-602(c), 9-607(a) and (d)]

H. Designation of a Depository Institution for Committee Funds

The name and address of a single depository institution located in Connecticut must be designated on the committee's registration statement. All committee funds must be deposited **into a single checking account** established within the designated depository and all expenditures may be made only by the treasurer or deputy treasurer, if applicable, from this one account. The treasurer and deputy treasurer, if applicable, should both be signatories on the checking account. Although a candidate may not move money in and out of the account, a candidate may also wish to be a signatory in the event there is a change in treasurer, and the candidate needs to be able to move access to the new treasurer. Note that the depository account number is not required on the registration statement, so candidates may register their committees before they have physically opened up an account.

The deposit to open the account may come from a qualifying contribution or contributions. **If the candidate provides the initial deposit to open the account, that is considered the provision of personal funds (which are limited under Program rules), since a candidate cannot make a qualifying contribution to his own committee. Initial deposits are not refundable to the candidate.**

[General Statutes §§ 9-602(a), 9-607(e); [Advisory Opinion 1975-6](#)]

I. Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) Requirement

In order to receive a Program grant, a treasurer must complete an Electronic Funds Transfer Form ([SEEC Form CEP 12](#)) and open a candidate committee bank account utilizing an *EIN* for the committee provided by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Important Note: For returning candidates, the Commission strongly recommends that candidates change their committee's name (Smith 2026 rather than reusing Smith for the 2nd) **and obtain a new EIN**, which is an easy process that can be done online, as described below. Treasurers and campaign staff have an easier time keeping track of documentation for each campaign cycle when the committee names are different and it is much easier for the State's financial processing systems to issue payments to campaigns when they have different names and EINs for each cycle.

Once a committee registers with the SEEC, it cannot change its name so if a candidate is considering reusing an old committee name, please be sure the committee still retains all of the documentation that banks will require for the old EIN number **before** registering with that name. Do note that the committees may never use the same bank account. While they may use the same banking institution, each committee is required to have its own unique bank account.

Treasurers may obtain an EIN online through the IRS's website by following the link to [Apply for an EIN Online](#). That page contains a link to a secure site called "EIN Assistant," which helps users through a brief online application process, after which their EIN



number will become available immediately. The IRS's [EIN webpage](#) contains more information about EINs, including some frequently asked questions.

The IRS also accepts EIN applications via telephone (800-829-4933), facsimile, or mail. Please see the IRS EIN webpage "[How to Apply for an EIN](#)" for information and instructions.

Important Note: There may be additional IRS requirements regarding an Employer Identification Number and the necessity to make filings regarding the committee's taxable income. Any questions about these IRS filing requirements should be directed to the toll-free telephone number 800-829-4933. Additionally, information is available at the following IRS websites: www.irs.gov or www.irs.gov/eo. Commission staff cannot provide information about these rules or requirements.

J. Joining the Program: Affidavits of Intent

Candidates who elect to participate in the Program ("participating candidates") must complete the *Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Program Requirements* ([SEEC Form CEP 10](#)). Candidates who elect *not* to participate in the Program ("nonparticipating candidates") must complete the *Affidavit of Intent Not to Abide by Expenditure Limits* ([SEEC Form CEP 11](#)). The deadline to file one of these forms ([SEEC Form CEP 10](#) or [SEEC Form CEP 11](#)) is no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 25th day before the day of a primary, if applicable, or 4:00 p.m. on the 40th day before the day of the election for such office.

Election Cycle	Filing Deadline for Affidavit
Primary	July 17, 2026 4:00 PM
General Election	September 24, 2026 4:00 PM

Important Note: The deadline to opt in or out of the Program depends on whether or not a particular candidate is in a primary. A candidate in a primary who does not join the Program by the primary deadline (no later than 25 days before the primary) **cannot** later join the Program for the general election because the deadline to join the Program for candidates in a primary has passed. Candidates who are in an exploratory committee should *not* file an Affidavit of Intent until they dissolve the exploratory committee, even if raising qualifying contributions in the exploratory committee. Candidates who have filed a Certification of Exemption from Forming a Candidate Committee ([SEEC Form 1/1B](#)) are not required to file either affidavit, and are considered nonparticipating candidates.

The [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) or [SEEC Form CEP 11](#) must be signed under oath, filed in its original form with an actual ink signature – it cannot be filed electronically.



CAUTION: The Commission strongly recommends that you wait to submit your [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) until after your nominating convention or the official notice that you have achieved ballot access. Candidates must declare their party status on the [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) and a candidate who changes their party status or becomes a candidate for a different party or a petitioning candidate after filing this form will **not** be eligible to apply for a Program grant. For example, if you submit your [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) indicating Democrat as your party status but then do not prevail at the Democratic convention, you will not be able to participate in the public financing program should the Independent, Green, Working Families or another party endorse you or if you decide to petition on to the general election ballot.

If you wait until **after** you absolutely know how you are getting on the ballot to submit your [SEEC Form CEP 10](#), you will be able to participate in the Program under whichever party designation has gotten you onto the ballot. Prior to submitting the [SEEC Form CEP 10](#), you should still fundraise consistent with CEP regulations and you can tell your voters, campaign team, and the media that you are participating in the Program.

Please also note that a candidate petitioning to force a major party primary is considered a major party candidate, not a petitioning candidate. Petitioning candidates are candidates who have petitioned onto the general election ballot.

[General Statutes §§ 9-703(a), 9-706(a)(4)]

K. Withdrawal from the Program

Prior to submitting a grant application, a candidate who has filed an Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits may revoke that affidavit and withdraw from the Program by filing with the Commission an affidavit certifying their withdrawal from the Program ([SEEC Form CEP 13 \(Affidavit of Withdrawal\)](#)).

After submitting a grant application, a candidate may *not* withdraw while the grant application is pending before the Commission. However, if the Commission rejects the application, the candidate may ask the Commission to allow the candidate to withdraw from the Program by filing a [SEEC Form CEP 13](#). If the Commission approves this request to withdraw, the candidate will be deemed a nonparticipating candidate.

Important Note: A candidate who files an affidavit certifying their withdrawal from the Program ([SEEC Form CEP 13](#)) must comply with all Program requirements, including expenditure limits, until the Commission reviews the withdrawal affidavit and deems the candidate to be a nonparticipating candidate.

[General Statutes § 9-703 (c); [Advisory Opinion 2010-01](#)]

L. Spending Limits

Spending limits are an important aspect of the Program and are separated into discrete periods of an election cycle:

1. The period before a primary campaign and general election campaign (the pre-primary/pre-general election period).
2. The primary campaign period (if applicable); and
3. The general election campaign period.



Expenditures by a candidate committee during the pre-primary/pre-general election period are limited to the required amount of qualifying contributions, plus any allowable personal funds the candidate provides to the candidate committee. Participating candidates, or those who intend to participate, must be careful to avoid exceeding the pre-primary/pre-general election expenditure limit by making or obligating themselves to make an expenditure that results in their aggregate spending total exceeding the pre-primary/pre-general election period spending limit. Excess spending by participating candidates will disqualify them from receiving Program grants.

Important Note: For gubernatorial candidates that receive a convention campaign grant, their expenditures during the convention campaign period are limited to the required amount of qualifying contributions, plus any allowable personal funds and the grant amount received.

The expenditure limit during the primary campaign period and the general election campaign period is calculated by adding the amount of grant eligible to be awarded, *and* any unspent qualifying contributions or unspent personal funds that had been provided by the candidate.

See [Chapter VI. Campaign Expenditures](#) for further information on spending limits, including charts on the applicable limit based on period and office sought.

[General Statutes §§ 9-372, 9-700, 9-702, 9-705, 9-710, 9-711; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-702-1]

For candidates starting in an exploratory committee, the Program's expenditure limits attach when the candidate declares their intent to seek a particular public office, or when the candidate files a notice of intent to dissolve the exploratory committee, whichever is earlier. At the time of dissolution, any deficit is transferred to the candidate committee from the exploratory committee. If the deficit transferred to the candidate committee exceeds the Program's applicable expenditure limits, the candidate will be unable to join the Program. See the Qualifying Contributions section of this Guide for more information on the relationship between exploratory committees and candidate committees.

[General Statutes §§ 9-608(f), 9-702(c), 9-705, 9-710, 9-711; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-02](#)]

M. Electronic Funds Transfer

After the Commission has approved a grant application, Program grants are issued via the State's electronic funds transfer system. Candidates wishing to participate in the Program must therefore fill out and file an Electronic Funds Transfer Form ([SEEC Form CEP 12](#)) with the Commission before submitting a grant application.

The information provided in the [SEEC Form CEP 12](#) is entered into the state accounting system (CORE-CT). Before any grant amount may be sent to the committee's account, a test transaction (known as the "penny test") must be conducted to confirm the accuracy of the candidate committee's account information. This simply means that a random amount of between one cent and ten cents will be deposited into the candidate committee's account to confirm that the account information was accurately entered into CORE-CT. The committee's assigned elections officer will then instruct the treasurer how to confirm the test amount received. This transaction must be



reported as a receipt in Section I of [SEEC Form 30](#), "Miscellaneous Monetary Receipts Not Considered Contributions."

[General Statutes § 9-706(d)]

Important Note: It is *strongly* recommended that all committees file their [SEEC Form CEP 12](#) shortly after they register a candidate committee and, in any case well before submitting a grant application. If the candidate waits and files his [SEEC Form CEP 12](#) at the same time as his grant application, there is a strong possibility that the initial grant payment will be delayed. Committees do NOT have to have a filed a [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) in order to file a [SEEC Form CEP 12](#).

N. Personal Funds

The Program permits candidates intending to participate to provide a limited amount of personal funds to their candidate committees **only before** applying for a grant. **Any allowable personal funds provided will reduce the grant by a corresponding amount.** The maximum allowable amount of personal funds depends on the office being sought. Non-reimbursed expenditures by the candidate are also considered personal funds and count against the candidate's personal funds limit.

Office Sought	Maximum Allowable Personal Funds
Governor	\$20,000
Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney General	\$10,000
State Senator	\$2,000
State Representative	\$1,000

There is a difference between a candidate's provision of personal funds, for which the candidate does not seek reimbursement (which counts towards the candidate's personal funds limit), and expenses paid by the candidate for which they seek reimbursement (which do not count toward the candidate's personal funds limit, as long as the reimbursement is completed within a reasonable time; the Commission has found that reimbursement within 45 days of the date the expenditure was made or incurred is generally a reasonable amount of time).

Important Note: If the candidate deposits any money into the bank account, including seed money to his campaign to open the bank account (e.g., if the bank requires the treasurer to deposit funds to create the committee's account and the candidate provides those funds to the treasurer for this initial deposit), they *cannot* be reimbursed for this expenditure and it must be counted as personal funds.



It is the responsibility of the candidate to timely inform their treasurer when they make or obligate to make an expenditure, and whether or not such expenditure is being made from personal funds or with an expectation of reimbursement.

Important Note: A candidate who provides more than the maximum allowable amount of personal funds to his candidate committee will not be in compliance with Program requirements and consequently will not be eligible to receive public funds. In addition, such personal funds may not be provided as a loan to the candidate committee. Expenditures made by the candidate for which the candidate is not seeking reimbursement will be included in the tally of personal funds provided.

A candidate's personal funds provided to the committee do not constitute qualifying contributions.

[General Statutes §§ 9-705(i)(1), 9-710; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-01](#)]

O. Reusing Campaign Materials from a Previous Campaign

1. Lawn Signs

A candidate may reuse lawn signs over which they have maintained control and custody from a prior election year. Such use of lawn signs must be reported and will affect the committee's grant amount if the number of signs exceeds a certain trigger amount:

- If a participating candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer or Attorney General has control and custody over 500 or more lawn signs that they are reusing, the treasurer must report use of the signs and their committee's grant will be reduced by \$2,500.
- If a participating state senate candidate has control and custody over 100 or more lawn signs that they are reusing, the treasurer must report use of the signs and his committee's grant will be reduced by \$500.
- If a participating state representative candidate has control and custody over 50 or more lawn signs that they are reusing, the treasurer must report use of the signs and their committee's grant will be reduced by \$250.

If the candidate provides old lawn signs in excess of the trigger amount to the committee *before* applying for a grant, the committee must report the provision of these signs in Section O, "Campaign Expenses Paid by the Candidate," of the Itemized Financial Disclosure Statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)), indicating the date the candidate provided the signs to the campaign as the date of payment, that reimbursement was not sought, the number of lawn signs provided in the description field, and \$2,500, or \$500 or \$250 as the amount.

The candidate may also provide old lawn signs to his candidate committee *after* the committee receives a grant. In this instance, if the number reused is 500 or more for a statewide office candidate or 100 or more for a state senate candidate or 50 or more for a state representative candidate, the campaign treasurer must write a check for \$2,500, \$500 or \$250, respectively, to the Citizens' Election Fund ("CEF"). This expense is reported in Section N, "Expenses Paid by Committee," of the [SEEC Form 30](#), with CEF as



the payee and CEF as the code, along with the number of lawn signs provided in the description field.

If the candidate provides *less than* the above listed thresholds (less than 500 for a statewide office candidate, less than 100 for a state senate candidate or less than 50 for a state representative candidate), then the candidate committee's grant will not be affected and there are no reporting requirements.

[General Statutes § 9-705(i)(5); [Advisory Opinion 2008-02](#)]

Important note: Individuals may display old lawn signs on their residential property for which they maintained control and custody over from a prior election, provided the value of those lawn signs does not exceed \$100. The old lawn signs are treated as personal property and need not be reported as they fall under de minimis activity.

[General Statutes § 9-601a(b)(18)]

2. Other Prior Assets

Other prior assets, such as banners, stationery, palm cards, thank you notes, buttons, t-shirts, domain names, websites, and other campaign paraphernalia left over from the candidate's prior committee(s) that have little or no value to anyone other than the candidate may be declared as a personal funds provision by the candidate at the time they are given to the campaign. If the candidate chooses to use these other types of prior assets and donates them *before* the committee applies for and receives a grant, the committee should value them and the treasurer must report that value in Section O, "Expenses Paid by Candidate" of the [SEEC Form 30](#), indicating the date the candidate provided the prior asset to the campaign as the date of payment, that reimbursement was not sought, a description of the assets provided in the description field, and the original purchase price as the amount. Unlike lawn signs, there is no minimum threshold for reporting the provision of other prior assets. Thus, the campaign must report such provision of prior assets and they will affect the grant amount, no matter how minimal the value.

If the candidate donates the prior assets *after* the committee receives a grant, the committee will have to write a check out to the CEF for the value of the assets provided. This expense is reported in Section N, "Expenses Paid by Committee," of the [SEEC Form 30](#), with CEF as the payee and CEF as the code, along with a brief description of the prior assets provided.

Most prior assets, such as stationery, palm cards, and campaign paraphernalia, should be valued at their original purchase price as the value of these leftover assets generally remain unchanged. With respect to reuse of a campaign website, treasurers should determine a reasonable proportionate share of the original cost paid for the website development, which can be based on a number of factors, including but not limited to: the amount originally paid for the development of the website; the extent to which text, photographs, video or audio clips used during the previous campaign were replaced or kept for the new campaign; whether there was a cost for the templates used for the structure of the website; and the extent to which logos or themes developed and paid for by the previous campaign were carried forward and used.



Example: State Representative candidate X's committee purchased 500 palm cards saying "Vote for X" at a cost of \$.50 each for their previous campaign. Candidate X is now participating in the Program and running for reelection as a state representative. X would like to reuse 300 of the cards. The value of those 300 cards counts as the provision of \$150 in personal funds.

Value of cards used (300 x \$.50) = \$150

Allowable amount of personal funds less value of cards used = remaining allowable personal funds (\$1,000 - \$150 = \$850)

[General Statutes § 9-705; [Advisory Opinion 2008-02](#); [File No. 2020-61](#)]

P. Using Exploratory Committee Goods and Services in Candidate Committee

The treasurer of a candidate who started with an exploratory committee and who forms a candidate committee must submit an [exploratory "carry forward" form](#) to the Commission when filing the exploratory committee termination statement, describing the item(s) or service(s) and detailing the value of anything being carried forward from the exploratory committee to the candidate committee. The [carry forward form](#) must include a description and value of any goods or services purchased or prepaid by the exploratory committee that the candidate committee will be using. This informational communication should be submitted by all such committees, even if the committee does **not** plan to carry forward any goods or services from the exploratory committee to the candidate committee (in that instance, the letter would explain that no goods or services are being carried forward).

For more information about dissolving an exploratory committee, please see [Chapter X. Termination of the Committee](#) or the [Exploratory Dissolution/Candidate Committee Formation checklist](#) available on the Commission's [website](#).

Q. Loans to the Candidate Committee

Candidates intending to participate in the Program may only take out a loan or loans totaling \$1,000 or less from a financial institution or institutions. Such borrowed funds do not constitute qualifying contributions.

The term "financial institution" includes a bank, a Connecticut credit union, a federal credit union, an out-of-state bank that maintains a branch in this state and an out-of-state credit union that maintains an office in this state.

No person, political committee, or party committee can endorse or guarantee a loan or aggregate loans exceeding \$500, except that the candidate, or, in a general election, a state central party committee, may endorse or guarantee loans from financial institutions up to \$1,000.

A participating candidate must repay all outstanding loans before applying for a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund.



CAUTION: A candidate intending to participate in the Program whose candidate committee accepts a loan, *in any amount*, from an individual (including the candidate), a political committee, a corporation, or *any source other than a financial institution* will not be in compliance with Program requirements, and consequently will not be eligible to receive a Program grant.

A candidate intending to participate in the Program whose candidate committee accepts a loan or loans *from a financial institution or institutions exceeding \$1,000 in the aggregate* will also not be in compliance with Program requirements, and consequently will not be eligible to receive public funds.

[General Statutes § 9-710; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-01](#)]



III. QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTIONS

To qualify for public financing, candidates must demonstrate they have adequate support from the public. Candidates accomplish this by meeting a three-part “threshold,” except as noted below:

1. Candidates must raise an *aggregate amount* of small-dollar monetary contributions between \$5 and \$340 from individuals (“qualifying contributions”);
2. General Assembly candidates must receive such contributions from a certain number of individuals residing in the district (“in-district contributions”) where the candidate seeks nomination or election. The threshold number of such individual contributors varies based on the office sought. Statewide office candidates must receive a minimum amount of such qualifying contributions from in-state residents based on the office sought; **and**
3. Candidates applying for a primary or general election grant must obtain access to the ballot. The method by which a candidate obtains ballot access is a factor in determining the candidate’s level of public support and, thus, the amount of grant that a qualified candidate committee is eligible to receive. Ballot access may be supplemented by signatures or previous votes for unaffiliated and minor party candidates. Also, ballot access is not required to apply for a gubernatorial convention campaign grant.

This chapter discusses each of the requirements for obtaining qualifying contributions to become eligible to receive a public grant, as well as fundraising for your campaign.

A. Two Components of Qualifying Contributions

Statewide office and General Assembly candidates who wish to participate in the Program must demonstrate that they have substantial public support by raising small-dollar contributions subject to the following:

1. An aggregate amount of money which must be raised; **and**
2. A minimum number of monetary contributions from individuals who reside “in-district,” or, for statewide office candidates, a minimum amount from individuals who reside in the state (see charts later in this section).

[General Statutes § 9-704(a) and (c)]

Participating candidates who win a primary and proceed to the general election as the party nominee need only raise the qualifying threshold once.

[General Statutes § 9-708]

1. General Assembly Candidates: “In-District” Defined

Participating candidates for General Assembly must receive a minimum number of monetary contributions from individuals (including sole proprietorships) who reside within municipalities located, in whole or in part, in the district for which the candidate seeks legislative office. This means that even if only a small section of a particular town is in the district, candidates may still obtain “in-district” qualifying contributions from an individual residing anywhere in that town. Participating General Assembly candidates

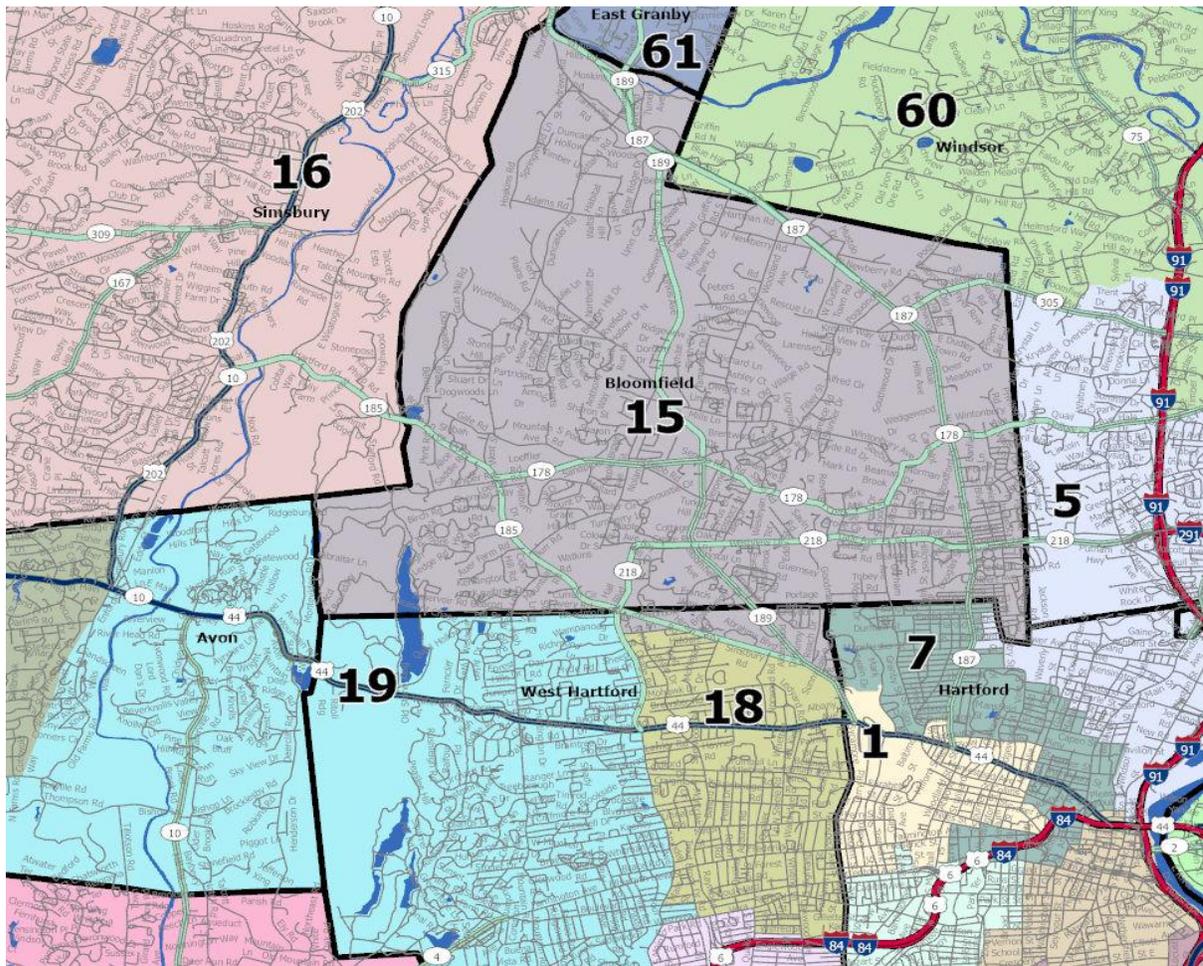


may receive qualifying contributions of between \$5 and \$340, in the aggregate, from an “in-district” contributor.

Important Note: Pursuant to General Statutes § 9-704, the maximum qualifying contribution limit of \$250 is adjusted according to the Consumer Price Index (“CPI”), rounded to the nearest \$10 increment. **For 2026, the maximum qualifying contribution limit is \$340.**

[General Statutes § 9-704 (a) and (c); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-04](#)]

Examples: A candidate is running for state representative in the 18th House District. This district is entirely in West Hartford. This candidate can receive in-district contributions from any resident in West Hartford even if they don't live in the 18th district. Another candidate is running for the 15th House District. The 15th district includes Bloomfield and part of West Hartford. This candidate can receive in-district contributions from residents in all of Bloomfield and all of West Hartford, even if they don't live in the 15th district.





Participating candidates for statewide office must receive a minimum amount of monetary contributions from individual human beings, including sole proprietorships, who reside in the state of Connecticut. Participating candidates may receive qualifying contributions of \$5 up to \$340, in the aggregate, from an “in-state” contributor.

[\[Declaratory Ruling 2007-04\]](#)

3. Required Aggregate Dollar Amounts

The following tables summarize the required threshold amounts of qualifying contributions for statewide office and General Assembly candidates in a regular election, as adjusted by the consumer price index in December 2025 for General Assembly and January 2026 for statewide office.

<i>Office Sought in a Regular Election</i>	Aggregate Contribution Requirement—Individuals Only	Minimum Amount of “In-State” Qualifying Contributions	Contribution Limits
Governor	\$335,500	\$302,000	\$5 to \$340
Lieutenant Governor	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340
Secretary of the State	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340
State Comptroller	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340
State Treasurer	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340
Attorney General	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340

<i>Office Sought in a Regular Election</i>	Aggregate Contribution Requirement—Individuals Only	Minimum Individual “In-District” Qualifying Contributions	Contribution Limits
State Senator	\$20,100	300 residents of municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district	\$5 to \$340
State Representative	\$6,700	150 residents of municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district	\$5 to \$340



Important Note: While a single contributor may give multiple qualifying contributions (not to exceed \$340 in the aggregate, as applicable) to a particular participating candidate, which will count toward the aggregate amount threshold -- for purposes of the "in-district" minimum threshold for General Assembly candidates, these multiple contributions from the same individual only count as **a single in-district** qualifying contribution.

[General Statutes § 9-704(a)]

4. General Assembly Candidates: Required Aggregate Dollar Amounts for a Special Election

<i>Office Sought in a Special Election</i>	Aggregate Contribution Requirement—Individuals Only	Minimum Individual "In-District" Qualifying Contributions	Contribution Limits
State Senator	\$15,100	225 residents of municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district	\$5 to \$340
State Representative	\$5,000	113 residents of municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district	\$5 to \$340

B. What Is a Qualifying Contribution?

A qualifying contribution must be from an individual (subject to the prohibitions discussed below) and must be between \$5 and \$340 from each contributor in the aggregate. A qualifying contribution must be monetary and can only be made and received in the following forms: cash (up to \$100), money order (up to \$100), personal check, personal debit card, or personal credit card. Each qualifying contribution must also be adequately documented and disclosed. See **Documentation for Qualifying Contributions**, later in this Chapter, for more information.

Important Note: While the qualifying contribution limit is now \$340 for the remainder of the 2026 cycle, the contribution limit for some types of contributions is lower. For example, cash and money orders remain limited to \$100 in the aggregate, as do lobbyist contributions made outside of the legislative session.

Communicator lobbyists and their immediate families may make qualifying contributions of up to \$100, and only when the legislature is not in session. During the session, communicator lobbyists may not make or solicit qualifying contributions. Because the definition of "solicit" includes participating in fundraising, lobbyists may not attend candidate committee fundraisers during the session. There are also some additional restrictions on the solicitation and bundling activities of communicator lobbyists, as later described in this Guide.

[General Statutes §§ 9-610(g), 9-704; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]



Important Note: The Secretary of the State will provide to any participating candidate an electronic copy of the voter registration list for their applicable district, free of charge. See General Statutes § 9-715. You may contact the Secretary of the State's Legislation and Elections Administration Division at 860-509-6100.

C. Excess (“Buffer”) Qualifying Contributions

Qualifying contributions raised above the required threshold are called “buffer” qualifying contributions. The Commission recommends raising (but not spending) such additional “buffer” contributions because these contributions are useful in the event that some of the candidate’s other contributions are deemed to be non-qualifying during the grant application review. Candidates are encouraged to accept buffers for both (1) the minimum number of “in-district” contributors (for General Assembly candidates) or minimum amount of in-state contributions (for statewide office candidates); and (2) the required aggregate monetary amount of qualifying contributions.

Based on prior elections, committees with less than a 5% buffer when collecting contributions of \$100 or less had lower rates of first-time grant approval. Committees that are collecting donations in amounts above \$100 may need larger buffers, in that making a mistake in the documentation for just four \$250 donations can result in a \$1,000 shortage.

The amount of buffer qualifying contributions raised beyond the qualifying threshold must be transmitted to the Citizens’ Election Fund with the candidate’s grant application. **In other words, candidates are permitted to raise, but not spend, buffer qualifying contributions in their candidate committees in order to facilitate the application process.**

Buffer contributions are reviewed as part of the grant application. Treasurers will now have the option to have non-qualifying buffer contributions returned to the committee so that they may be refunded to the contributor, as discussed further below.

[General Statutes §§ 9-704(d), 9-706(b)(4); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

Example of Buffer Qualifying Contributions: A participating candidate for state senator in a regular election raises \$20,600 in qualifying contributions, which includes 330 qualifying contributions from “in-district” contributors (i.e., \$500 more and 30 “in-district” contributors greater than the threshold the candidate must meet to qualify for a grant). With his grant application, the candidate includes a check for \$500 to the Citizens’ Election Fund for the buffer qualifying contributions.

During the grant application review, one \$100 contribution from an in-district resident and twenty \$10 contributions from in-district residents are deemed non-qualifying because they lack the correct documentation. For purposes of grant qualification, the candidate’s total amount of qualifying contributions is reduced by \$300 for a total of \$20,300 in qualifying contributions and his total number of in-district contributors is reduced by 21 for a total of 309 qualifying contributions from in-district contributors. Because the candidate submitted “buffer” contributions, which were all properly



documented, the Commission was able to count the documentation of those buffer contributions in place of the rejected contributions and his final totals of \$20,300 and 309 "in-district" reach the required thresholds, qualifying him for a grant.

D. How to Calculate the Amount of the Buffer Check

When the committee submits its grant application, it must submit a committee buffer check made out to the Citizens' Election Fund for any funds raised above the qualifying threshold amount (\$335,500 threshold for a candidate for Governor, \$100,700 threshold for a candidate for any other statewide office, \$20,100 threshold for state senate candidates, and \$6,700 threshold for state representative candidates).

The amount of the buffer is calculated by using the following formula:

- **Buffer check to Citizens' Election Fund** = Total individual contributions received **minus** contributions refunded to individual contributors (including any checks from contributors which bounced) **minus** the qualifying contribution threshold amount required as noted in the paragraph above. Total individual contributions are typically determined by the aggregate number which is listed in Column B of the Summary Page Totals on line 14 of the campaign finance disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) accompanying the grant application.

Example: A participating state representative candidate has raised \$7,800 total in Contributions, they refunded \$300, and the qualifying threshold is \$6,700.

$$\$7,800 - \$300 - \$6,700 = \$800$$

The Commission will receive an \$800 buffer check from the campaign.

- Remember that if a committee refunds a contribution, the treasurer must report the refund in Section N of the [SEEC Form 30](#) using the expenditure code "REF" and including in the description field a reference to the contribution ID number that is being refunded. The description should also include information on whether the refund is partial or whole, and if the refund was made through the committee's online contribution platform or by check.
- Remember that if a contribution check written to the committee (and reported in Section B) bounces, the amount of the bounced check should be reported in Section N using the expenditure code "REF" and indicating the contribution ID number assigned by eCRIS in the description field. Any associated bank charges should be reported separately in Section N using the expenditure code "BNK."
- The qualifying threshold number is determined by the office the candidate is seeking.

The buffer check is reported in Section N, "Expenses Paid by Committee," of the [SEEC Form 30](#) accompanying the grant application, using the expenditure code "CEF".



**The treasurer should make his best effort to calculate the amount of the buffer check. If you are unsure of the buffer amount, you should contact the committee's assigned Elections Officer. Candidates who began raising in an exploratory committee are especially encouraged to work with their elections officer as calculating your buffer in this instance can be particularly challenging.

E. What Contributions are Non-Qualifying?

Contributions that either do not meet the criteria for a qualifying contribution and/or come from a prohibited source are deemed *non-qualifying contributions*. The campaign treasurer is responsible for scrutinizing all contributions received before depositing them in the committee's bank account to ensure they meet the criteria for a qualifying contribution.

Contributions deemed non-qualifying by the Commission may be returned to the contributor by the treasurer or donated to a charitable organization which is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

[General Statutes §§ 9-704 (e) as amended by P.A. 25-26, 9-706(b)(4)]

The following are some examples of contributions or receipts which *do not constitute qualifying contributions* either because they do not meet the criteria for qualifying contributions or because they are from a prohibited source.

1. Contributions Lacking the Criteria for a Qualifying Contribution

To reiterate, all qualifying contributions must be permissible contributions from individuals and between \$5 and \$340 in the aggregate. Because the following types of contributions do not meet these criteria, they are non-qualifying.

a. Non-Monetary ("In-Kind") Contributions

An *in-kind contribution* is the donation of goods, services or anything of value given free of charge or at less than the usual charge to the recipient committee. An in-kind contribution is valued at the usual and customary charge less any amount paid by the recipient committee. An in-kind contribution could include the use of real property for a committee headquarters or the use of personal property such as facilities, supplies, equipment and mailing lists.

A discount is also a type of in-kind contribution. A discount is the difference between the usual and customary charge for goods or services and the amount charged to the recipient candidate or committee.

In-kind contributions are not monetary and thus are not qualifying contributions.

Therefore, a candidate who is participating in the Program, or who is intending to participate in the Program, may not accept in-kind contributions from any source.

Important Note: It is important to distinguish in-kind contributions (which are impermissible for participating candidate's candidate committees) from expenditures made by the candidate, committee worker, or volunteer for which reimbursement is sought (which are permissible). If authorized by the campaign treasurer, committee workers may purchase items for the campaign using their own funds and provide



documentation of the purchase (such as a cash register receipt) to the treasurer. To avoid such purchases becoming impermissible in-kind contributions to the committee, the campaign should reimburse the worker for the expenditures within a reasonable time. The Commission has previously concluded that reimbursement within 45 days of the purchase date is a reasonable amount of time.

To avoid accepting in-kind contributions from other committees, a participating candidate's committee may also make reimbursements to certain types of committees, for joint expenditures. For more information on joint expenditures, see [Chapter VI. Campaign Expenditures](#).

Important Note: Participating candidates cannot receive in-kind contributions of any type from any source. However, party committees, legislative caucus committees, and legislative leadership committees may make *organization expenditures* to benefit participating candidates and their committees that do not constitute contributions and therefore do not need to be reimbursed. See [Chapter VII. Expenditures by Outside Sources](#) for more information on organization expenditures.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601a(b)(4) and (16), 9-702; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)(8); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

b. Portions of Contributions Over the Aggregate Limit

As previously mentioned, individuals may only contribute up to \$340 in the aggregate as a qualifying contribution. A contribution over this amount in the aggregate is thus non-qualifying. Therefore, treasurers should return to the contributor any portion of a contribution or contributions that exceeds the \$340 limit in the aggregate before applying.

[General Statutes §§ 9-704, 9-706(b)(4)]

Example: *John Doe*, who contributed \$45 in cash at a participating candidate committee's first fundraising event and a \$200 check at the second event, attends the committee's third event and donates \$100 by check.

After depositing all funds received at the third fundraiser, the treasurer realizes that John Doe has made contributions greater than \$340 in the aggregate ($\$45 + \$200 + \$100 = \345). Consequently, the treasurer must refund the \$5 non-qualifying portion to John Doe in order for his contributions to count as qualifying. Both the deposit and refund of the non-qualifying portion must be disclosed on the committee's financial disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) in Sections B and N, respectively. See **Documentation for Qualifying Contributions**, later in this Chapter, for more information.

c. Contributions from Party Committees and Political Committees

Participating candidates may only receive qualifying contributions from individuals (human beings and sole proprietorships) *and cannot receive contributions from any other source*. Accordingly, participating candidates may not receive contributions from party committees (i.e., state central and town committees), political committees, or legislative caucus and legislative leadership committees.

[General Statutes § 9-704(a)(1)-(4) and (e); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]



Important Note: Participating candidates can, however, receive **organization expenditures** from party committees and, in the case of General Assembly candidate committees, from legislative caucus and legislative leadership committees as well. For more information on organization expenditures, see [Chapter VII. Expenditures by Outside Sources](#).

d. Contributions Lacking Adequate Documentation

All contributions lacking proper backup documentation do *not* meet the criteria for qualifying contributions. Please see the section below on Backup Documentation for more information.

e. The Candidate

A participating candidate cannot make a qualifying contribution to their own campaign. Any such payment by the candidate is deemed to be personal funds and may not be refunded. Family members of the candidate may make qualifying contributions, unless the candidate or the family member is a principal of a current or prospective state contractor. Also, family members who are communicator lobbyists may make qualifying contributions of up to \$100, but are subject to the sessional ban, and consequently may not make qualifying contributions, or attend committee fundraisers or otherwise solicit, during the legislative session. See below for more information on contractors and lobbyists.

2. Prohibited and Restricted Sources

The following contributions are from either *prohibited* sources and are, consequently, nonqualifying or from *restricted* sources and are nonqualifying if over the applicable additional limits set for them.

a. Business Entities and Unions

Candidate committees may not accept contributions from business entities, including contributions from an individual using a business checking account (although the law does allow qualifying contributions to be made by sole proprietorships), or from unions, nonprofit organizations, clubs, or neighborhood groups.

Important Note: Because business entity contributions are illegal, a candidate committee must be sure to establish that a contributor is a sole proprietorship rather than a business entity prior to accepting a qualifying contribution, where the check is not written from a personal checking account.

[General Statutes §§ 9-602(a), 9-613(a), 9-614(a); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

b. Lobbyists in any Amount During the Legislative Session and in Excess of \$100 at any Time

During any regular session of the General Assembly, during any special session of the General Assembly held between the adjournment of the regular session in an odd-numbered year and the convening of the regular session in the following even-numbered year, and during any reconvened session of the General Assembly held in an odd-numbered year to reconsider vetoed bills, candidates for statewide office or General Assembly may **not** receive contributions of **any amount** from lobbyists, including communicator lobbyists.



A lobbyist is defined as a person who, in lobbying and in furtherance of lobbying, makes or agrees to make expenditures, or receives or agrees to receive compensation, reimbursement, or both, and such compensation, reimbursement or expenditures are \$3,000 or more in any calendar year or the combined amount thereof is \$3,000 or more in any such calendar year. A client lobbyist is a lobbyist on behalf of whom lobbying takes place and who makes expenditures for lobbying and in furtherance of lobbying. A communicator lobbyist is a lobbyist who communicates directly or solicits others to communicate with an official or his staff in the legislative or executive branch of government or in a quasi-public agency for the purpose of influencing legislative or administrative action.

In addition, communicator lobbyists and their immediate family members may not contribute in excess of \$100 to statewide office and General Assembly candidates at any time. Campaigns raising qualifying contributions over \$100 should be mindful of this restriction.

[General Statutes §§ 1-91 (12), (21) and (22), 9-610(e), 9-704 (a)]

c. Principals of Current and Prospective State Contractors

Contributions from an individual who is a *principal* of a state contractor or prospective state contractor (including the spouse and dependent children over the age of eighteen), made to any participating candidate, are prohibited.

The ***principals of a business entity*** that is a state contractor or prospective state contractor are as follows:

1. Members of the board of directors;
2. Individuals with ownership interest of 5% or more in the business;
3. A president, treasurer, or executive vice president of the business;
4. Employees with managerial or discretionary responsibilities with respect to the negotiation of the state contract (i.e. those having direct, extensive and substantive responsibilities, rather than peripheral, clerical or ministerial responsibilities, with respect to the negotiation of the state contract);
5. The spouse and dependent children over the age of eighteen of an individual described above; and
6. A political committee established by or on behalf of an individual described above.

The ***principals of a non-business entity*** that is a state contractor or prospective state contractor are as follows:

1. The chief executive officer, or if there is no CEO, then the officer who possesses comparable powers and duties;
2. Employees who have managerial or discretionary responsibilities with respect to the negotiation of the state contract (i.e. those having direct, extensive and substantive responsibilities, rather than peripheral, clerical or ministerial responsibilities, with respect to the negotiation of the state contract);



3. The spouse and dependent children over the age of eighteen of an individuals described above; and
4. A political committee established by or on behalf of an individual described above.

A participating candidate cannot receive qualifying contributions from *principals of state contractors that have contracts with either the legislative or executive branches of state government.*

Important Note: The state contractor contribution provisions for participating candidates in Chapter 157 differ from the branch-specific prohibition on contractor contributions as set forth in General Statutes § 9-612 (f) (2). For contributions to nonparticipating candidate committees, the prohibition is branch-specific. For example, if the state contractor or prospective state contractor has a contract solely with the executive branch, a principal of that contractor **could contribute** to a *nonparticipating* General Assembly candidate, but **could not contribute** to a General Assembly candidate participating in the Program because contributions from principals of state contractors, regardless of branch, are deemed non-qualifying.

It is important to note that the state contractor bans for participating and nonparticipating candidates alike do not include state contractors that have contracts solely with the *judicial branch*. There are no contribution restrictions applicable to judicial branch contractors.

Please see the [Commission's website](#) for lists of state contractors and prospective state contractors. These lists, however, are not exhaustive as there may be additional state contractors that are not listed. In other words, just because an entity is not on this list does not mean that the entity is not a state contractor or prospective state contractor. We therefore strongly recommend that committees obtain contributor certification forms for **all** contributions.

[General Statutes §§ 9-612(f)(1)and (2), 9-704(e)(1)(A) as amended by Public Act 25-26; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

Important Note: Treasurers are responsible for verifying that a contributor is not a principal of a current or prospective state contractor. See the glossary of this Guide and General Statutes § 9-612 (f) (1) for the specific definitions of these terms. The [sample certification forms](#) provided by the Commission are designed to assist with this duty and it is strongly recommended that committees use them. A treasurer can best protect themselves by having each contributor fully complete and sign a contributor certification form for every contribution regardless of the amount, which certifies to the contributor's status as a principal of a current or prospective state contractor. A treasurer is entitled to rely on such certifications and it will provide the treasurer with a good faith reliance defense should the contributor later be deemed to be a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor.

d. Investment Services Contribution and Solicitation Provisions

Individuals who are principals of an investment services firm, political committees formed by a firm which provides investment services to the State Treasurer and political committees formed by principals of such firms, and to which firm the State Treasurer



pays compensation, expenses, fees or issues a contract, are barred from soliciting or making any contribution to any candidate or exploratory committee for nomination or election to the office of State Treasurer during the term of the State Treasurer who does business with such firm.

These provisions apply to the incumbent State Treasurer and all challengers, and to an exploratory committee of any candidate who is considering a campaign for nomination or election as State Treasurer.

Also, no member of the Investment Advisory Council (appointed under General Statutes § 3-13b) shall make a contribution to or solicit contributions on behalf of an exploratory or candidate committee established by a candidate for State Treasurer.

Finally, the following individuals are prohibited from soliciting contributions from a principal of an investment services firm on behalf of an exploratory or candidate committee established for any public office: the State Treasurer or any candidate for State Treasurer, any agent of any such candidate, the Deputy State Treasurer, any member of the State Investment Advisory Council, and any unclassified employee in the office of the State Treasurer acting at the direction of the State Treasurer or Deputy State Treasurer.

“Investment Services” means investment legal services, investment banking services, investment advisory services, underwriting services, financial advisory services or brokerage firm services.

[General Statutes §§ 9-612(e), 9-613(f)]

e. Restrictions on Contributions by Certain State Governmental Officials and Unclassified Employees in the Executive and Legislative Branches

There is a contribution limit of \$100 per primary or election campaign by specified state government officials and employees to certain candidates:

- By any executive head of an executive branch state agency or quasi-public agency, deputy of any such executive head, any other full-time official or employee of any such agency who is appointed by the Governor or who is in the unclassified service, or any member of the immediate family of any such persons to a candidate running for the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor;
- By any official or employee of the office of the Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State, or State Treasurer who is in the unclassified service, or any member of the immediate family of any such persons, to or for the benefit of a candidate running for the office in which they serve; and
- By any member of a legislative caucus staff in the State Senate or House of Representatives, or any member of the immediate family of any such persons to or for the benefit of any General Assembly candidate.

[General Statutes § 9-612(i)]



**f. Retirement Security Authority
Contribution and Solicitation Provisions**

No member of the Connecticut Retirement Security Authority board of directors, except the State Comptroller or State Treasurer, or any executive director, assistant executive director or authorized officer appointed by said board or the principal of an entity with a contract with the authority to administer the Connecticut Retirement Security Program, shall make a contribution to, or knowingly solicit contributions from the board's or the executive director's or assistant executive director's employees on behalf of an exploratory committee or candidate committee established by a candidate for nomination or election to statewide office or General Assembly.

[General Statutes § 31-429]

g. Anonymous Donations

Candidate committees cannot accept or deposit anonymous contributions. Treasurers must immediately remit all anonymous contributions in the manner in which it was received to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, 55 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105, for deposit into the State's General Fund.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(b), 9-704(e)(2), 9-706(b)(4)]

h. Foreign Nationals

Foreign nationals are prohibited from making campaign contributions or expenditures related to state elections. Foreign nationals who are legal permanent residents of the United States– foreign nationals with “Green Cards” – may contribute to Connecticut state political campaigns.

[General Statutes §§ 9-622 (17),(18),9-601(33), 9-601d (c); 9-605 (b)]

i. Contributions from Minors Under the Age of 12 or Over \$30

A contribution made by a youth who is less than twelve years of age is not a qualifying contribution. In addition, a minor at least twelve years old but under the age of eighteen may not give contributions in excess of \$30 in the aggregate to a statewide office or General Assembly candidates. Because of this limitation, we strongly urge treasurers to obtain a contribution certification form from every contributor.

[General Statutes §§ 9-611 (e), 9-704(e)(1)(D) as amended by Public Act 25-26]

Important Note: A minor may not make a qualifying contribution through a parent or guardian's personal check or credit card. The minor must be a signatory on the account or contribute their own cash.

j. Qualifying Contributions from a Joint Checking Account

Under Connecticut law, a contribution by personal check is attributed to the signer of the check. However, a single account holder of a joint checking account may sign a contribution check if the contribution is accompanied by signed written statements from the holders of the joint bank account indicating how the contribution should be allocated. The contributor may indicate such allocation on a contribution certification form. **Note that each contributor should submit a**



separate certification form to clearly indicate the contributor's intent. If both joint account holders sign a single contribution check, half of the amount of the contribution is attributed to each, unless the contribution is accompanied by a separate certification form from each holder indicating how the contribution should be differently allocated.

Example: John and Sue Brown wish to each give a contribution using one check from their joint checking account and desire an allocation other than 50/50. One or both of them may sign the check and each must sign their own contribution certification form indicating their contributor status as well as how they would like the contribution allocated. Their contributions must be separately itemized on the disclosure statement.

Note that a contribution by Sue Brown given using John Brown's personal credit card or a check drawn from John Brown's personal checking account is not permissible.

See [Chapter VIII. Treasurer's Responsibilities and Recordkeeping](#), for information on disclosing contributions in Section B of [SEEC Form 30](#).

[General Statutes § 9-606(b)]

k. Contributions Lacking Full Name and Complete Address

In order to provide a qualifying contribution of five dollars or more, contributors are now required to fill out a contribution certification form providing that contributor's full name and complete residential address. Any contribution of five dollars or more that lacks this required information from the contributor is deemed to be non-qualifying.

If a participating committee receives a contribution of five dollars or more without the contributor's full name and complete address, the treasurer must obtain a contributor certification form with the information from the contributor or return the contribution to the contributor, if practicable. If it is not practicable to return the contribution, the treasurer must transmit the contribution to the State Elections Enforcement Commission for deposit into the Citizens' Election Fund.

[General Statutes § 9-704 (e) (2)]

F. Documentation for Qualifying Contributions

All qualifying contributions must be carefully documented so that the Commission can review candidates' grant applications to determine whether reported qualifying contributions are from permissible sources and do not exceed permissible amounts.

The candidate and campaign treasurer must demonstrate that all reported qualifying contributions have the proper documentation and meet the criteria for qualifying contributions. Qualifying contributions must also be itemized and adequately disclosed on campaign finance disclosure statements ([SEEC Form 30](#)).

For information on how to properly document qualifying contributions, please proceed to [Chapter VIII. Treasurer's Responsibilities and Recordkeeping](#).

Failure to maintain and/or provide these records will lead to a determination that any such undocumented contributions do not meet the criteria for qualifying contributions.



The treasurer should scrutinize all contributions and related contributor certification forms received before depositing them into the committee's bank account. Carefully reviewing all contributions prior to depositing them will help avoid penalties for accepting prohibited contributions.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(a), 9-607(f), 9-704(e)(2), 9-706(b); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

REMEMBER!

Qualifying contributions have five significant parts. An easy way to remember is **I-FIND**. Qualifying contributions must be from:

- **I**ndividuals only;
- **F**ive to three hundred forty dollars from a single contributor;
- **I**n-district" or in-state to the required threshold for the office sought;
- **N**ot from individuals who are prohibited sources (such as a principal of state contractor) or otherwise non-qualifying; and
- **D**ocumented and disclosed.

G. Raising Additional Qualifying Contributions

1. In Exploratory Committee

Candidates may begin collecting qualifying contributions during the exploratory committee stage. A candidate who has an exploratory committee is permitted to accept a contribution of \$375 from an individual if the candidate certifies on the exploratory committee's registration statement that they will not be a candidate for state representative or \$250 from an individual if the candidate does not so certify (an exploratory committee may also accept contributions from party committees and political committees within certain limits).

For exploratory committees of candidates who indicate on their exploratory committee registration form ([SEEC Form 4](#)) that they are considering state representative, they are unable to raise potential qualifying contributions of \$340 during the exploratory phase because that would be above their prescribed \$250 limit. Exploratory committees of candidates who have certified they are **not** considering state representative may opt to receive potential qualifying contributions of up to \$340, since that is under their \$375 limit.

A candidate in exploratory committee not considering state representative who raises contributions in excess of \$340 from an individual contributor has two options:

1. The candidate's exploratory committee can keep and spend the entire contribution – but since it exceeds \$340, it does not count as a qualifying contribution and does not count toward the qualifying threshold. However, that same contributor may subsequently make a qualifying contribution to the candidate committee; **or**
2. If the exploratory committee wishes to count the contribution as a qualifying contribution, the committee must refund the portion of the contribution in excess



of \$340 to the contributor *before* the event that triggers the requirement to dissolve the exploratory committee.

Candidates who intend to participate and wish to use contributions raised in their exploratory committee as qualifying contributions are encouraged to dissolve their exploratory committee and form a candidate committee well in advance of submitting a grant application. To facilitate a smooth transition from exploratory committee to candidate committee, including transferring the correct funds and curing disqualifying contributions, treasurers of exploratory committees are strongly encouraged to work closely with their assigned Elections Officer throughout the process. For more information on transferring qualifying contributions as surplus to the candidate committee, see [Chapter X. Termination of the Committee](#).

[General Statutes §§ 9-608(f), 9-704(a)(1)-(4); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-02](#)]

2. Solicitors

a. Solicitors Generally

The only individuals who may receive contributions and donations on behalf of a candidate committee are the treasurer, deputy treasurer, and *solicitors*. A solicitor is any individual who is appointed by the campaign treasurer to receive funds or resources on behalf of the committee. Receiving funds is different than merely asking that donations be given to a committee. One who merely asks for donations to be transmitted to a committee, but who does not actually receive the contributions, is *not* a solicitor.

Candidates, their treasurers and deputy treasurers, as well as volunteers and campaign workers, may personally solicit funds for the campaign. Treasurers and deputy treasurers do not need to be appointed as solicitors in order to receive funds. Treasurers, however, do need to appoint the candidate and any campaign workers or volunteers who will be receiving funds on behalf of the campaign as official solicitors. The treasurer may appoint as many solicitors as needed, but must be diligent about training and overseeing all solicitors.

The treasurer is responsible for receiving the funds from the solicitor, reviewing the contributions to ensure compliance and approving them for deposit. The treasurer is also required to keep records (which should include copies for both the committee and for the Commission) of each solicitor appointment, including an accurate list of the name and address of each individual who is appointed to serve as a solicitor and the terms of appointment.

Each solicitor must submit to the treasurer a list of the contributor information (names, addresses, and all other required information) of all persons from whom or from which the solicitor collected monetary receipts on behalf of the committee. The solicitor must provide the list to the treasurer no later than one day prior to any campaign finance disclosure reporting deadline. The treasurer must ensure that each solicitor turns over this list to the treasurer, as well as all contributions and documentation received, in a timely manner.

The treasurer is also responsible for training and overseeing solicitors to make sure they are complying with the law.

The following rules apply to solicitors:



- Solicitors must be appointed by the committee treasurer;
- Solicitors may receive monetary contributions on behalf of the committee, but must give them to the treasurer for review and may never spend or authorize anyone else to spend such contributions;
- Solicitors must deliver all contributions, in the form received, to the campaign treasurer within seven days of receipt; and
- Solicitors must collect contribution certification documentation for qualifying contributions they receive and must provide the documentation to the treasurer when delivering the contributions; otherwise, these contributions will not be considered qualifying contributions.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601 (14), 9-602 (a)-(b), 9-606(a) and (c), 9-622(11)]

b. Limitations on Who May be a Solicitor

Although there are no limitations on the number of solicitors that the treasurer may appoint, certain individuals are prohibited or restricted from serving as solicitors for statewide office and General Assembly campaigns.

- *State department heads and deputy department heads* may not act as solicitors for any candidate or political party.
- *Principals of state contractors and prospective state contractors*, including their spouses and dependent children over the age of eighteen, with respect to a contract with the *legislative* branch may not solicit contributions for a General Assembly candidate or exploratory committee from the state contractor's or prospective state contractor's employees or from a subcontractor or principals of the subcontractor. Principals of state contractors and prospective state contractors, including their spouses and dependent children over the age of eighteen, with respect to a contract with the *executive* branch may not solicit contributions for a statewide office candidate or exploratory committee from the state contractor's or prospective state contractor's employees or from a subcontractor or principals of the subcontractor.
- There are several limitations on the ability of *communicator lobbyists* to solicit for statewide office and General Assembly candidates:
 - Communicator lobbyists, members of their immediate families, or their agents are prohibited from bundling contributions on behalf of a statewide office candidate's or General Assembly candidate's exploratory or candidate committee. "Bundle" is defined as the forwarding of five or more contributions to a single committee by a communicator lobbyist, an agent of the lobbyist, or an immediate family member of a lobbyist or raising contributions for such a committee at a fundraising affair held, hosted or sponsored by such lobbyist, lobbyist's agent or immediate family member. ***This means that a communicator lobbyist may not host a fundraiser for a statewide office or General Assembly candidate.***
 - Communicator lobbyists, their immediate family members, or their agents may not solicit contributions for candidates for statewide office or General Assembly (whether in exploratory or candidate committee) from individuals



- who serve on the board of directors of, are partners of, are employed by, or have a 5% or more ownership interest in any client lobbyist they represent.
- There is also a *sessional lobbyist contribution and solicitation ban* that applies to both client and communicator lobbyists and their political committees during a legislative session. This applies during any regular legislative session, or during special sessions or vote-override sessions in odd-numbered years. During those designated times, no lobbyist may contribute to or solicit on behalf of any statewide office or General Assembly candidate or exploratory committee, a political committee for a particular legislative district, or a political committee established or controlled by a state officer or legislator.
 - *Municipal employees* are prohibited from soliciting funds for the benefit of any candidate from an individual under the supervision of such employee or their spouse or dependent children.
 - In addition, there are certain limitations on solicitations by *chiefs of staff*. A chief of staff of a legislative caucus may not solicit contributions from an employee of the legislative caucus; a chief of staff for a statewide elected official may not solicit contributions from a member of such official's staff; and a chief of staff of the Governor or Lieutenant Governor may not solicit contributions from a member of the Governor or Lieutenant Governor's staff or from any commissioner or deputy commissioner of any state agency.
 - *Principals of investment services firms and members of the Investment Advisory Council* may not solicit contributions on behalf of an exploratory or candidate committee established by a candidate running or considering a run for State Treasurer. Moreover, the following individuals are prohibited from soliciting contributions from a principal of an investment services firm on behalf of an exploratory or candidate committee established for any public office: the State Treasurer or any candidate for State Treasurer, any agent of any such candidate, the Deputy State Treasurer, any member of the State Investment Advisory Council, and any unclassified employee in the office of the State Treasurer acting on behalf of the State Treasurer or Deputy State Treasurer.
 - Finally, no member of the *Connecticut Retirement Security Authority* board of directors, except the State Comptroller or State Treasurer, or any executive director, assistant executive director or authorized officer appointed by said board or the principal of an entity with a contract with the authority to administer the Connecticut Retirement Security Program, shall knowingly solicit contributions from the board's or the executive director's or assistant executive director's employees on behalf of an exploratory committee or candidate committee established by a candidate for nomination or election to statewide office or General Assembly.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601 (14), 9-610(h) and (i), 9-612(e), 9-612(f), 9-622(11)-(12) & (14)-(16), 31-429]



3. Fundraising in the Program

As previously discussed, qualifying contributions are small-dollar donations given by individuals in order to show a level of *public support* for the participating candidate. Since qualifying contributions are intended to show a significant level of public support for the candidate seeking public funds, participating candidate fundraising includes some restrictions not found in the private campaign financing system.

The participating candidate's fundraising tools should not include offering valuable gifts as a *quid pro quo* for qualifying contributions. When a participating candidate sells or exchanges valuable items to raise contributions, the contributions may not clearly demonstrate support for a particular candidate. Accordingly, participating campaigns may not hold auctions, tag sales or raffles to raise qualifying contributions.

Traditional fundraisers which include serving food remain generally permissible. For example, participating candidates may continue to hold spaghetti dinners or ice cream socials as part of their fundraising. Additionally, participating candidates may give away traditional campaign paraphernalia such as bumper stickers, t-shirts, hats, buttons, or other similar items.

Example of Improper Fundraiser: A participating candidate plans a fundraiser at a major league baseball game. Guests make a \$100 qualifying contribution, and in return receive a bus ride to the stadium, a ticket to the game, and a lemonade and hot sausage. Normally, this would cost in excess of \$100. Even if each person attending completes a Qualifying Contribution Certification Form, the attendees have received something of significant value in return for making a contribution and the donative intent necessary to demonstrate public support through a qualifying contribution is not present.

Example of Permissible Fundraiser: A participating candidate plans an ice cream social in their district as a fundraising event. The candidate will speak at the event, which is open to the public. Each adult entering the event is asked to make a contribution of between \$5 and \$340 to support the candidate. Committee volunteers ensure that each contributor completes and signs a Qualifying Contribution Certification Form.

Participating candidates are encouraged to discuss any fundraising questions with their assigned Elections Officer.

4. Volunteers, Travel, House Parties, and Facility Space

The committees of participating candidates may accept the following goods and services to facilitate the fundraising process:

- **Volunteer services** from individuals (including the candidate) donating their time. An individual is considered a volunteer if the individual is not receiving compensation for the services provided, regardless of whether the individual received compensation in the past or will receive compensation in the future.
- Unreimbursed payments by an individual of their own **travel expenses** while volunteering services to the campaign.
- **"House parties."** There is a special provision relating to expenses of a fundraising affair or gathering held for a candidate or committee by an individual or



individuals in their home. Generally, under the “house party exception” to the definition of “contribution” and “expenditure,” an individual or individuals may pay the costs of invitations, food, and beverages, subject to the dollar limits described below, so long as the house party is held at one of the individual host’s residential premises, or a community room at such individual’s residence facility. In order for such an event to qualify under the “house party exception,” the following requirements apply:

- The cumulative value for **any single event** hosted by an individual on behalf of any candidate or committee does not exceed \$500 (this means that if a single individual is hosting a house party at their residence, the individual host is limited to spending \$500 on the event);
- The **aggregate**, cumulative value of the invitations, food, or beverages provided by an individual for **several events** hosted by that individual on behalf of any one candidate or committee does not exceed \$1,000 in total with respect to a single election (this means that an individual can host multiple events for a campaign – spending no more than \$500 at each event – under the house party exception as long as the total cost they spend across all of the events is no more than \$1,000);
- The cumulative value for any single event hosted by **two or more individuals** on behalf of any candidate does not exceed \$1,000, provided at least one of the hosting individuals owns or resides at the residential premises (note that each host can spend no more than \$500 individually on the event, as previously mentioned).

These costs under the house party exception and within the applicable house party exception limits are in-kind receipts that are not counted against such individual’s contribution limit, but must be disclosed in Section J4, “In-Kind Donations Not Considered Contributions Associated with a House Party,” of [SEEC Form 30](#).

Important Note: Since a participating candidate is subject to personal funds limits, **any amount spent on a house party hosted by the candidate before receiving a grant count towards the personal funds limit.** In addition, once a participating candidate’s committee receives grant funds, the candidate cannot provide personal funds. Practically speaking, this means that a participating candidate cannot provide personal funds (i.e. pay for invitations, food, or beverages without seeking reimbursement) for a house party after receiving a grant.

- Note that in order for the event to qualify for the “house party” exception, the entire cost of the event (invitations, food, beverages, etc..) should not exceed the \$500/\$1,000 amount. Thus, the campaign cannot plan to hold a far more expensive event and merely pay for any amount that exceeds the house party limit (aside from the invitations). In other words, the \$500/\$1,000 amount is not an offset for a more expensive party. There is one exception – the committee may pay for a portion or all of the costs of the invitations for the house party. In such a case, the amount paid by the committee is not counted toward the calculation of the cumulative



value of the party provided by the host(s) for purposes of determining whether the event falls within the house party exemption.

- The homeowner or resident does not have the option of paying for an event that exceeds the house party limits, because then the entire value of the event (not just the amount over the \$500/\$1,000 house party exemption limit) is deemed an impermissible in-kind contribution, and CEP candidates cannot accept in-kind contributions. In this instance, the participating candidate committee would have to reimburse the host(s) for the entire cost of the event and disclose the reimbursement in Sections N and R in [SEEC Form 30](#).
- Alternatively, the homeowner or resident can provide their residence free of charge and the campaign can pay for all costs associated with the event.
- The creation of electronic or written communications on a voluntary (unpaid) basis by an individual without compensation, including the creation and ongoing content development and delivery of social media on the Internet or telephone.

Important Note: Concerning non-individuals that may wish to engage in electronic campaign activity, while the Commission has not recently directly spoken to this question, practically speaking, entities that have paid staff or other substantial resources are likely unable to provide any services on "a voluntary basis without compensation" for the production or dissemination electronic communications.

- **The use of a business entity or organization's facility space** at a discount or for free, *provided the business entity or organization:*
 - Customarily makes the space available to civic and community groups;
 - Makes the space available to any other candidate or committee upon request; and
 - Makes the space available on the same terms given to other groups.
- The **use of offices and equipment provided by a party committee, legislative leadership committee, or legislative caucus committee** – please note that party committees may provide such offices and equipment to both statewide office and General Assembly candidates whereas legislative leadership committees and legislative caucus committees may only provide use of such offices and equipment to General Assembly candidates;
- The **sale of food or beverage by a vendor at a discount**, as long as the charge is not less than the cost to the vendor and the cumulative value of the discount does not exceed \$400 with respect to any single primary or election;
- The value associated with certain **de minimis activity** made on behalf of the committee, including:
 - The use of an individual's personal property or a service that is customarily attendant to the occupancy of a residential dwelling or the donation of



an item or items of personal property by an individual that are customarily used for campaign purposes, provided the cumulative fair market value of such use of personal property, service, or items of personal property does not exceed \$100 in the aggregate for any single election.

The provision of these goods and services is not considered to be an in-kind contribution.

Important Note: The prohibition against in-kind contributions does not include the provision of volunteer time and services by individuals or the use of personal electronics by such volunteers. Volunteers, treasurers and candidates are permitted to use their own personal electronic devices, such as computers and cell phones. This use is not considered to be an in-kind contribution, nor does it need to be reimbursed. Otherwise, the Commission recommends payment for all goods not described above. Please call your Elections Officer with any questions.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601a(b)(4), 9-601a(b)(5), 9-601a(b)(6), 9-601a(b)(17), 9-601a(b)(18) and (19); [Advisory Opinion 2010-02](#)]

5. Electronic forwarding of Fundraising Links and Invitations by Party Committees, Leadership and Caucus Committees and other Organization Expenditures

The law regarding how organization expenditures may be used to support candidate fundraising has changed during recent legislative cycles.

The definition for party candidate listings has widened to now allow town committees, state central committees, legislative caucus committees, or legislative leadership committees to electronically share links to a participating candidate committee's fundraising page, or to a fundraiser invitation, so long as the cost of the communication is de minimis. For example, a town committee may send an email with the fundraising link to its existing list of members asking them to support the candidate. Or it can post the fundraising link on its free Facebook page, if that page is maintained by volunteers and there is no added cost. The general rule is still that organization expenditures for party candidate listings cannot be solicitations. This exception is limited to communications of de minimis value and only to electronic communications (email, social media, text). See P.A. 25-26 Sec. 1.

Committees making organization expenditures are subject to reporting requirements. Attributions are required on party candidate listings, and the Commission will post a listing of all reported organization expenditures made for the benefit of statewide office and General Assembly candidates on its website. See also **Chapter VII. Expenditures by Outside Sources** and **Chapter IX. Disclosure**.

The ability to help candidates with fundraising for the CEP is now part of the party candidate listing provision. This is an important distinction because party committees, legislative caucus committees and legislative leadership committees may not make any organization expenditures on party candidate listings for the benefit of participating candidates for General Assembly during a primary campaign. The primary campaign period begins at the close of the convention, caucus or town committee held for the purpose of endorsing candidates.



Example of Permissible Fundraising: A legislative caucus committee may post on its political committee's website a list of links to the candidate committee fundraising pages of caucus members in the general election.

Example of Impermissible Fundraising: A town committee sends through the mail a newsletter that includes a copy of the invitation to a fundraiser created by a candidate in a primary.

The type of event that committees can pay for to support CEP candidates, however has narrowed with respect to assisting with fundraising. Formerly, committees could host and pay for events as long as the candidate was present. At those events the candidate could fundraise for their own committee. The change to the law now provides that the candidate does not have to be present, but only their campaign materials need to be present, and now **no fundraising can take place at the events.** Now if a candidate committee and a town committee, for example, want to host a joint event at which the candidate solicits funds for themselves, this can no longer be considered an organization expenditure for which the town committee pays, but must be structured as a joint event where each committee pays its pro rata share of the costs.

Important Note: The scope of what constitutes an organization expenditure is construed narrowly. Any committee authorized to make an organization expenditure should seek guidance from the Commission staff about whether the planned outlay of funds constitutes a permissible organization expenditure.

H. Joint Fundraising

A participating candidate may engage in a joint fundraising event, to raise qualifying contributions, with other candidate committees as well as with town committees.

Each committee must agree to pay—and must actually pay—its proportional share of the cost of the joint fundraising event. Each committee must agree to and document the terms of the joint fundraising event and all related expenditures before making or committing to make any expenditures for any joint fundraising event.

Each participating candidate partaking in a joint fundraising event must make sure that each individual contributor is knowingly and voluntarily making a qualifying contribution to demonstrate support of the recipient candidate. This is because participating candidates are required to raise qualifying contributions to demonstrate that they have substantial support from the people they seek to represent. Each qualifying contribution represents a show of support from the contributor to the participating candidate receiving the contribution.

Important Note: Each committee participating in a joint fundraiser must have its own treasurer, deputy treasurer, or properly appointed solicitor(s) available to receive contributions for that committee. If a single individual wishes to contribute to more than one committee at the joint fundraiser, the contributor must write a separate check to each committee and complete a separate contribution certification form for each contribution.

Committees of participating candidates sponsoring a joint fundraising event should do so cautiously, carefully documenting all contributions and expenditures relating to the



joint fundraising event. Failure to document the agreement and all contributions and expenditures relating to the fundraiser may result in a violation of the Program's requirements. Be sure to include documentation for any underlying bills, such as individual vendor invoices—do not rely on blanket documentation for repayments to the other committee.

The Commission strongly recommends that each sponsoring committee pay vendors directly for expenditures associated with a joint fundraising event. Making joint expenditures where one committee reimburses another is not recommended in any instance and, in certain cases, may be prohibited. Even if technically permissible, the technical hurdles to properly reimburse another committee almost always outweighs the benefit of such an arrangement.

Important Note: A candidate committee that received a grant is permitted to deposit money from another *candidate* committee for a reimbursement for shared expenses for which only the committee being paid or reimbursed is under a contractual obligation to pay. Short of this exception, a candidate committee that has received a grant may not deposit monies from a candidate committee for any other reason or from any other type of committee, including a town committee. In addition, a candidate committee that makes an expenditure to benefit another candidate or committee must be reimbursed by the benefiting candidate or committee within a reasonable time to avoid making a prohibited contribution. Thus, post-grant, a candidate committee is not allowed to deposit a reimbursement from a town committee for a joint expenditure.

Please note that committees may not act as vendors to other committees or persons. Any reimbursements made to a committee must be for shared expenses, and each committee treasurer must maintain contemporaneous documents to demonstrate that there was an agreement that the committees would share such expenses.

The rules on joint fundraising differ for participating candidates and nonparticipating candidates. Two or more candidate committees of *nonparticipating* candidates may form a political committee for a single fundraising affair. However, candidate committees of *participating candidates may not* form a political committee to raise funds.

[General Statutes § 9-707; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)(8); [Declaratory Ruling 2011-03](#)]

I. Raising Additional Qualifying Contributions

Once qualified for a grant, a participating candidate may not raise additional money and must use only the grant money provided through the Program, plus any remaining qualifying contributions and unspent personal funds provided by the candidate before applying for the grant.

There is one exception to this rule. Minor party and petitioning candidates who qualify for a partial grant in the amount of 1/3 or 2/3 of the applicable full grant amount for that office may continue to raise small-dollar contributions from individuals, known as differential contributions, and spend these additional funds up to the amount of the full applicable grant for major party candidates. Any differential contributions they collect



must still meet the criteria for qualifying contributions and cannot be collected from contributors who have already given the limit, and the candidate's committee must stay within overall expenditure limits.

Example – Petitioning Candidate raises "differential" qualifying contributions after receiving a grant: A participating petitioning candidate for State Representative collects eligible signatures on nominating petitions equaling 16% of all votes cast for state representative in their district in the last regular election. The petitioning candidate provides no personal funds to their committee and raises a total of \$6,700 in qualifying contributions, including contributions from at least 150 individuals who reside in municipalities located in whole or part in the district they seeks to represent. During the pre-primary/pre-general election period, the committee spends all of its qualifying contributions.

The candidate applies for a general election grant in early August, and the Commission approves their application. The candidate receives a grant of \$25,716.67 (2/3 of the full applicable grant amount of \$38,575.00). The candidate's committee may raise differential contributions not to exceed \$12,858.33 , in order to make up the difference between the grant received and the full grant. Any differential contributions received must meet the criteria for qualifying contributions (i.e. be between \$5 and \$340 in the aggregate, from individuals who have not already contributed the maximum \$340 in the aggregate to their committee).

[General Statutes §§ 9-702(c), 9-706(b)(4), 9-707]

J. Spending Qualifying Contributions

The candidate committee of a candidate who is participating in the Program may spend any or all of its qualifying contributions from the first dollar raised, up to the threshold amount for that office: \$335,500 for a candidate for Governor, \$100,700 for a candidate for any other statewide office, \$20,100 for a candidate for State Senate or \$6,700 for a candidate for State Representative.

As noted above, **buffer** qualifying contributions raised in the candidate committee *cannot be spent* but must be transmitted to the Citizens' Election Fund at the time of application.

[General Statutes § 9-702(c)]



IV. APPLYING FOR GRANTS

Receipt of a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund is contingent upon strict compliance with Program requirements. With this in mind, the Commission staff will assist participating candidates and treasurers through the application process and maintain open communication with campaigns that are applying for public funds. The Commission staff will work with campaigns to remedy curable mistakes that may have been made during the application process.

[General Statutes § 9-702(a)]

Important Note: The Commission recommends that the committee:

1. Contact its assigned Elections Officer at least a week or two before submitting a grant application;
2. Review the Grant Application Checklist at the end of this chapter; and
3. Remain aware of application deadlines.

A committee that applies at the very last deadline (July 17, 2026, for a primary campaign and October 9, 2026 for a general election campaign) may not have time to make corrections and may not be able to qualify for a grant.

A. Ballot Requirement

To be eligible to receive a primary or general election grant, the participating candidate must have already qualified to appear on the ballot for the primary, special election and/or general election for which they seek public funds. The [Office of the Secretary of the State](#) in Connecticut administers the ballot qualification process. You may contact the Secretary of the State's Office at 860-509-6100 (or toll-free at 800-540-3764).

A committee may not file a grant application until the candidate has obtained ballot access. Documentation of ballot access should be included in the application package.

[General Statutes §§ 9-388, 9-452, 9-453]

B. Completing a Grant Application

The grant application package contains at least five parts:

1. A completed and signed grant application form ([SEEC Form CEP 15](#));
2. A completed and signed campaign finance disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) that itemizes all financial activity since the last filed disclosure statement, complete as of not more than three days preceding the day the application is filed;

Important Note: All monies included in a grant application must be collected by midnight of the day before the [SEEC Form 30](#) is submitted.

3. Copies of documentation of qualifying contributions (qualifying contribution certification forms or other required documentation).



4. If online contributions were collected, transactional receipts, an excel spreadsheet provided by the merchant account provider directly to SEEC, and any other documentation pertaining to the contributions, as well as a completed [online contribution grant application form](#) ("GAP" letter) documenting whether and what changes were made to the website after Commission staff's approval; and
5. A committee check made out to "Citizens' Election Fund" or "CEF" for the amount of any excess qualifying contributions (i.e., the "buffer").

If not already provided, [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) and [SEEC Form CEP 12](#) must also be submitted, as well as proof of ballot access, as discussed more fully below.

Important Note: At the time the grant application is filed, the treasurer must report in Section B of [SEEC Form 30](#) all contributions received by the committee since the time of its last filing, even if they have not all been deposited. The treasurer must also report all expenses incurred or expenditures paid as of not more than three days preceding the day the application is filed. This should include the "buffer" check.

[General Statutes § 9-706(b) and (c)]

1. The Application Form (SEEC Form CEP 15)

The candidate, treasurer, and deputy treasurer, if applicable, must complete and sign the grant application ([SEEC Form CEP 15](#)). They must swear to the truth of the application under penalty of false statement.

In the grant application, the candidate, treasurer, and deputy treasurer must certify that the committee has:

- Raised documented qualifying contributions equal to or exceeding both parts of the required two-part threshold;
- Abided by the expenditure limits;
- Accepted no personal loans, but only bank loans in the limited aggregate amount of \$1,000, and repaid all such bank loans;
- Received no more than the allowable amount of personal funds from the candidate;
- Returned all non-qualifying contributions or portions of contributions that exceed the \$340 limit per contributor; and
- Transmitted all excess qualifying contributions to the Citizens' Election Fund.

The candidate, treasurer, and deputy treasurer must further certify that the committee will:

- Comply with all of the provisions of [Chapters 155](#) and [157](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes and maintain and furnish all records required by the laws and regulations;
- Adhere to expenditure limits;
- Spend grant money only for permissible expenditures as prescribed in Commission regulations; and



- Return all unspent public grant money (“surplus”) to the Citizens’ Election Fund after the election.

The application process generally allows a candidate to elect a continuance so that if the Commission determines that the candidate’s application is not sufficient, the Commission can continue the application without prejudice. The candidate then has the opportunity to fix curable flaws. If the candidate does not elect this option when completing [SEEC Form CEP 15](#), then the insufficient application will be denied and they will have to reapply.

There are several additional written certifications to the grant application:

- First, the committee must certify that all outstanding civil penalties or forfeitures assessed pursuant to the campaign finance laws against the current or any former committee of the candidate have been paid, provided (A) in the case of a candidate running for statewide office, any such penalty or forfeiture was assessed not later than 24 months prior to the submission of the application; or (B) in the case of a candidate running for General Assembly, any such penalty or forfeiture was assessed not later than 12 months prior to the submission of the application.
- Second, the committee must certify that the treasurer and deputy treasurer, if applicable, have paid any civil penalties or forfeitures assessed against them under the campaign finance statutes and has not been convicted of or pled guilty or *nolo contendere* to: (A) any felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny, embezzlement or bribery; or (B) any criminal offense under the state election or campaign finance laws 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.
- Finally, the committee must certify that the candidate has not been convicted of or pled guilty or *nolo contendere* to: (A) any criminal offense under the state election or campaign finance laws 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; or (B) a felony related to the candidate’s public office.

2. Ballot Qualification

In addition to the grant application, the candidate must submit to the Commission documentation demonstrating ballot qualification. For example, a candidate applying for a primary grant based upon a convention endorsement will need to provide to the Commission with a date-stamped copy of the certificate of endorsement that was filed with the Secretary of the State on behalf of the party’s endorsed candidate. ([Secretary of the State’s](#) Form ED-634 *et al.*) The Commission staff will remain in regular communication with the staff of the Office of the Secretary of the State to determine a participating candidate’s ballot status and eligibility. However, it is ultimately the candidate’s responsibility to provide copies of these forms. *The Commission will not approve an application for a grant without proof of ballot qualification.*



Note: Candidates applying for a convention grant do not need to provide proof of ballot qualification. Ballot access is not required to apply for a convention campaign grant. [General Statutes §§ 9-388, 9-452, 9-453, 9-706(a)(2), 9-706(b), 9-706(c), 9-710(b)]

3. Cumulative Itemized Accounting—Initial Itemized Statement Accompanying Application for Public Grant (SEEC Form 30)

Each itemized accounting on [SEEC Form 30](#) must disclose all funds received, expenditures made, and expenses incurred, but not yet paid, beginning with the first day not included in the committee's last filed itemized statement, and ending as of three days preceding the day the application is filed. If desired, the treasurer may report all financial activity as of two days or one day before the date of submission, provided that the entire day's activities (through 11:59 p.m.) of the final or cut-off day are reported. The treasurer must report on the [SEEC Form 30](#) accompanying the grant application package every contribution the committee has received during the period covered by the report, *even if the contribution has not yet been deposited*. However, the treasurer cannot include activity from the same day that the [SEEC Form 30](#) is submitted (since the period covered in the filing ends at 11:59 p.m. of the last date covered by the filing).

The treasurer must provide all required information on the [SEEC Form 30](#), and itemize all contributions, regardless of amount, and complete every applicable box in Section B, "Itemized Contributions from Individuals" of the [SEEC Form 30](#). **Section A may not be used to report any contributions.** The campaign treasurer must sign the form and swear to its truth under penalty of false statement; and if filing by eCRIS, may do so with an e-signature before electronically submitting the [SEEC Form 30](#).

[General Statutes § 9-706(c)]

As previously discussed, a participating candidate may provide their current candidate committee with assets purchased by that candidate's candidate committee in a previous election cycle.

- *For most "prior assets" provided to the campaign prior to grant application, including banners, stationery, palm cards, thank you notes, domain names, and campaign paraphernalia bearing the candidate's name, the campaign treasurer must report them and value them in Section O of [SEEC Form 30](#), and they will count toward the candidate's personal funds limit. The amount of the initial grant will then be reduced by the value of the candidate's personal funds used, including the value of those prior assets provided.*
- *For lawn signs provided to the campaign prior to grant application, the treasurer may also have to report them depending on the number of signs provided:*
 - A participating candidate for statewide office who has control and custody of 500 or more lawn signs must report the signs and value them at a lump sum of \$2,500 in Section O of SEEC Form 30, and the candidate's grant will be reduced by \$2,500.
 - A participating state senate candidate who has control and custody over 100 or more lawn signs must report the signs and value them at \$500 in Section O of [SEEC Form 30](#), and his grant will be reduced by \$500. For a participating state representative candidate seeking to reuse 50 or more



lawn signs, they must report the signs and value them at \$250 in Section O of [SEEC Form 30](#), and his grant will be reduced by \$250.

[General Statutes § 9-705(i)(5); [Advisory Opinion 2008-02](#)]

4. Documentation for All Qualifying Contributions

Important Note: The Commission requires qualifying contribution documentation in support of the application. See [Chapter VIII. Recordkeeping](#) and [Chapter XI. Compliance and Enforcement](#) for more information.

The campaign must submit copies of documentation to substantiate *each* qualifying contribution raised. Documentation may include photocopies or scanned copies of checks, signed qualifying contributor certification forms, online credit card contribution records, etc. **Committees should keep originals of all documents submitted.** Please see the [Chapter III. Raising Qualifying Contributions](#) and [Chapter VIII. Treasurer's Responsibilities and Recordkeeping](#) chapters of this Guide for more information, or review Treasurer's Best Practices Checklist: Documenting Qualifying Contributions at <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>.

Important Note: Please do not photocopy cash. Cash contributions need only the contribution certification form as documentation and do not need a copy of the actual cash given.

[[Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

5. The "Buffer" Qualifying Contributions

At the time of grant application, the committee treasurer must issue a check to the Citizens' Election Fund for the amount of buffer qualifying contributions, if applicable. The amount of the check is the amount above the aggregate qualifying threshold that the committee raised as a "buffer" (described in detail in the **Qualifying Contributions** section of this Guide). Remember that the buffer check must be disclosed in the expenditures section on the [SEEC Form 30](#).

Important Note: If a committee has issued any refunds to contributors, or if a contributor's check is bounced, the amounts of these transactions should **not** be included in the buffer amount. ***It is strongly suggested that treasurers call their Elections Officer to discuss any questions about the buffer check prior to submitting a grant application.***

[General Statutes § 9-706(b)(4)]

C. Initial Review of Disclosure Statement Before Submission with Grant Application

It is the treasurer's responsibility to review the [SEEC Form 30](#) "Initial Itemized Statement accompanying Application for Public Grant" disclosure statement before submitting the grant application in order to ensure that all required information is included. Furthermore, if campaign finance disclosure statements are filed via eCRIS, it is strongly recommended that the treasurer utilize the "review filing" feature prior to electronically submitting the disclosure statement accompanying a grant application. "Review filing" allows a treasurer to double-check the disclosure statement and to make necessary



changes prior to a final electronic submission. For more information on electronic campaign finance reporting, see the [eCRIS pages of the Commission's website](#). **It is strongly suggested that treasurers call their Elections Officer to discuss any questions about the disclosure statement prior to submitting a grant application.**

D. Grant Determinations

After a grant application package is submitted, the committee treasurer should be available to respond to questions from the Commission's staff during the application review period. The Commission can approve or deny an application or continue its review without prejudice, upon the request of an applying candidate. Such actions can only be taken at a Commission meeting.

After approving an application, the Commission will determine the applicable grant amount and notify the candidate. The Commission will then use CORE-CT, the state electronic accounting system, to request that the grant be disbursed to the committee. The amounts of the grants are discussed in [Chapter V](#).

Important Note: If at the time of the Commission's approval of a grant application, it cannot determine whether a committee is entitled to a full initial primary or election grant or the applicable partial grant for the primary or election, the Commission shall approve the lesser applicable partial initial grant ("LAPIG").

What this means is that, for candidates for whom the SEEC has documentation that they will have an opponent in the general election, but it is uncertain whether there will be a primary, such candidates will receive the primary grant amount since it is lesser than the general election grant amount. If the candidate is in a party-dominant district and is a member of the dominant party, then such a candidate will receive the party-dominant primary grant amount.

Candidates who have no opposition in the general election at the time their grant application is approved, will receive the unopposed general election grant because that amount is the LAPIG, as it is lesser than the full primary grant they would obtain if faced with a primary.

Once the Secretary of State finalizes ballot status for candidates in multiple town districts and the Commission staff reaches out to the town clerks in single town districts, the Commission will then authorize release of the remaining portion of the applicable primary or general election grant.

For unopposed candidates at the time of grant approval, the Commission will adjust your grant amount should you later have a minor party or petitioning party opponent.

A candidate committee that has been approved for a grant is known as a *qualified candidate committee*.

[General Statutes § 9-706(d)]



Important Note: The Commission has implemented an electronic funds transfer process to facilitate the disbursement of grant funds. The campaign is advised to submit [SEEC Form CEP 12](#) (Electronic Funds Transfer Form) as early as possible to ensure a smooth and timely transfer of funds.

The Commission is prepared, as in all previous election cycles, to pay and/or release grant funds to all approved campaigns. Once a grant application is approved and the amount is determined by the Commission, notice is given to the State Comptroller to release the approved grant amounts to committees: (i) for convention campaign grants they will be paid not later than thirty days from notification; and (ii) for all other General Assembly and statewide office grants they will be paid not later than two business days from date of notification.

E. Continuance or Re-Application

If the Commission makes a determination to either continue without prejudice or deny a grant application, the committee's Elections Officer will notify the candidate committee about why the application was not approved. Candidates who find themselves in this position should not be discouraged since many of the issues may be cured (as long as they have applied before the final application deadline week). If the Commission continues an application or does not approve an application due to curable flaws, the candidate and treasurer should discuss correction with their assigned Elections Officer.

If a candidate's grant application is rejected, the candidate may either stay within the Program without receiving a grant or may withdraw from the Program. If the candidate wishes to withdraw, they must file with the Commission an affidavit certifying their withdrawal from the Program ([SEEC Form CEP 13](#)). The candidate must comply with all Program requirements, including expenditure limits, until the committee files the withdrawal affidavit and the candidate has become a nonparticipating candidate.

F. No Deposits after Grant is Received

After the initial grant is deposited into the qualified candidate committee's depository account, the committee may *not* deposit any contribution, loan or personal funds.

There are three exceptions to this rule:

- A qualified candidate committee of a minor party or petitioning candidate that *did not receive a full general election grant* may continue to raise contributions meeting the criteria of qualifying contributions to make up the difference between the grant received and the full grant amount, and may deposit those contributions in the candidate committee depository account, reporting them in Section B of [SEEC Form 30](#). The contributions are called "differential contributions" and are further discussed in Section G of [Chapter III. Raising Qualifying Contributions](#).
- A candidate committee that received a grant is permitted to deposit money from another candidate committee for a reimbursement for shared expenses for which only the committee being paid or reimbursed is under a contractual obligation to pay. Short of this exception, a candidate committee that has



received a grant may not deposit monies from a candidate committee for any other reason or from any other type of committee, including town committees.

- Refunds, rebates, bank interest and returns of rental deposits may be deposited and must be disclosed. Interest generated from grants, however, must ultimately be remitted to the Citizens' Election Fund.

[General Statutes §§ 9-610(b), 9-702(c), 9-706(b)(4), 9-707]

Example: Petra is a participating petitioning candidate for state representative in the 30th District. She collected eligible signatures on nominating petitions equaling 15% of all votes cast for state representative, 30th District, in the prior state election. The Committee to Elect Petra raised the required amount of qualifying contributions, and otherwise followed all Program requirements before applying for a general election grant. Petra's committee received a grant from the Program that was two-thirds of the full grant amount. Committee to Elect Petra may raise additional documented contributions of no more than \$340 in the aggregate from any individual contributor up to the full grant amount.

G. Deadlines for Receipt of Grant Applications

Beginning the third week in May, grant applications may be submitted and completed applications will be considered by the Commission on a weekly basis. All General Assembly applications submitted by five o'clock p.m. on a Wednesday thereafter will be considered within five business days of that application deadline, and all statewide office applications submitted by five o'clock on a Wednesday will be considered within ten business days of that application deadline. During the third week of June through the third week of July, additional Commission meetings may be scheduled to consider grant applications. **Note that the application deadlines are fixed deadlines.**

Example: If the Commission receives a General Assembly candidate committee's application for a primary grant on or before 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, the application will be reviewed, and the Commission will make its determination at the June 10 meeting. If the Commission receives a committee application at **5:15 p.m.** on Wednesday, June 3, this application will be reviewed, and the Commission will make its determination at the June 17 meeting. ***It is strongly suggested that treasurers work closely with their Elections Officer and submit grant applications as early as possible.***

Also, there are two special Friday application dates provided for the **final application deadline** for primary applications and for general election applications:

- Grant applications for the August 11, 2026, primary must be received by no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 17, 2026. Primary grant applications received after this time will **not** be reviewed and the committee will **not** be eligible to receive a primary grant.
- Grant applications for the November 3, 2026, general election must be received by no later than 5:00 p.m., on Friday, October 9, 2026. General election grant applications received after this time will **not** be reviewed and the committee will **not** be eligible to receive a general election grant.



Committees that wait to apply on these final deadlines will not be permitted any continuances and are therefore strongly encouraged to apply early.

“Primary Blackout Period” for General Election Application Reviews: During the “primary blackout period” (beginning after 5:00 p.m. on July 8 and lasting through 5:00 p.m. on July 17) candidates not facing a primary may still submit applications for general election grants, but the applications will be deemed as received for the July 22 application deadline. The Commission therefore will not make a grant determination on such general election General Assembly applications until its July 29 meeting or on such general election statewide office applications until its August 5 meeting.

[General Statutes § 9-706(g)]

The grant application deadlines and Commission meeting dates appear in the next section. The absolute final deadline to file a complete general election grant application is no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2026. The Commission must receive the committee’s completed grant application by this final deadline. General election grant applications received after this time will not be reviewed.

In addition, general election grant applications received after 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 7, 2026 (and before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2026), will not have the opportunity to be continued.

Also keep in mind that with respect to the grant reduction schedule discussed later in this section, the Commission must receive the committee’s completed grant application before 5:00 pm on the specified deadline date in order to avoid a reduction in the grant.

Important Note: Candidates are urged to submit their grant applications as early as possible, both in the election cycle and during the weekly cycle. **Candidates who apply on the last possible application date will have little, if any, time to cure any defects.** Further, candidates who apply at the last moment during the weekly cycle may not receive the results of their application review in time to cure any defects, causing the process to be extended for an additional week due to the application’s continuance.

H. General Assembly Application Deadlines & Commission Meeting Dates

Application Deadlines – By 5:00 p.m. on the following:	Commission Meeting Dates
Wednesday, May 20, for primary or general election	Thursday, May 28
Wednesday, May 27, for primary or general election	Wednesday, June 3
Wednesday, June 3, for primary or general election	Wednesday, June 10
Wednesday, June 10, for primary or general election	Wednesday, June 17
Wednesday, June 17, for primary or general election	Thursday, June 25
Wednesday, June 24, for primary or general election	Wednesday, July 1
Wednesday, July 1, for primary or general election	Thursday, July 9



Wednesday, July 8, for primary or general election	Wednesday, July 15
*Wednesday, July 15, for primary candidates only	Wednesday, July 22
*Friday, July 17, for primary candidates only (FINAL application deadline for candidates in primary)	Friday, July 24

Primary Grant Applications Will Not Be Accepted After July 17 at 5 p.m.

*Note: During the “primary blackout period” (beginning after 5:00 p.m. on July 8 and going through 5:00 p.m. on July 17) candidates not facing a primary may still submit applications for general election grants, but the applications will be deemed as received for the July 22 application deadline, and the Commission will not make a grant determination on such general election applications until its July 29 meeting. [General Statutes § 9-706(g)(1)]

Wednesday, July 15, general election candidates	Wednesday, July 29
Wednesday, July 22, general election candidates	Wednesday, July 29
Wednesday, July 29, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 5
Wednesday, August 5, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 12
Wednesday, August 12, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 19
Wednesday, August 19, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 26
Wednesday, August 26, general election candidates	Wednesday, September 2
Wednesday, September 2**, general election candidates	Thursday, September 10
Wednesday, September 9**, general election candidates	Wednesday, September 16
Wednesday, September 16**, general election candidates	Wednesday, September 23
Wednesday, September 23**, general election candidates	Wednesday, September 30
Wednesday, September 30**, general election candidates	Wednesday, October 7
Wednesday, October 7**, general election candidates	Thursday, October 15
Friday, October 9**, general election candidates (FINAL application deadline for candidates in general election)	Friday, October 16

General Election Grant Applications Will Not Be Accepted After October 9th at 5 p.m.

**Note: The full grant amount for which a campaign is eligible may be reduced according to the grant reduction schedule outlined in the next section.

I. Statewide Office Application Deadlines & Commission Meeting Dates

Application Deadlines – By 5:00 p.m. on the following:	Commission Meeting Dates
Wednesday, May 20, for primary or general election	Thursday, June 4
Wednesday, May 27, for primary or general election	Wednesday, June 10
Wednesday, June 3, for primary or general election	Wednesday, June 17
Wednesday, June 10, for primary or general election	Thursday, June 25



Wednesday, June 17, for primary or general election	Thursday, July 2
Wednesday, June 24, for primary or general election	Thursday, July 9
Wednesday, July 1 for primary or general election	Thursday, July 16
Wednesday, July 8, for primary or general election	Wednesday, July 22
*Wednesday, July 15, for primary candidates only	Friday, July 24
*Friday, July 17, for primary candidates only (FINAL application deadline for candidates in primary)	Friday, July 24

Primary Grant Applications Will Not Be Accepted After July 17th at 5 p.m.

*Note: During the “primary blackout period” (beginning after 5:00 p.m. on July 8 and going through 5:00 p.m. on July 17) candidates not facing a primary may still submit applications for general election grants, but the applications will be deemed as received for the July 22 application deadline, and the Commission will not make a grant determination on such general election applications until its August 5 meeting. [General Statutes § 9-706(g)(1)]

Wednesday, July 15, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 5
Wednesday, July 22, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 5
Wednesday, July 29, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 12
Wednesday, August 5, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 19
Wednesday, August 12, general election candidates	Wednesday, August 26
Wednesday, August 19, general election candidates	Wednesday, September 2
Wednesday, August 26**, general election candidates	Thursday, September 10,
Wednesday, September 2**, general election candidates	Thursday, September 17
Wednesday, September 9**, general election candidates	Wednesday, September 23
Wednesday, September 16**, general election candidates	Wednesday, September 30
Wednesday, September 23**, general election candidates	Wednesday, October 7
Wednesday, September 30**, general election candidates	Thursday October 15
Wednesday, October 7 **, general election candidates	Friday October 16
Friday, October 9**, general election candidates (FINAL application deadline for candidates in general election)	Friday, October 16

General Election Grant Applications Will Not Be Accepted After October 9th at 5 p.m.

**Note: The full grant amount for which a campaign is eligible may be reduced according to the grant reduction schedule outlined in the next section.

J. Grant Reduction Schedule

The legislature adopted a grant reduction schedule so that the later in the election cycle a campaign applies for a grant, the smaller the grant amount it will be eligible to receive.



Specifically, campaigns will receive the following percentage of the grant they are otherwise eligible to receive if they submit their application during agency hours according to the following schedule:

- Applications received prior to the 70th day preceding the election (on or before 8/24/26): 100% of grant.
- Applications received on or after the 70th day but before the 56th day preceding the election (between 8/25/26 and 9/4/26*): 75% of grant.
- Applications received on or after the 56th day but before the 42nd day preceding the election (between 9/8/26 and 9/21/26): 65% of grant.
- Applications received between on or after the 42nd day but before the 28th day preceding the election (between 9/22/26 and 10/5/26): 55% of grant.
- Applications received on or after the 28th day preceding the election and by the last deadline date (between 10/6/26 and 10/9/24): 40% of grant.

* The 56th day before the election is preceded by a holiday and therefore applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 4, 2026, to qualify for a 75% grant.

A full grant for the general election will only be awarded to a committee that submits a good faith grant application prior to the seventieth day before the election. At the time of grant application, a participating committee's certification must (i) affirm that it has received the required qualifying contributions *prior to the seventieth day* before the election; and (ii) demonstrate in its SEEC Form 30 that the above certification is true and correct. A grant application will not be deemed to have been filed unless the aggregate amount of contributions reported meet or exceed the qualifying threshold. The amount of reported contributions from Connecticut contributors for statewide candidates must meet or exceed the 90% requirement for in-state contributors and the number of reported in-district contributions required must exceed 150 for House candidates and 300 for Senate candidates.

All committees that are not able to meet this threshold at the time of grant application will be subject to the grant reduction schedule if their complete application is submitted after the seventieth day before the election

For the actual grant amounts based on date of application, please see [Chapter V. Campaign Grants](#). Primary grant amounts are not affected since the deadline for primary grant applications occurs prior to the 70th day before the general election when the reductions begin.

[General Statutes § 9-705]



K. Checklist for Grant Application

Important Note: In order to help facilitate the grant review process, it is imperative that all committees take great care to submit orderly and complete grant application packages. Candidates are urged to apply as early as possible in the election cycle, and also as early as possible (such as Monday or Tuesday) each week during each grant application period. Any questions about the grant application package may be directed to the Candidate Services Unit.

Pre-Application Review

Y / N The committee had a Pre-Application Review done by Commission staff.

Exploratory Committee

Y / N The candidate had an exploratory committee.

Y / N The committee has already provided documentation to the SEEC to complete a Rollover Review.

Y / N If the committee has not yet provided documentation to the SEEC to complete a Rollover Review, it will provide documentation before or, at the latest, with the grant application.

In this cycle, the exploratory committee must have filed the following before the candidate committee applies for a grant:

Y / N A Notice of Intent to Dissolve ([SEEC Form 5](#))

Y / N A termination statement ([SEEC Form 30](#))

Y / N A “carry forward form” detailing assets or debts carried forward from the exploratory committee to the candidate committee (If there are neither assets nor debts being carried forward, then the carry forward form must state so)

Y / N The campaign has received feedback on the status of their Rollover Review.

[SEEC Form 1 and 1A](#) – Candidate Committee Registration

Y / N The candidate registered their candidacy and their candidate committee by filing the Registration by Candidate and Candidate Committee Registration Statement ([SEEC Form 1 and 1A](#)).

Y / N / NA If there has been any change in the committee information, such as a change in address or other contact information since the candidate initially filed the registration statement ([SEEC Form 1 and 1A](#)), the candidate filed an amended registration before or with the application.

[SEEC Form CEP 10](#) – Affidavit of Intent to Participate (the Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Citizens’ Election Program Requirements)

Y / N / NA If the candidate faces a primary, the candidate filed the [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) no later than 4:00 p.m. on July 17, 2026.



- Y / N If the candidate does not face a primary, the candidate filed the [SEEC Form CEP 10](#) no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 24, 2026.
- Y / N The candidate, treasurer and deputy treasurer (if applicable) initialed every box on the form and signed the affidavit in the presence of a person who has authority to administer an oath.
- Y / N The candidate checked the appropriate party status, reflecting their avenue to ballot access. *Call your Elections Officer with any questions at 860-265-2985.*

SEEC Form CEP 12 – Electronic Funds Transfer (Penny Test Transaction)

- Y / N The treasurer completed and previously submitted a [SEEC Form CEP 12](#).
- Y / N The treasurer or deputy treasurer confirmed via email to the Candidate Services Unit the committee's receipt of the test transaction amount.

SOTS Letter/Endorsement Paperwork (Ballot Access)

- Y / N The candidate qualified for the ballot and provided a copy of the certification form from the Secretary of the State. (This step is not required for participating gubernatorial candidates applying for a convention campaign grant.)

Qualifying Contributions

- Y / N The committee raised qualifying contributions to meet or exceed, as a "buffer," the required qualifying threshold amount.
- Y / N The committee raised "in-district" qualifying contributions to meet or exceed the second part of the two-part threshold
- Y / N The campaign provided **one copy** of the [Qualifying Contribution Certification \("QC Cert"\) Form](#) or other permissible documentation for each contribution.
- Y / N Each [QC Cert Form](#) has been completed in full and signed by the contributor. (Documentation listing employer as "self-employed" is not acceptable.)
- Y / N **Each QC document copy has a unique Contribution ID number marked in its upper right hand corner that matches the Contribution ID number reported in Section B of [SEEC Form 30](#) (on eCRIS).**
- Y / N The copies are organized in order of Contribution ID number.
- Y / N Check/Money Order Contributions are copied and readable. When making copies, a copy of the check or money order is placed at the bottom of the corresponding [QC Cert Form](#). Also, the check copy still allows a full, visible contributor signature. (If the copy of the check or money order is on a separate page from the corresponding [QC Cert Form](#), the check or money order **must** also be numbered with the Contribution ID number).



- Y / N Cash Contributions were not copied. **Do not photocopy cash!** If cash is copied to the bottom of a [QC Cert Form](#), recopy with a piece of white paper over the cash, but make sure the re-copy clearly shows the contributor's signature on the [QC Cert Form](#).
- Y / N Each [QC Cert Form](#) shows the full name and the complete **residential address** of the contributor. (Documentation with a P.O. Box is not acceptable).
- Y / N The paper copies are **not** bound, stapled, clipped, taped, and **not** in a vinyl cover, sleeve, or notebook.

If the committee collected **online contributions** via a website, the SEEC staff reviewed and approved:

- Y / N / NA The website interface
- Y / N / NA A sample transactional receipt
- Y / N / NA The spreadsheet
- Y / N / NA The initial merchant account processor (MAP) letter

If the committee collected **online contributions** via a website, the committee has provided all required backup documentation:

- Y / N / NA The individual transactional receipts (which will serve as the certification forms and should be printed and numbered in accordance with their contribution ID number)
- Y / N / NA A copy of the summary statement(s) of all contributions collected online from the merchant account provider in a workable format (Excel/CSV)
- Y / N / NA The initial MAP letter
- Y / N / NA A grant application processor (GAP) letter stating any changes or affirming no changes since the SEEC staff's review of the website
- Y / N The campaign treasurer has kept all original documentation of qualifying contributions. (Treasurers must keep internal records, including originals and solicitor records, for four years.)

Deposits

- Y / N At the time of grant application, every contribution reported has also been deposited. All contributions, including cash and all contributions received via the website, must be deposited into the committee's bank account before they are spent.

At the time of grant application, the committee depository holds only the following:

- Y / N Unspent qualifying contributions of no more than the applicable threshold
- Y / N / NA Unspent personal funds provided to the committee by the candidate of no more than the allowable limit
- Y / N / NA Unspent bank interest not yet transmitted to the Citizens' Election Fund



SEEC Form CEP 15 – Application Form

- Y / N The candidate, treasurer and deputy treasurer (if applicable) initialed every box on the application and signed the application.
- Y / N The candidate has agreed, by signing and dating the continuance section of the grant application form, to permit the Commission to continue its review, without prejudice, of an application after the initial review period, if necessary.

SEEC Form 30 – Itemized Statement Accompanying Application for Public Grant

- Y / N The treasurer has completed every applicable section and signed the [SEEC Form 30](#) reporting all funds received, expenditures made and expenses incurred but not yet paid by the committee through the end of the time period covered by the financial report for the grant application.
- Y / N / NA **The treasurer has reported any personal funds from the candidate in Section E. Personal Funds of the Candidate. (Note: Candidates CANNOT contribute to their own candidate committee.)**
- Y / N / NA The treasurer has confirmed with the candidate that **all** expenses paid by the candidate to date, whether or not reimbursement has been sought, have been reported in the [SEEC Form 30](#) submitted with this application.
- Y / N The treasurer confirmed that all filings made during the life of the committee utilizing a [SEEC Form 21](#) or Section A of [SEEC Form 30](#) have been amended to report each contribution received during the relevant timeframe in Section B of a [SEEC Form 30](#).

Buffer Check

- Y / N The treasurer provided a signed committee check made payable to the Citizens' Election Fund ("CEF") at the time of grant submission in the amount of the buffer qualifying contributions (also known as the buffer check).
- Y / N The treasurer followed the instructions in the section, "How to Calculate the Amount for the Buffer Check," and confirmed that the buffer check is for the correct amount.
- Y / N The treasurer (or deputy treasurer) will be readily available during the grant application period to answer questions or promptly provide a committee check for any adjustment in the amount for transmission to the Citizens' Election Fund.



Non-Qualifying Contributions

At the time of grant application, the treasurer either:

Y / N / NA Returned (if not yet deposited) or refunded all non-qualifying contributions to the contributors, and reported the receipt as well as the refund in [SEEC Form 30](#) of all refunded contributions, prior to applying for a grant; **OR**

Y / N / NA Wrote a committee check to “CEF” for the amount of those **non-qualifying contributions, lacking contributor names, and addresses, retained by the committee** and included that check with the grant application. (Note – this may be included with the buffer check.)

Important Note for Candidates in a Primary: Although a participating candidate who has qualified for a Program grant for a primary does not need to requalify for a general election grant after they have won the primary, the candidate does need to file a [SEEC Form 30](#) after the primary, so that the Commission can determine the amount of the general election grant for which the candidate qualifies.



V. CAMPAIGN GRANTS

The Commission awards convention campaign, primary and/or general election grants to qualified candidate committees in the amounts described in this chapter. If it is unclear whether there will be a primary or whether a candidate has opposition, at the time it approves an application, the Commission will award the *lowest* amount for which the candidate committee is eligible. This is known as the lesser applicable partial initial grant amount or “LAPIG”. Once the Commission is notified of the Secretary of the State’s determination of official ballot status for any opponent to the participating candidate, the Commission will award any applicable remaining portion of the full applicable grant to the qualified candidate committee.

[General Statutes § 9-706(d)]

A candidate’s eligibility for a public grant hinges on demonstrating constituent support. The Program bases a candidate committee’s grant amount on the candidate’s level of public support as demonstrated by how the candidate qualifies for the ballot, and, in some instances, by a show of support based on the number of nominating petition signatures a candidate obtains (as set forth below). In some circumstances, a candidate may utilize the nominating petition process to qualify for a grant, or, if already eligible for a partial grant, to increase the amount of the grant if the candidate receives enough nominating petition signatures to meet certain thresholds demonstrating significant public support. In addition, a general election grant amount will be affected by when during the election cycle the campaign applies.

A. Convention Campaign Grant

Major party gubernatorial candidates who are eligible may apply for and receive a convention campaign grant before their party’s nominating convention. Ballot access is not required for major party gubernatorial candidates applying for a convention campaign grant. Proof of ballot access is necessary for the release of the remaining primary grant funds should the candidate progress to the major party primary.

Convention campaign is defined as the period beginning the day a candidate files an Affidavit of Intent to abide by the CEP expenditure limits (CEP Form 10) and ending at the close of the state convention held pursuant to §9-382 by a major party for the purpose of endorsing a candidate for nomination to the office of Governor.

Nomination Sought	Convention Grant Amount
Governor	\$937,588.75

Important Note: Candidates apply for a grant only once. The qualified committee of a candidate who receives a convention grant and makes the primary ballot, may receive funds for the primary by providing proof of ballot access and filing a campaign finance disclosure statement after the convention.

[General Statutes §§ 9-705(a)(1); 9-382]



B. Primary Campaign Grants

Eligible candidates who qualify for the ballot in a primary are eligible to apply for a primary grant. After the party conventions, caucuses or town committee meetings are held to endorse a party candidate, the Secretary of the State certifies which candidates will face primary contests. In order to be eligible for a primary grant, the candidate must qualify for a place on the ballot pursuant to state election laws and the primary must be scheduled.

Important Note: Allowable personal funds provided by the candidate in the pre-primary/pre-general election grant period reduce the primary grant by a corresponding amount.

[General Statutes §§ 9-382, 9-383, 9-390, 9-400(b), 9-700(11)]

1. Primary Campaign Grant Amounts

<i>Nomination Sought</i>	Primary Grant Amount – Major Party
Governor	\$3,750,355.00 (for candidates that did not receive a convention campaign grant) ----- \$2,812,766.25 (for candidates that received a convention campaign grant)
Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney General	\$562,875.00
State Senator	\$54,005.00
State Representative	\$15,430.00

[General Statutes § 9-705 (a), (b), (e)(1), (f)(1) and (h)]

2. General Assembly Candidates in Party-Dominant Districts

Participating candidates for General Assembly offices in “party-dominant” districts are eligible for larger grants in primary campaigns. A party-dominant district is one in which the percentage of active electors in the district who are enrolled in a major party exceeds the percentage of active electors in the district who are enrolled in the other major party by at least 20 percentage points. The party-dominant districts are determined by the Secretary of the State and certified to the Commission.



Important Note: The list of party-dominant districts is compiled from data made available by the Secretary of the State's office, and Commission staff has provided a listing of the party-dominant districts on its [website](#). Elections Officers will notify registered candidates who are seeking office in a party-dominant district and are on the primary ballot.

<i>Nomination Sought</i>	Primary Grant Amount – “Party-Dominant” District
State Senator	\$115,725.00
State Representative	\$38,575.00

[General Statutes § 9-705(e)(1), (f)(1) and (h)]

Important Note: *The* qualified committee of a candidate who receives a primary grant and then wins the party nomination through a primary election, does *not* have to reapply for a grant for the general election. However, any unspent primary grant funds that remain in the candidate's account will be subtracted from the general election grant. Any such candidate who wins the primary is required to submit a campaign finance disclosure statement after the primary in order to determine the amount of the general election grant. In addition, the campaign must submit a [primary to general election carry forward form](#) listing each item the committee has previously purchased which it intends to use in the general election – the value of these items will be subtracted from the general election grant as well. If the committee is not bringing anything forward, it must still complete the form and indicate so.

C. General Election Campaign Grants

1. Grant Reduction Schedule

The closer to the election a campaign applies for a general election grant, the smaller the grant it may be eligible to receive. A full grant for the general election will only be awarded to a committee that submits a good faith grant application prior to the seventieth day before the election. At the time of grant application, a participating committee's certification must (i) affirm that it has received the required qualifying contributions *prior to the seventieth day* before the election; and (ii) file a SEEC Form 30. A grant application will not be deemed to have been filed unless the aggregate amount of contributions reported meet or exceed the qualifying threshold. The amount of reported contributions from Connecticut contributors for statewide candidates must meet or exceed the 90% requirement for in-state contributors and the number of reported in-district contributions required must exceed 150 for House candidates and 300 for Senate candidates.



The specific dates in 2026 and the corresponding grant amounts will be outlined in the next sections.

[General Statutes §§ 9-705; 9-706(d)(3) as amended by Public Act 25-26]

2. Major Party Candidates

A major party is defined as a political party or organization whose candidate for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election received *at least 20%* of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for Governor while running as a member of that party, or a political party having a number of enrolled members on the active registry list equal to *at least 20%* of the total number of enrolled members of all political parties on the active registry list in the state at the time of the last gubernatorial election.

A candidate who has obtained the nomination of a major party is eligible for a full general election grant base amount. However, if the candidate faces only a minor party or petitioning opponent who has not raised an amount equal to the qualifying threshold level for that office ("limited opposition"), the grant would be reduced to 60%, and if they are unopposed in the general election, the grant would be reduced to 30%. In addition, the grant now may be reduced depending on when the campaign applies. The specific grant amounts, based on application date and opposition, are below:

2026 Governor General Election Grant Amounts – Major Party Candidates

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$18,001,704.00	\$10,801,022.40	\$5,400,511.20
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept.7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$13,501,278.00	\$8,100,766.80	\$4,050,383.40
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$11,701,107.60	\$7,020,664.56	\$3,510,332.28
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$9,900,937.20	\$5,940,562.32	\$2,970,281.16
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$7,200,681.60	\$4,320,408.96	\$2,160,204.48



**2026 Attorney General, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, and State Treasurer
General Election Grant Amounts – Major Party Candidates**

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$1,125,750.00	\$675,450.00	\$337,725.00
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept. 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$844,312.50	\$506,587.50	\$253,293.75
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$731,737.50	\$439,042.50	\$219,521.25
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$619,162.50	\$371,497.50	\$185,748.75
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$450,300.00	\$270,180.00	\$135,090.00

2026 Senate General Election – Major Party Candidates

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$131,155.00	\$78,693.00	\$39,346.50
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, Sept. 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$98,366.25	\$59,019.75	\$29,509.88
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$85,250.75	\$51,150.45	\$25,575.23
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$72,135.25	\$43,281.15	\$21,640.58
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$52,462.00	\$31,477.20	\$15,738.60



2026 State Representative General Election – Major Party Candidates

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$38,575.00	\$23,145.00	\$11,572.50
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, Sept. 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$28,931.25	\$17,358.75	\$8,679.38
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$25,073.75	\$15,044.25	\$7,522.13
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$21,216.25	\$12,729.75	\$6,364.88
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$15,430.00	\$9,258.00	\$4,629.00

Grant amounts are also reduced by any personal funds provided by the candidate, certain amounts of lawn signs provided to the committee, and any grant monies left over from a primary.

3. Minor Party and Petitioning Candidates

A minor party is defined as a political party that is not a major party and whose candidate for the office in question received at the last-preceding regular election for such office, under the designation of that political party or organization, at least 1% of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for such office at such election.

A petitioning candidate is one who utilizes the nominating petition procedure to obtain general election ballot access.

A minor party candidate is eligible for a **full general election grant** if they have obtained the nomination of a minor party whose candidate seeking election for the same office in the same district at the last-preceding regular election received at least 20% of the votes cast for that office. A petitioning candidate is eligible for a full general election grant if they have obtained ballot access **and petition signatures by electors equaling at least 20%** of the votes cast for that office in the prior general election.

A minor party candidate is eligible for **two thirds** of a full general election grant if they have obtained the nomination of a minor party whose candidate seeking election for the same office in the same district at the last-preceding regular election received at least 15% of the votes cast for that office. A petitioning candidate is eligible for two thirds of a full general election grant if they have obtained ballot access **and petition signatures by electors equaling at least 15%** of the votes cast for that office in the prior general election. A minor party candidate is eligible for **one third** of a full general election grant if they have obtained the nomination of a minor party whose candidate seeking election for the same office in the same district at the last-preceding regular election received at least 10% of the votes cast for that office. A petitioning candidate is eligible for one third of a full general election grant if they have obtained ballot



access **and** petition signatures by electors equaling at least **10%** of the votes cast for that office in the prior general election.

In addition, the grant amount may be reduced depending on when the candidate applies during the election cycle, as previously discussed. The specific grant amounts, based on application date and percentage of signatures / vote obtained by the minor party in previous regular election cycle, are summarized in the charts below:

Committees of Candidates Who Receive One-Third or Two-Thirds of the Full Grant Amount May Raise “Differential Contributions”

Minor party or petitioning candidates who receive less than the full grant amount may continue to raise and spend additional contributions, known as “differential contributions,” which must meet the criteria for qualifying contributions, up to the amount of the full applicable grant for the general election for that office.

Committees of Candidates Who Receive One-Third or Two-Thirds of the Full Grant Amount May Be Eligible for Post-Election Grant

Minor party or petitioning candidates who receive a one-third or two-thirds grant amount and report a deficit in post-election disclosure statements may also be eligible to receive supplemental grant money.

Important Note: To qualify for a grant petitioning candidates must have:

1. Ballot access by collecting 1% of signatures of whole votes cast at the last election for the office sought;
2. Petition signatures by electors based on the number of votes cast for that office in the prior general election (20% for full grant, 15% for 2/3 of the grant and 10% for 1/3 of the grant); and
3. Qualifying contributions required for the office sought.

2026 Governor General Election Grant Amounts – Minor Party & Petitioning Candidates

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$18,001,704.00	\$12,001,136.00	\$6,000,568.00
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept.7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$13,501,278.00	\$9,000,852.00	\$4,500,426.00
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21,2026 (65%)	\$11,701,107.60	\$7,800,738.40	\$3,900,369.20
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$9,900,937.20	\$6,600,624.80	\$3,300,312.40
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$7,200,681.60	\$4,800,454.40	\$2,400,227.20



**2026 Attorney General, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, and State Treasurer
General Election Grant Amounts – Minor Party & Petitioning Candidates**

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$1,125,750.00	\$750,500.00	\$375,250.00
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept. 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$844,312.50	\$562,875.00	\$281,437.50
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$731,737.50	\$487,825.00	\$243,912.50
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$619,162.50	\$412,775.00	\$206,387.50
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$450,300.00	\$300,200.00	\$150,100.00

2026 Senate General Election – Minor Party & Petitioning

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$131,155.00	\$87,436.67	\$43,718.33
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, Sept. 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$98,366.25	\$65,577.50	\$32,788.75
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$85,250.75	\$56,833.83	\$28,416.92
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$72,135.25	\$48,090.17	\$24,045.08
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$52,462.00	\$34,974.67	\$17,487.33



2026 State Representative General Election – Minor Party & Petitioning

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$38,575.00	\$25,716.67	\$12,858.33
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, Sept. 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$28,931.25	\$19,287.50	\$9,643.75
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$25,073.75	\$16,715.83	\$8,357.92
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$21,216.25	\$14,144.17	\$7,072.08
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$15,430.00	\$10,286.67	\$5,143.33

Grant amounts may also be reduced by the amount of any unspent primary funds (if the candidate's committee received a primary grant), certain amounts of lawn signs provided to the committee, and by any personal funds provided by the candidate.

4. Committees of Candidates Who Received a Grant Who Face Court Ordered and/or Adjourned Primary or Election May Be Eligible for an Additional Grant

If there is an adjourned primary due to a tie vote or a new court ordered primary, a qualified candidate committee of a major party candidate will be eligible for an additional grant as follows:

Major Party- Primaries

Office Sought	Grant Amount
Governor	\$290,577.18
Lt. Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State and State Treasurer	\$112,545.32
State Senate	\$ 23,145.00
State Representative	\$ 7,715.00

If there is an adjourned election due to a tie vote or a new court ordered election, a qualified candidate committee of a candidate who has been nominated, or who has qualified to appear on the election ballot through the petitioning process, will be eligible for an additional grant for the general election as follows:



General Election -Major Party, Minor and Petitioning Party

Office Sought	Grant Amount
Governor	\$290,577.18
Lt. Governor, Attorney General, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State and State Treasurer	\$112,545.32
State Senate	\$ 23,145.00
State Representative	\$ 7,715.00

[General Statutes § 9-705 (a)(3), (b) (3), (e)(3) & (f)(3)]



VI. CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES

Campaign funds may be spent only to advance the candidacy of the participating candidate. Moreover, CEP grant funds *must* be spent in accordance with Program regulations. In order to comply with the Program, candidates and their campaign treasurers must:

- Designate a single checking account for the deposit of all funds received by the committee and disclose the name of the depository institution on [SEEC Form 1/ SEEC Form 1A](#) at the time of registration;
- Pay for expenditures with a committee check, check card or debit card drawn on the campaign's account — use of cash should be minimal and is restricted by Program regulations and use of committee credit cards is not permitted;
- Document and report each expenditure in order to provide the Commission with proof of the nature and purpose of all campaign spending.

A participating campaign's spending may be examined through post-election reviews conducted to ensure compliance with Program requirements. Campaign treasurers should keep documents to substantiate all expenditures. The law requires the treasurer (or candidate, if so desired) to keep the committee records for **four years** from the date of the termination filing.

[General Statutes §§ 9-602(a), 9-607]

A. Permissible Expenditures Generally

All expenditures must be made to promote the nomination or election of the candidate who established the committee. The treasurer (or the deputy treasurer during the treasurer's absence or disability) is the only individual who may authorize or make any committee expenditures.

Important Note: Candidates are **required** to report any expenditures they make on behalf of the committee to the treasurer. Candidates should specify whether or not they will seek reimbursement. **The candidate's unreimbursed expenditures are considered part of their allowable "personal funds," restricted to the limits described in the first chapter. Moreover, once a committee submits a grant application, the candidate may no longer provide personal funds and therefore is required to seek reimbursement for candidate expenditures.** It is imperative that the candidate keep the treasurer informed on an ongoing and timely basis so that Program requirements can be properly monitored and reported.

Costs traditionally associated with running a political campaign are normally considered to be valid expenditures. Examples of expenditures of campaign funds that are generally permissible include:

- Paying a treasurer for the work they do for the committee;
- Advertising and publicity expenses, including campaign paraphernalia;
- Costs of promotional events (including election day events)—food, rental, staffing, and entertainment;



- Polling and “get-out-the-vote” activities for the participating candidate;
- Food and beverages for campaign staff—capped at \$25 for breakfast, \$30 for lunch, and \$45 for dinner, per person, per occasion, inclusive of tax and gratuities;

Important Note: These meal allowances were increased by the Commission in early 2026 pursuant to Section 9-706-2 (C) of the Regulations.

- Travel expenses for campaign meetings, voter contact or other similar campaign related activities;
- Salaries for staff and fees for professional consultants, as long as the employee or consultant is not the candidate or a member of the candidate's extended family and, if the salary or fee is or is anticipated to be over \$100, it is properly documented with (1) written approval, **prior to work being done**, listing the type and amount of work to be done as well as cost and (2) invoices with adequate detail to evaluate what was done.
- Office expenses, such as rent, supplies, and rental or purchase of equipment and furniture;
- Childcare services rendered to the candidate for the care of any child under 13 years of age and for whom the candidate is the parent or legal guardian. As long as the services are the direct result of campaign activity that would not exist but for the candidate's campaign and compensation is reasonable and customary for the services rendered, a participating campaign may pay for such services up to the qualifying contribution threshold for the office sought by the candidate.

Limited post-election expenses. See Section F of this Chapter for detailed information on this topic

This list, which is by no means exclusive or exhaustive, offers some examples of legitimate campaign expenses that fall within the lawful purposes of a participating candidate's committee. Keeping **detailed, contemporaneous spending records**—a practice required for participating candidates and their campaigns—will allow the Commission to verify that funds were spent in accordance with the Program regulations. *The Commission may consider any expenditure that lacks detailed, contemporaneous documentation an impermissible expenditure.* **Please see [Chapter VIII. Treasurer's Responsibilities and Recordkeeping](#) for more information on how to properly document expenditures to ensure they are permissible.**

[General Statutes §§ 9-607, 9-608(e)(1)(F)-(H), 9-703, 9-706; Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-607-1, 9-706-1, 9-706-2]

B. Joint Expenditures with Another Committee

A “joint expenditure” is an expenditure shared by more than one committee, where each committee pays it proportional, *pro rata* share of the expense. While a candidate committee is prohibited from making any contributions or expenditures that benefit other candidates or committees, a candidate committee may make joint expenditures with other committees and pay its *pro rata* share of the joint expenses of



operating a campaign headquarters and of preparing, printing, and disseminating any political communication that benefits its candidate. If the expense is paid initially by the other committee, the participating candidate committee may reimburse the other committee before the participating candidate receives a grant. After receiving a grant, the participating candidate generally must pay pro rata expenses directly to the vendors. However, a candidate committee that received a grant is permitted to deposit money from another *candidate* committee for a reimbursement for shared expenses for which only the committee being paid or reimbursed is under a contractual obligation to pay. But if a participating campaign that received a grant wants to make a joint expenditure with a town committee, for example, the committees must both pay the vendor directly.

[General Statutes §§ 9-610(b), 9-707; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)(8)]

A candidate committee that makes a coordinated expenditure with another candidate committee or committees must disclose it in Section N of [SEEC Form 30](#), "Expenses Paid by Committee," along with the name or names of the other candidates supported, together with an indication that the expense was coordinated with reimbursement sought. Reimbursement must be received within a reasonable time in order for the committees to avoid making or receiving a prohibited in-kind contribution.

Important Note: *Pro rata* means the proportion of space or time devoted to a single candidate in relationship to all other candidates. In the case of a printed fundraising invitation, *pro rata* means the proportion of space devoted to each candidate. In the case of audio or video invitations, *pro rata* means the percentage of time used. The Commission will permit any reasonable allocation that is made in good faith by the treasurer of the candidate committee making the expenditure that benefits other candidates. The best practice is to keep written documentation of how the *pro rata* allocation was calculated. Also, be sure to keep documentation for any underlying bills, such as individual vendor invoices—do not rely on blanket documentation for repayments to the other committee or to a vendor.

For more information on when a communication represents a joint expenditure and how to allocate the costs of a joint communication, please see [Declaratory Ruling 2011-03](#).

If a committee has questions after reviewing the declaratory ruling, please contact the committee's assigned Elections Officer.

The Commission urges participating candidate committees who choose to share the expenses of operating a campaign headquarters or preparing, printing, or disseminating any political communication as described above to keep detailed documentation of each committee's *pro rata* share of expenditures. Failure to do so may result in the making or receiving of an impermissible "in-kind" contribution, in violation of the Program's requirements.

[General Statutes §§ 9-608(c)(1)(C), 9-610(b), 9-616(a)(5); [Declaratory Ruling 2011-03](#)]



C. Impermissible Expenditures

Committee expenditures that are *not* made to directly promote the nomination or election of the candidate who established the candidate committee are improper or impermissible expenditures.

For participating candidate committees, impermissible expenditures generally include goods or services in the following categories:

1. Personal Use

No goods, services, funds or contributions received by any committee may be made available for the personal use of any candidate or individual.

Expenditures for “personal use” include expenditures to defray normal living expenses for the candidate, the immediate family of the candidate, or any other individual as well as costs of personal appearance (hairstyling, cosmetics, cosmetic treatments) or the candidate’s household day-to-day supplies, merchandise, clothing or attire, even if such personal items (such as the participating candidate’s residence or business suits) are used for campaign-related purposes, are impermissible.

Important Note: Payment for childcare services rendered to the candidate for the care of a child under 13 for whom the candidate is the parent or guardian is a permissible campaign expenditure. See Section A of this Chapter for more information.

[Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)(1) and (2)]

2. Payments to Candidate or Candidate’s Family Members or their Businesses

A participating candidate’s committee may *not* make payments to the candidate or any of the candidate’s family members as outlined in the chart below. The only exception to this rule is for properly authorized and claimed reimbursements for expenses made by the candidate or a family member who volunteers his/her time or services to the committee. The campaign may **never** pay family members for their services or time.

Candidate’s Family Members

Candidate’s	Candidate Spouse’s or Domestic Partner’s
Spouse or domestic partner	
Sibling	Sibling
Sibling’s spouse or partner	Sibling’s spouse or partner
Sibling’s child (nephew or niece)	Sibling’s child
Sibling’s child’s spouse or partner	Sibling’s child’s spouse or partner
Child	Child
Child’s spouse or domestic partner	Child’s spouse or domestic partner
Grandchild	Grandchild
Grandchild’s spouse or domestic partner	Grandchild’s spouse or domestic partner
Parent	Parent



Parent's spouse or domestic partner	Parent's spouse or domestic partner
Grandparent	Grandparent
Grandparent's spouse or domestic partner	Grandparent's spouse or domestic partner
Sibling of candidate's parent (aunt or uncle)	Sibling of spouse or partner's parent (aunt or uncle)
Aunt or uncle's spouse or domestic partner	Aunt or uncle's spouse or domestic partner
Child of aunt or uncle (cousin)	Child of aunt or uncle (cousin)
Cousin's spouse or domestic partner	Cousin's spouse or domestic partner

Additionally, the campaign may not make any payments to an entity in which the participating candidate or member of the candidate's family has a 5% or greater ownership interest. This would include the giving of charitable donations using monies returned by the Commission to the committee when contributions are determined to be non-qualifying.

[Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)(3) and (4); General Statutes 9-601(19)]

3. Contributions to Other Committees or Gifts of Any Kind to Any Person

A participating candidate's committee may **not** use grant funds to make expenditures for:

- Contributions or loans to or for the benefit of another candidate, political committee, or party committee (including purchase of a ticket to another committee's event);
- Purchase of space in a committee's ad book after applying for a grant;
- Any joint expenditure where the committees do not share expenses on a *pro rata* basis;
- Donations to a charity or community organization;
- Gifts of any kind, if the value exceeds \$5 to any one recipient; and
- Post-election bonus payments to campaign staff or volunteers, although a payment not exceeding \$1,000 may be made, after the election, to a campaign treasurer for services rendered to the candidate committee from surplus funds, in addition to any payments the treasurer receives pursuant to a service agreement during the campaign.

[General Statutes § 9-608(e)(1)(G)]; Regs. Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)]



Important Note: Candidate Committees are not permitted to use public funds to donate to charities, for example, a candidate committee cannot host a food drive in connection with one of its fundraising or meet-and-greet-events.

A candidate committee, however, is now permitted to donate contributions that have been identified as **non-qualifying contributions during the grant review process** to a charitable organization which is a tax-exempt organization under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Public Act 25-26, section 7.

4. Payments for Goods or Services Above or Below Fair Market Value

A participating candidate's committee may not pay more or less than the fair market value for goods or services received, including computers and office equipment, but may take advantage of discounts offered to the general public.

In addition, a vendor may provide food or beverage for use by a participating candidate committee at a discount, if the charge is not less than the cost of the items to the vendor and the cumulative value of the discount given to or on behalf of the candidate committee does not exceed \$400 with respect to any single primary or election (the \$400 limit resets after the primary if the candidate is involved in both a primary and the election).

In addition, an individual may donate food or beverages for a committee meeting, event, or activity that is **NOT** a fundraising affair if the cumulative value of the food or beverage donated for a single meeting or non-fundraising event does not exceed \$50.

[General Statutes § 9-601a(b)(6); Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)]

5. Expenditures Lacking Sufficient Contemporaneous Documentation of a Campaign-Related Purpose

Any expenditure for which the campaign does not have sufficient contemporaneous documentation to prove that the payment was made to advance the participating candidate's nomination or election may be considered an impermissible expenditure. Keeping accurate and complete records is necessary for participating candidates and their campaigns.

[Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-1(b)]

[Chapter VIII. Treasurer's Responsibilities and Recordkeeping](#) provides more detail about keeping records, and contains a definition of *contemporaneous*, as well as examples and information regarding sufficient expenditure documentation.

6. Bank Interest

The committee may *not* expend interest earned on deposits of qualifying contributions, allowable personal funds, or Program grant money deposited into its designated depository, as such an expenditure may cause them to exceed expenditure limits. The treasurer must track the accrued interest as reported by the bank and transmit the interest to the Citizens' Election Fund in a lump sum at the time of the committee's transmission of its surplus to the Fund by the surplus distribution deadline set by statute. Bank interest must be disclosed in the committee's financial disclosure statement (in



Section G of the [SEEC Form 30](#)), as well as its transmission to the Fund (in Section N) at the time of surplus distribution.

[General Statutes §§ 9-608(e)(1), 9-707]

7. Other Improper Expenditures

Other impermissible expenditures include, but are not limited to:

- Any expense that is not ultimately paid from the committee's depository account;
- Any expense that is not authorized by the treasurer;
- Purchase of an office or a vehicle;
- Vehicle or transportation expenditures unrelated to the campaign, or campaign mileage and fuel expenses reimbursed at a rate higher than [the IRS's standard mileage rate for business deductions](#);
- Individual *cash* expenditures in excess of \$50. A participating candidate committee's petty cash fund shall not exceed \$100 at any time;
- Expenditures in violation of any federal, state or local law;
- Expenditures incurred but not paid where payment is made contingent on whether the participating candidate receives a Program grant;
- Expenditures to a party or political committee, including reimbursements, after the participating candidate receives a Program grant; and
- Penalties or fines.

[Regs. Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)]

Participating candidates should direct any questions about the legality of an expenditure to Commission staff, through their assigned Elections Officer, *before* spending or committing to spend campaign funds.

D. Expenditure Limits

Generally, spending limits exist for three discrete periods of an election cycle:

1. The period before a primary campaign and general election campaign (the pre-primary/pre-general election period).
2. The primary campaign (if applicable); *and*
3. The general election campaign.

1. Pre-Primary/Pre-General Election Campaign Period Expenditure Limits

Until the convention or meeting for nominating or endorsing a candidate is held, the pre-primary/pre-general election period expenditure limits apply (see section below on *Primary & General Election Campaign Expenditure Limits* for definitions of campaign periods).



During this period, expenditures, including those incurred or obligated but not yet paid, are limited to the required amount of qualifying contributions, plus any allowable personal funds the candidate provides to the candidate committee.

For major party gubernatorial candidates, that apply for a convention campaign grant, expenditures made during the convention campaign period (which begins with the filing of the Form 10) are limited to the required amount of qualifying contributions and the amount of the convention campaign grant. The convention campaign period begins when a participating candidate files SEEC Form CEP 10 and ends at the close of the candidate's party state convention.

Office Sought	Qualifying Amount	Maximum Allowable Amount of Candidate's Personal Funds	Maximum Expenditures During Period
Governor	\$335,500	\$20,000	\$335,500 - \$355,500 (for candidates that are not applying for a convention campaign grant)
			\$1,273,088.75 (for candidates that received a convention campaign grant)
Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney General	\$100,700	\$10,000	\$100,700 - \$110,700
State Senator	\$20,100	\$2,000	\$20,100 - \$22,100
State Representative	\$6,700	\$1,000	\$6,700 - \$7,700

[General Statutes §§ 9-702(c)(A), 9-705, 9-710]



Example 1, Within the Limits: A participating candidate for State Representative provides \$500 of personal funds as seed money to start their campaign. The candidate's expenditure limit for the pre-primary/pre-general election period is \$7,200, which is calculated by adding the amount of required qualifying contributions (\$6,700) plus the amount of personal funds provided (\$500).

Any initial grant received by the candidate will be reduced by the \$500 of personal funds provided (i.e., if this candidate receives a primary grant, the primary grant is reduced by \$500; if the candidate wins the primary (and has no primary grant funds left and is not carrying anything previously purchased over for use in the general election), then the candidate receives the full amount of the general election grant since the candidate's primary grant has already been reduced to offset the personal funds provided).

Thus, a candidate may wish to provide personal funds during the pre-primary/pre-general election period for seed money or because the candidate would like to spend more than the amount of qualifying contributions during the pre-primary/pre-general election period, or both.

Example 2, Exceeding the Limits: A participating candidate for State Senator provides no personal funds, and thus has a spending limit of \$20,100 during the pre-primary/pre-general election period. The candidate committee has spent \$15,000 of the qualifying contributions on permissible campaign expenses. Before nomination, the campaign treasurer purchases campaign paraphernalia for \$8,000.

Because the campaign treasurer has made aggregate expenditures for the pre-primary/pre-general election period (\$23,000) exceeding the applicable expenditure limit of \$20,100, the committee has impermissibly violated the Program's requirements.

2. Primary & General Election Campaign Expenditure Limits

The *primary period* begins when the convention or meeting for nominating or endorsing a candidate is held. The *general election period* begins on the day following the primary, or if no primary is held, on the day the party-endorsed candidate is deemed to be the nominee. During the primary and general election campaign periods, the amounts a candidate committee may spend are calculated by adding the amount of grant monies the committee is eligible to receive *and* any unspent qualifying contributions or unspent personal funds provided by the candidate.

Similarly, for those that intend to apply for a pre-convention grant, the pre-convention period begins with the filing of the SEEC CEP Form 10. During this period, the amounts the candidate may spend are calculated by adding the amount of grant monies the committee is eligible to receive *and* any unspent qualifying contributions or unspent personal funds provided by the candidate.



Example 3, Crossing campaign periods in a primary: A participating candidate seeks a major party nomination for the office of State Representative. The candidate faces a primary contest. The candidate committee has raised sufficient qualifying contributions and otherwise complied with Program requirements.

The candidate provides \$1,000 in personal funds to the candidate committee during the pre-primary/pre-general election campaign period. The committee's expenditure limit for that period is, thus, \$7,700 (the \$6,700 amount of required qualifying contributions plus the \$1,000 of personal funds provided).

During the pre-primary/ pre-general election period, the candidate committee spends \$6,800. After the party convention, the candidate committee's depository account contains a balance of \$900. The candidate applies for a primary campaign grant and receives an initial primary grant of \$14,430 (\$15,430 full grant, minus the \$1,000 personal funds provided).

During the primary campaign period, the candidate committee has \$15,330 to spend (calculated by adding the \$14,430 primary grant plus the \$900 balance remaining from the qualifying contributions and personal funds collected in the pre-primary/ pre-general election period).

[General Statutes §§ 9-702(c)(B), 9-705, 9-710; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-702-1]

3. What Happens if a Participating Campaign Makes an Excess Expenditure?

In exchange for a public campaign grant, participating candidates voluntarily agree to abide by expenditure limits and to follow all Program requirements. If a participating candidate makes or incurs an excess expenditure before applying for a grant, it may affect the committee's eligibility to receive grant money.

[General Statutes §§ 9-702, 9-703]

In addition, penalties and other consequences apply if a qualified candidate committee which has received a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund makes or incurs an excess expenditure:

1. The candidate and campaign treasurer are jointly and severally liable to pay for the excess expenditure;
2. If the candidate and/or the campaign treasurer were aware of the excess expenditure, the candidate committee is prohibited from receiving any additional grants from the Citizens' Election Fund for the rest of the election cycle;
3. If the candidate and/or the campaign treasurer were aware of the excess expenditure, the candidate will be deemed a nonparticipating candidate for the rest of the election cycle;
4. The campaign treasurer is subject to civil penalties, including but not limited to monetary fines; and



5. The participating candidate committee that has exceeded the spending limits will be required to file a declaration of excess expenditures with the Commission (discussed in [Chapter VIII](#)).

[General Statutes §§ 9-7b, 9-711, 9-712]

If the Commission determines that an excess expenditure made by a participating candidate is *de minimis*, the Commission may modify or waive these penalties. When evaluating whether such an excess expenditure is *de minimis*, the Commission considers the following factors:

1. The amount of the excess expenditure in relation to the applicable expenditure limit;
2. Whether any unforeseen extraordinary circumstances, such as a natural disaster, contributed to the excess expenditure;
3. Whether the participating candidate and campaign treasurer acted diligently to follow the expenditure limit;
4. Whether the participating candidate or the treasurer used personal funds to either pay for the excess expenditure or reimburse the candidate committee for the amount of the excess expenditure upon becoming aware of the problem; and
5. Whether the participating candidate or the treasurer agrees to pay any penalties assessed by the Commission in relation to the excess expenditure.

[General Statutes §§ 9-711(a), 9-712; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-711-1]

Important Note: Penalties may also apply to an individual who is associated with the campaign and who, *without the direct or indirect consent of the candidate or the treasurer*, makes or incurs an expenditure on behalf of a qualified candidate committee that exceeds the applicable spending limit. Such expenditures (1) require the individual to repay the Fund the amount of the excess expenditure; and (2) subject the individual to civil penalties imposed by the Commission.

[General Statutes § 9-711(b)]

E. Advertising Expenditures and Attribution (Disclaimer) Requirements

1. Core Attribution Requirements for Written, Typed, Printed, or Web-Based Written Communications

There are specific attribution or disclaimer requirements that apply to expenditures made for "*written, typed or printed communications or web-based written communications.*" These include communications that support or oppose a candidate, that solicit campaign funds, or both.

These communications can take many forms, such as letters, brochures, circulars, websites, emails, text message communications and other web-based communications, billboards, transit advertisements, newspaper advertisements, and campaign signs that are greater than 32 square feet in surface area, television or



internet video advertising, radio or internet radio advising, and automated telephone calls (“robo” calls).

For communications in the form of a flyer or leaflet, newspaper, magazine, or similar literature, or that is delivered by mail, **the disclaimer required to be on the face of the communication, as discussed below, must be at least in eight-point type of uniform font.**

[General Statutes § 9-621]

a. “Paid For By”

The “paid for by” requirement of the law applies to written, typed or printed communications, text message communications or web-based written communications that promote the success or defeat of any candidate’s campaign or solicit funds to benefit any candidate.

A candidate or exploratory committee that finances such a communication must include on the face of the communication the text “paid for by,” together with the name of the sponsoring committee.

Important Note: An individual may not pay for a communication made with the cooperation of, at the request or suggestion of, or in consultation with the candidate, agent of the candidate, or the committee because that would be an in-kind contribution to the committee and participating committees cannot receive in-kind contributions. The committee could, however, pay for the costs of the communication.

[General Statutes § 9-621 (a)(1) as amended by Public Act 25-26]

b. “Approved By”

The law also includes an “approved by” requirement that applies to written, typed, or printed communications, text message communications, or web-based written communications that promote the success or defeat of any candidate’s campaign or solicit funds to benefit any candidate.

Under this requirement, communications financed by any candidate or exploratory committee must include on the face of the communication the words “approved by” together with the name of the *candidate* who approved the communication, whether or not the communication is in support of the candidate or in opposition to some other candidate.

Important Note: For any **text message communications**, the appearance of a committee’s attribution in the initial text message when a series of communications are sent together or the display of a link within the body of the text message to an internet website where the committee’s attribution appears shall be deemed to satisfy attribution requirements.

[General Statutes § 9-621 (a)(2)]



2. Attribution Requirements for Television or Internet Video Advertising Communications

In addition to the “paid for by” and “approved by” attribution requirements outlined above, any candidate, candidate committee or exploratory committee that finances any television advertising or Internet video advertising in support of the candidate sponsoring the communication or in opposition to another candidate is required to simultaneously include during the advertising, for a period of not less than four seconds, the following:

- A clearly identifiable photograph or similar image of the sponsoring candidate; and
- A clearly readable printed statement identifying the sponsoring candidate and indicating that the sponsoring candidate has approved the advertising (which is satisfied by the “paid for by” and “approved by” attribution set forth above).

The advertisement must also include the candidate's name, and image in the narrative of the advertisement.

[General Statutes § 9-621(b)(1)]

3. Attribution Requirements for Radio or Internet Audio Advertising Communications

In addition to the “paid for by” and “approved by” attribution requirements described above, any candidate, candidate committee or exploratory committee that finances any radio advertising or Internet audio advertising in support of the candidate sponsoring the communication or in opposition to some other candidate must include at the end of the advertising a personal audio statement by the sponsoring candidate that:

- Identifies the sponsoring candidate and the elective office(s) being sought; and
- Indicates approval of the advertising in the following form: “I am (candidate's name) and I approved this message.”

The advertisement must also include the candidate's name and voice in the narrative of the advertisement.

[General Statutes § 9-621(b)(2)]

4. Attribution Requirements for Campaign “Robo” Telephone Calls

In addition to the “paid for by” and “approved by” attribution requirements described above, any candidate, candidate committee or exploratory committee that makes or incurs an expenditure for automated telephone calls that promote the success of the candidate or the defeat of another candidate must include the candidate's name and voice in the narrative of the call.

[General Statutes § 9-621(b)(3)]



5. Special Attribution Requirements for State Treasurer Candidates

The campaign treasurer of an exploratory committee or candidate committee for the Office of State Treasurer shall include a statement concerning the investment services ban in any written, typed or other printed communication soliciting funds.

[General Statutes § 9-621 (f), § 9-612 (e)]

6. Exceptions to the Attribution Requirements

The attribution requirements outlined above do not apply to *editorials, news stories, or commentaries* published in a newspaper, magazine, or journal on its own behalf, upon its own responsibility, and not in exchange for any compensation. In addition, banners, political paraphernalia (e.g., pins, buttons, badges, emblems, hats, or bumper stickers) and signs with a surface area of not more than 32 square feet (most lawn signs) are exempt from the law's attribution requirements.

[General Statutes § 9-621 (d)]

F. Post-Election Spending

Candidates are limited in the post-election expenditures that they can make. Until the candidate committee is terminated, a candidate may only make **modest** post-election expenditures for routine activities involving nominal costs associated with winding up a campaign and responding to a post-election review.

The following expenditures are generally permitted post-election expenditures:

- Unpaid utility bills and rent for campaign headquarters, as well as other unpaid campaign liabilities reported prior to the primary or general election;
- The cost of copying campaign financial records and other expenses in complying with a post-election review;
- Reasonable moving expenses related to closing the campaign office;
- Thank you notes for contributors, campaign volunteers, and staff limited to the following amounts: \$7,500 for a candidate for governor; \$3,500 for a candidate for other statewide office; \$1,000 for a candidate for state senator; \$500 for a candidate for state representative;
- A post-election thank you meal for committee workers occurring within fourteen days of the applicable primary day or election, where the cost of the meal does not exceed \$30 per worker; and
- A payment not exceeding \$1,000 to a campaign treasurer for services rendered.

Important Note: Parties to thank volunteers and supporters other than the ones described above may be held later than election day, but they may **not** be paid for by the candidate committee.



The following expenditures from committee funds are not permitted as winding-up expenditures:

- Post-election mailings other than those specifically mentioned above;
- Making contributions to any person or entity;
- Making bonus payments or gifts to staff and volunteers, with the exception of a post-election payment to the campaign treasurer of up to \$1,000, as described above;
- Hosting a post-election day event, with the exception of a meal for committee workers, as described above; and
- Expenditures for transition and inauguration activities.

[General Statutes §§ 9-608(e)(1), 9-706; Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-706-2(a)(11) and 9-706-2(a)(13)]



VII. EXPENDITURES BY OUTSIDE SOURCES

The voluntary spending limits agreed to by CEP candidates are a core component of public financing. In addition, candidate committees of participating candidates may only receive a limited amount of personal funds provided by the candidate, small-dollar qualifying contributions, and grants from the CEF. Candidate committees of participating candidates cannot receive in-kind contributions from any other committees, and cannot benefit from non-independent (coordinated) expenditures made by other committees. However, there are several ways that outside sources, such as political committees and party committees, as well as entities such as corporations and labor unions, special interest groups, and individuals, may spend money to influence an election.

Participating candidates and treasurers are urged to take the time to understand these various types of expenditures. Expenditures from outside sources could qualify as impermissible in-kind contributions to the campaign, subjecting the candidate committee to penalties and other consequences. These types of outside expenditures typically fall into one of the following three groups:

1. **Non-independent (coordinated) expenditures** are expenditures made with the consent, coordination, or consultation of a candidate or an agent of the candidate but financed by another source. *Such non-independent coordinated expenditures qualify as contributions under Connecticut law.*
2. **Organization expenditures** are certain expenditures made by party committees, legislative caucus committees, or legislative leadership committees that benefit a candidate and are not considered contributions. *Because they are not contributions, receipt of organization expenditures will not cause participating candidate committees to exceed expenditure limits.*
3. **Independent expenditures** are those made by a person or entity without the consent, coordination, or consultation of, a candidate or agent of the candidate committee. *Truly independent expenditures are not coordinated expenditures, and thus are not contributions, and will not cause participating candidate committees to exceed expenditure limits.*

[General Statutes §§ 9-601 (25), 9-601c, 9-718; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2]

A. Non-Independent (Coordinated) Expenditures

Participating candidates must be careful when working closely with groups or individuals that make expenditures concerning Connecticut elections.

Collaborating on strategy or spending with supporters could result in the group or individual making a “coordinated expenditure” on behalf of a candidate committee, which constitutes a contribution and must be both from a permissible donor and within such donor’s applicable contribution limit.

The statute points out several instances where the Commission will presume that an expenditure made was not independent, including but not limited to where:

- The individual or group making the expenditure and the candidate committee benefiting from the expenditure share the same leadership or consultants;



- The individual or group makes an expenditure in cooperation with a candidate or committee or based on information received from the candidate or someone acting on behalf of the candidate about the candidate's plans or needs;
- The individual or group pays for political advertising or communications that uses material prepared by the benefiting committee or a consultant hired by the benefiting committee;
- The individual or group pays for fundraising affairs on behalf of a committee; and
- The individual or group pays for communications or advertising that clearly identify the candidate and the candidate or a representative of the candidate has been informed about the manner, contents, and target audience, among others, of the communication.

These presumptions are rebuttable meaning that if one or more of these presumptions are triggered, the candidate, treasurer, or the respondent will have the opportunity to prove that no coordination existed, but the burden will be on the candidate, treasurer or other respondent. If an expenditure is coordinated by an individual or a committee with a candidate (or a candidate's agent) and payment or reimbursement is not made by the candidate committee within a reasonable time, the coordinated expenditure constitutes an in-kind contribution to that candidate's campaign. Committees of candidates participating in the Program may not receive in-kind contributions from any committees. If an expenditure is coordinated by a business entity, labor union, or any other type of entity or person that is not making the expenditure through a political committee established under Connecticut law, it is an impermissible contribution. The candidate, agent, and treasurer who participated in or had knowledge of the coordination are jointly and severally liable for paying any penalty levied by the Commission.

Important Note: Participating candidates who have established or control a political committee must be particularly mindful of that political committee's activities during the election cycle. A candidate may only establish one funding source for his campaign. A political committee established or controlled by an elected official or candidate for elected office, or his agent, may not make contributions to that official/candidate's candidate committee, whether the candidate is participating or not. There is a **strong** presumption that an expenditure by a political committee established or controlled by a candidate that benefits that candidate is coordinated and thus an impermissible contribution.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601(19), 9-601c, 9-604(c), 9-622(13), 9-702(c)(B) and (C), 9-706(b)(4); Declaratory Ruling 2018-01]

B. Organization Expenditures

General Assembly candidates may be eligible to receive or benefit from certain types of in-kind donations from legislative caucus committees, legislative leadership committees, or party committees called organization expenditures. Statewide candidates may receive the benefit of organization expenditures made by party committees; however, legislative leadership committees and legislative caucus committees may not make organization expenditures to benefit statewide candidates. An "organization expenditure" by a legislative caucus or legislative leadership



committee or party committee is specifically exempted from the definition of "contribution" and "expenditure" for purposes of the campaign finance laws (and therefore do not affect a participating candidate's expenditure limits), but remains a reportable transaction for purposes of public disclosure by such committees making the organization expenditure.

1. Types of Organizational Expenditures

Organization expenditures may be made for the following:

- The preparation, display, mailing, or distribution of a party candidate listing, including the electronic sharing, posting or forwarding of content created by a candidate committee or party committee, legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee on behalf of a candidate and the use of a personal email list or account for such purposes. A "party candidate listing" is a communication that (1) lists the name or names of the candidates, (2) is distributed through public advertising, direct mail, telephone, electronic mail, internet, or personal delivery, and (3) is made to promote the success or defeat of any candidate or slate of candidates seeking nomination for election or election, or for the purpose of aiding or promoting the success or defeat of any referendum question, or the success or defeat of any political party. Such communications cannot be a solicitation for on behalf of a candidate committee.

Important Note: Party committees, legislative caucus committees and legislative leadership committees may not make any organization expenditures on party candidate listings for the benefit of participating candidates for General Assembly during a primary campaign.

- Printed or electronic documents including party platforms, an electronic page providing merchant account services to be used by a candidate for the collection of online contributions, issue papers, information on Connecticut election law, voter registration lists, and voter identification information that a party, legislative caucus, or legislative leadership committee creates or maintains for party or caucus building and gives to candidates who are members of the same party;
- A campaign event at which campaign materials are present and food or beverage may be provided, but at which no contribution shall be received, solicited or bundled.

Important Note: To qualify as an organization expenditure, no fundraising can be done at such an event for both the sponsoring and benefiting committee. That means the sponsoring committee cannot charge an entry fee for the campaign event, collect contributions, or have a table for the candidate to collect contributions.

For example, a town committee hosts a meet and greet for a candidate committee at which the party committee charges an entry fee and has a table for



the candidate's materials or the candidate's treasurer collecting contributions at the event. Such an event does not qualify as an organization expenditure on behalf of the party committee and should be treated as a joint expenditure with each committee paying its pro rata share of the cost.

- Retention of services of an advisor or individual to assist with a candidate's campaign.

2. Limits on Organizational Expenditures

The scope of what constitutes an organization expenditure is construed narrowly. The Commission recommends that candidates, legislative leadership committees, legislative caucus committees, and party committees read the detailed definition of organization expenditures in General Statutes § 9-601 (25). Any committee authorized to make an organization expenditure should seek guidance from the Commission staff about whether the planned outlay of funds constitutes a permissible organization expenditure.

Section 9-718 of the General Statutes sets forth the limits on the amount of organization expenditures that a town committee, legislative caucus committee, or legislative leadership committee can make to benefit certain participating candidates.

Organizational Expenditure Limits	
State Senate	\$15,010.00
State Representative	\$5,253.50

Legislative leadership committees and legislative caucus committees of the same party, in the House and Senate, can aggregate their maximum organization expenditure amounts for participating candidates provided there is a written agreement between the treasurers of each aggregating committee. Upon execution of the said agreement, the treasurers must submit the agreement to SEEC, which will make the agreement available to the public on the Commission's website.

Additionally, a legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee may pay or reimburse another legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee for its pro rata share of the expenses of accomplishing the paying or reimbursing committee's lawful purpose. These include shared expenses for which only the committee being paid or reimbursed was under contractual obligation to pay.

Committees making organization expenditures are subject to reporting requirements. The Commission will post a listing of all reported organization expenditures made for the benefit of statewide office and General Assembly candidates on its [website](#). See also [Chapter IX. Disclosure](#).

a. Other types of assistance allowed by these committees.

Participating candidate committees may accept the following additional assistance from party committees, legislative leadership and legislative caucus committees:

- The posting or display of candidates' names by a *party committee* at a town fair, county fair, local festival or similar mass gathering; and



- The **use of offices and equipment provided by a party committee, legislative leadership committee, or legislative caucus committee** – please note that party committees may provide such offices and equipment to both statewide office and General Assembly candidates whereas legislative leadership committees and legislative caucus committees may only provide use of such offices and equipment to General Assembly candidates.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601 (2), 9-601 (25), 9-608(c)(5), 9-610 (b)(2), 9-618 and (6), 9-718; Public Act 24-25; [Declaratory Ruling 2011-01](#)]

Important Note: Only legislative leadership committees, legislative caucus committees, and party committees may make organization expenditures to benefit General Assembly candidates. Only party committees are permitted to make organization expenditures to benefit statewide candidates. No other types of committees, including political committees, may make organization expenditures.

C. Independent Expenditures

An independent expenditure is an expenditure that is made by a person without the consent, coordination, or consultation of, a candidate or agent of the candidate, candidate committee, political committee or party committee. Person is defined broadly in the law and includes an individual, committee, firm, partnership, organization, association, syndicate, company trust, corporation, limited liability company or any other legal entity of any kind. An independent expenditure is *not* a “coordinated expenditure,” and thus an independent expenditure does not count as a contribution to the candidate who receives the benefit of the independent expenditure.

It is recommended that candidates, treasurers, and campaign managers be familiar with the difference between independent expenditures and non-independent (coordinated) expenditures (as discussed above), and train campaign staff accordingly, to avoid impermissible coordination. If you have any questions about these issues, please contact our compliance team via your Elections Officer.

Important Note: Participating candidate committees that have received public campaign financing may **not** use committee funds to make an independent expenditure to benefit another candidate. A candidate committee can only make expenditures to promote the campaign of the candidate who established the committee.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601c, 9-607(g)(1), Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2(b)(13)]



VIII. TREASURERS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND RECORDKEEPING

This chapter describes some of the treasurer's responsibilities, including required recordkeeping and documentation requirements for participating candidate committees.

Important Note: Further information regarding the post-election review process is also provided in Chapter XI Post-Election Review. A complete and detailed list of all documentation and internal records that a treasurer is required to furnish for the purpose of complying with the post-election review may be found in Appendix A

A. Monitors and Authorizes All Expenditures

The treasurer is responsible for monitoring compliance with the applicable expenditure limits. **Only the treasurer (or deputy treasurer in the treasurer's absence) may authorize and make expenditures on behalf of the committee.** All committee expenditures must be made by check, check card or debit card drawn on the committee's depository account. Committee checks must contain the committee's name.

Only the treasurer (or deputy treasurer in the treasurer's absence) may use the committee's check card or debit card. Committee credit cards are not permitted.

Important Note: expenditures may not be paid through the use of gift cards. For example, a committee may not purchase a series of gift cards and pass them out to campaign workers in lieu of compensation.

Candidates, committee workers, and consultants have a duty to report all expenditures they make on behalf of the committee to the treasurer and provide the treasurer with documentation substantiating the expenditure (e.g., receipt, invoice, etc.).

Candidate committees are required to report all expenditures made or incurred. This includes each campaign expenditure made by the candidate from his personal funds. This disclosure is reported in Section O entitled "Campaign Expenses Paid by Candidate," of the [SEEC Form 30](#). At the time of this disclosure, the candidate must indicate whether or not reimbursement is sought. Expenditures made by the candidate for which reimbursement is not sought count toward the participating candidate's personal funds limit. After receiving a grant, the candidate must be reimbursed for expenditures made for the committee. It is imperative that candidates report expenditures they make to the treasurer in a timely manner and seek preauthorization.



Important Note: All monies from the candidate deposited into the bank account must be reported in section E entitled "Personal Funds of the Candidate Received this Period — Candidate Committees Only" and will be treated as personal funds. Candidates may not make loans to the committee so such monies may not be refunded to the candidate, and candidates may not make a qualifying contribution so such funds should not be reported in section B entitled "Itemized Contributions from Individuals."

[General Statutes §§ 9-606, 9-607, 9-702(a), 9-703]

B. Oversees and Authorizes the Deposits of All Monetary Receipts

All funds received by the committee must be deposited in the committee's single checking account within **twenty** days of receipt.

The treasurer must ensure that any funds or resources received by the committee are lawful and within the aggregate limits permitted under the campaign financing laws and Citizens' Election Program rules, and must maintain backup documentation to substantiate each contribution, including but not limited to copies of checks, contributor certification forms, and documentation to substantiate online contributions. **Receipts that are either prohibited or otherwise in excess of the permissible limits set forth by law should not be deposited.** Rather, the treasurer should return them to the contributor within twenty days of receipt or by the filing deadline for transactions falling within the reporting period, whichever is earlier.

If the treasurer deposits a monetary receipt into the committee's account that is later deemed unlawful, the treasurer must report the deposit on the financial disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) and refund the same amount without delay to the contributor on a check drawn on the committee's checking account. Any such refund must be reported as an expenditure in Section N of the [SEEC Form 30](#) using the "REF" expenditure code for that purpose. For more information on reporting refunds see the section on Expenditure Documentation [in this chapter](#). Wherever possible, such refunds should be made in the same reporting period as the funds were deposited. Similarly, if the committee has mistakenly received an in-kind contribution or coordinated expenditure, then it must disclose the amount and should contact their Elections Officer right away to discuss coming back into compliance with Program requirements, if possible.

Important Note: The committee should **not** refund any contributions or delete contributions from its disclosure statements after it has applied for or been awarded a grant. If the committee has non-qualifying contributions during the grant application review, the treasurer will receive instructions regarding how the contribution documentation may be corrected, if applicable, and will also be given the option to have the funds returned to the committee so that they may be refunded to the contributor or given to a 501(c)(3) charity. Please contact your Elections Officer if you have any questions about issuing refunds.

Once the treasurer has reviewed each contribution to make sure the contribution is from a permissible source and within the permissible limits, and the treasurer has approved the contributions and has assured that they have the necessary copies and



documentation, then the treasurer may delegate to a committee worker or volunteer, or to the candidate, the ministerial duty of driving to the bank and making the deposit into the committee's depository account. While the treasurer may delegate the duty to drive to the bank or make the deposit, it is important to note that it is the treasurer who remains responsible for **all** committee receipts and expenditures.

Example 1 (permissible): The candidate, who has been designated a solicitor by the treasurer, goes door-to-door in their community to speak to potential voters and raise qualifying contributions. The candidate obtains contributor certification forms and receives contributions, and delivers all contributions, in the form received, to the treasurer within seven days after they receive them. After the treasurer has reviewed the contribution forms for compliance with source and dollar limits, has made copies of contributor checks for the committee's internal records, counted any cash and has prepared a deposit slip, the treasurer may delegate to the candidate the ministerial task of going to the bank and making the deposit into the committee's bank account.

Example 2 (not permissible): The candidate, who has been designated a solicitor by the treasurer, goes door-to-door in their community to speak to potential voters and raise qualifying contributions. The candidate obtains contributor certification forms and receives contributions, and goes to the bank at the end of the day and directly deposits the funds without any involvement by the treasurer. This is **not** permissible, as the candidate (or any other individual) may not act as the treasurer, and ***the treasurer may not delegate the treasurer's responsibility to receive, review, and approve contributions to the candidate or any other committee worker.***

All contributions must be accompanied by a contributor certification form from the contributor including the contributor's name and address. If the funds received are in the form of a contribution which **exceeds** \$50 in the aggregate then the contributor certification form must have the employer information and the certifications of the individual's status as a communicator lobbyist, an immediate family member thereof, or a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor filled in. If a contribution over \$50 is not accompanied by a contributor certification form with the required information, then the treasurer must send to the contributor a request for that certification by certified mail, return receipt requested, **within three business days** after receiving the contribution. The treasurer cannot deposit the funds into the committee's checking account until the certification is received. If no certification is received within fourteen days after sending the written request or by the end of the reporting period in which the contribution is received (whichever is later), then the treasurer must return the contribution to the contributor. Sample contributor certification forms for use by participating candidates for statewide office or General Assembly are available at the [Commission's website](#).

The candidate or treasurer may decide to return any funds received by the committee before the funds are required to be deposited.



Important Note: If the treasurer has set up the credit card processing in a manner that does not block all contributions over \$50 until they are reviewed by the treasurer, they must have a process for ensuring that they review all credit card contributions within three days of being made. For those contributors whose contributions aggregate to over \$50, if the treasurer is using a credit card processor that deposits the contributions before they can be reviewed, the treasurer must make sure that the required certification is requested within three days and that the contribution is returned within fourteen days of the request being made if the required certification is not received.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(a), 9-607(g)(2)(R), 9-608(c)]

C. Files Periodic Financial Disclosure Statements

The law requires the treasurer to file all of the committee's required financial disclosure statements. For more information on how and when to submit financial disclosure statements, see [Chapter IX. Disclosure](#).

Important Note: Only the treasurer or deputy treasurer can file a committee's financial disclosure. Treasurers and deputy treasurers should NOT share their eCRIS account credentials with anyone.

[General Statutes § 9-608(a)]

D. Appoints Solicitors

The only individuals who may receive contributions and donations on behalf of a candidate committee are the treasurer, deputy treasurer, and solicitors. The treasurer may appoint solicitors to help with fundraising. A solicitor is any individual (including the candidate) who is appointed by the campaign treasurer to receive, but not deposit or spend, funds or resources on behalf of the committee. Receiving funds is different than merely asking that donations be given to a committee. One who merely asks for contributions to be made to a committee, but who does not actually receive the contributions, is not a solicitor.

Important Note: *Soliciting* means 1) asking for contributions, 2) participating in any fundraising activities, 3) serving as an officer on a committee, 4) establishing a political committee to receive or make contributions. The term *soliciting* is interpreted broadly and should be distinguished from the role of being a *solicitor*. A *solicitor* is a formally appointed agent of a committee that is allowed to receive funds on behalf of a committee.

See [Chapter III. Qualifying Contributions](#) for more information on solicitors and individuals who may not act as solicitors.

Important Note: The treasurer is responsible for training solicitors to comply with the relevant requirements regarding soliciting and accepting contributions.

[General Statutes § 9-602(a) and (b)]



E. Obtains and Keeps All Committee Records

Campaign treasurers of *all candidate and exploratory committees* must report all campaign activity and keep complete records of all receipts and expenditures reported on periodic campaign finance disclosure statements. Candidate committees of *participating candidates* must maintain detailed documentation of:

- Qualifying contributions and the return of non-qualifying contributions (see also [Chapter III. Qualifying Contributions](#));
- The amount of expenditures (to remain within expenditure limits) (see also [Chapter VI. Campaign Expenditures](#));
- The purpose of expenditures (grant money must be used for permissible purposes only); and
- Records to substantiate all expenditures, including but not limited to hiring, lease and service agreements, as well as rebates, credits, and refunds.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(a), 9-608(a), 9-607, 9-704; Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-706-1; § 9-706-2]

THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS that treasurers review their bank statements when preparing their financial disclosure statements to ensure that all transactions listed on the bank statement within the reporting period are disclosed in the corresponding financial disclosure statement and likewise, that all expenses listed in the financial disclosure statement are reflected on the corresponding bank statement.

1. Internal Records

The treasurer must retain internal records in order to substantiate all claimed permissible receipts and expenditures made by the committee, as well as bank records and documentation of fundraising events.

Important Note: The Commission recommends that treasurers maintain copies of all records, in addition to the required set of originals, to submit in the event that the committee is subject to a post-election review or a complaint is filed against the committee. For information on preparing and delivering documents when selected for post-election review see Chapter XI. Post-Election Review.

If the candidate committee's bank does not provide copies of records, such as deposit slips, the treasurer must record and maintain all deposit information in order to create proper records. The treasurer must also obtain photocopies or electronic images of all committee checks written for committee expenditures.

These internal records must be kept for four years from the date on which the candidate committee's final campaign finance disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) is required to be filed. Either the campaign treasurer or the candidate



must maintain these records. Internal records also must be kept in support of each entry on the campaign's financial disclosure statements.

[General Statutes §§ 9-607(f), 9-712]

2. Contribution Records

To document all contributions received, the treasurer must maintain three general categories of records:

- *Copies of documentation for all contributions received*, including copies of checks and money orders, copies of completed and signed contribution certification forms, credit card contribution certification ledgers and transactional receipts, and deposit slips for all bank deposits.
- *All written or printed fundraising materials*, including a detailed record of each fundraising event (which indicates the date and location of the event) and a list of each contribution received at, or in connection with, the event.
- *Solicitor information*, including a list of all solicitors, and an accounting of the contributions received by each solicitor.

[General Statutes § 9-606]

The treasurer must account for and disclose all the funds received and deposited by the campaign, as well as all the expenditures made by the campaign.

Important Note: The treasurer is required to deposit in the campaign's depository account all funds received within twenty days of receiving them. Contributions that exceed \$50 in the aggregate, however, may not be deposited until required documentation is received.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606, 9-607, 9-608(c), 9-706; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

3. Qualifying Contribution Documentation

All qualifying contributions must be carefully documented in order for the Commission to review candidates' grant applications and to determine whether reported qualifying contributions are from permissible sources. The treasurer is responsible for demonstrating that all reported qualifying contributions meet the criteria for qualifying contributions.

To demonstrate that all claimed qualifying contributions are from permissible sources and in permissible amounts, candidates and campaign treasurers must collect and maintain, and produce to the Commission, backup documentation, including but not limited to copies of checks, money orders, check card, debit card and/or credit card contribution records, and contribution certification documentation for each cash, money order, and debit card and credit card contributions not made over



the internet. The documentation must be *contemporaneously* created, which means it must be created and recorded at the time each transaction takes place.

[\[Declaratory Ruling 2007-03\]](#)

Maintaining accurate and well-organized records will help the campaign comply with Program requirements and will facilitate review of the candidate's grant application. Further, diligent recordkeeping and maintenance will aid the candidate and treasurer during any reviews that may occur pre- or post-election.

Most importantly, the failure to maintain and/or provide these records may lead to a determination that any such undocumented contributions do not meet the criteria for qualifying contributions.

The treasurer must also record and maintain all information needed to complete [SEEC Form 30](#). For each contribution, this must include:

- The name and residential street address of the contributor;
- The method of contribution;
- The date the contribution was received;
- The amount of the contribution, as well as the aggregate contributions of the contributor, if applicable;
- The principal occupation of the contributor, and the name of employer (if the contributor is unemployed, retired, a student, or a homemaker, they must be reported as such); and
- Whether the contributor is a communicator lobbyist, a member of the immediate family of a communicator lobbyist, or a principal of a current or prospective state contractor (and the branch of state government the state contract is with, if applicable).

The treasurer should collect this information from contributors using one of the Commission's [sample qualifying contribution certification forms](#) (see below) or, if collecting credit card contributions, using an online provider and interface that has been reviewed by SEEC staff to ensure that it adequately captures the required information.

Failure to maintain or to produce adequate internal records will result in a determination that the candidate committee is not eligible to receive a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(a), 9-607(f), 9-608(c)(3), 9-706; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-1; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]



4. Contribution Certification Documentation

a. Contribution Certification Forms

Any individual who makes a qualifying contribution must provide a contributor certification form with their name and address.

Any individual who makes a qualifying contribution that separately or in the aggregate exceeds \$50 **must** provide employer information, certify as to whether they are a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor or a communicator lobbyist or an immediate family member of a communicator lobbyist. As noted above, there are timing requirements for obtaining this certification and the contributions must not be deposited until the certification is received.

Important Note: Participating candidate's may never accept contributions from principals of current or prospective state contractors, *regardless of dollar amount*. The treasurer should, therefore, collect certification forms even for contributions that do not exceed \$50 in the aggregate. If a treasurer deposits a contribution based on a certification that is later determined to be false, the certification serves as a complete defense to any action, including a complaint investigated by the Commission for the treasurer's receipt of the contribution. In other words, the treasurer may rely on the contributor certification, and without one, the treasurer will be liable for receiving an illegal contribution.

b. Contribution ID Number

The contribution ID number is a unique number identifying each contribution and connecting the back-up documentation provided with the contribution listed on the financial disclosure statement.

On eCRIS, the contribution ID number is generated electronically once the user enters a contribution and must be recorded on the corresponding backup documentation.

Important Note: The Commission recommends inputting contributions immediately after receiving receipt in a draft report in eCRIS and assigning an individual who is associated with the campaign and who can view draft reports in eCRIS to write the eCRIS assigned contribution ID number on the corresponding piece of backup documentation.

If your campaign plans to upload data to eCRIS, the Commission recommends performing the upload on the first day or two after the reporting period closes. Reporting right after the period closes will ensure that campaign workers with assigned roles in eCRIS will have sufficient time to note each eCRIS assigned contribution ID number and write that number on the corresponding piece(s) of backup documentation. If your campaign uploads data to eCRIS, keeping your backup documentation grouped by date received and then in alphabetical order by contributor's last name for that date will also help the campaign add eCRIS-assigned



contribution ID numbers to the corresponding documents after an upload is completed and the report is “filed to State.”

The contribution ID number enables both the treasurer and Commission staff to link each claimed qualifying contribution with the substantiating documentation. This enables timely and accurate review of applications for public funds. Qualifying contribution documentation lacking contribution ID numbers may delay review by Commission staff.

Helpful Tip: *If your campaign is scanning paper qualifying contribution documentation and saving the electronic images as PDFs to provide to the Commission, you can add the eCRIS-assigned contribution ID number as a header or footer on the PDF image, if you have not already written the contribution ID number on the paper copy prior to scanning.*

c. Documenting Cash, and Money Order Contributions

Qualifying contributions in the form of cash or money order must now be accompanied by a contribution certification form regardless of the aggregate amount received from the particular contributor.

Important Note: An individual may only contribute up to \$100 in the aggregate by cash or money order.

Additionally, the treasurer must maintain a copy of each *money order or bank or cashier’s check* received. For a money order to count as a qualifying contribution, both the money order and the contribution certification form must be filled out and signed by the contributor.

Do not copy cash that is contributed. On the bottom of the QC Cert Form the treasurer may, if desired, note the form of cash received (for example, “two ten-dollar bills”) and the date deposited, or other internal notes to track cash contributions.

Important Note: Cash contributions, like all contributions, must first be deposited and cannot be immediately spent.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(a), 9-607(f), 9-706(b)(3); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

d. Documenting Check Contributions

Qualifying contributions in the form of a check must be accompanied by a contribution certification form regardless of the aggregate amount received from the particular contributor. This also applies to check contributions drawn on a joint checking account.

Always report in Section B of [SEEC Form 30](#) the residential address reported on the certification form.



The campaign treasurer should maintain copies of checks as internal records.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(a), 9-607(f), 9-704 (e)(2), 9-706(b)(3); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

e. Documenting Debit Card and Credit Card Contributions

Important Notes:

- If your committee plans to raise online contributions, please contact the Candidate Services Unit at 860.256.2985 to make sure you understand the process for online contributions **before you begin raising online contributions**.
- Failure to work with our staff before you begin raising online contributions may cause serious problems for your campaign, and in some instances may end up resulting in the candidate not being eligible to receive a grant.
- If you submit a grant application and have raised online contributions without previously working with Commission staff to make sure your online interface is compliant and your backup documentation is sufficient, your grant application review will be delayed.

A committee can collect debit or credit card contributions via the campaign website when the website interface is set up to capture all the required information that would be requested on the paper certification form.

For debit or credit card contributions, the committee must provide Commission staff with the following components:

- **Online contribution interface** (this is the link where each contributor provides information and certifications related to the online contribution)
- **Transaction receipt** (this is the contemporaneous email sent from the vendor or merchant account processor immediately after the contributor makes an online contribution, and includes the information provided by the contributor on the online interface)
- **Settlement report/spreadsheet** (this is typically an excel spreadsheet generated by the vendor/merchant account processor, containing all of the contributor information)
- **Initial merchant account processor (“MAP”) letter** (this format letter must be provided at the time the campaign is seeking approval of their online interface from staff)
- **Grant application MAP letter** (this letter must be provided at the time of grant application, and must indicate whether any changes have been made to the



online interface after staff deemed it compliant, and if so must identify any such changes and the time of such changes)

A contribution made over the Internet must be made directly to the candidate committee via credit or debit card.

Important Note: The most common reason that large numbers of contributions received online fail to qualify is the improper design of the online contribution website. The details of each field, as well as the certification language, is extremely important, and in some instances could lead to agency staff being unable to qualify online contributions.

As noted above, committees should contact their Elections Officer **before** beginning to collect online contributions to help ensure that proper information is collected at the time of the contribution in order that they properly qualify.

The best practice for your committee's online contribution page is to model exactly the field names and the certification language provided in the online contribution form provided on the [Commission's website](#).

Selecting a Merchant Account Provider

The committee must select a merchant account provider (an entity in the business to authorize the processing of credit card transactions) that is able to comply with the requirements set forth in this section.

There are companies who have successfully demonstrated that they can build a compliant interface and provide committees with the necessary backup documentation. The Commission does not limit the companies that committees can utilize; however, if we do not know the company can comply with the requirements, the committee will be responsible for getting the needed information on the new provider's processes and ability to comply well in advance of collecting contributions online.

Below we will detail the four steps, or components, which make up the complete package for an online webpage to collect debit or credit card contributions.

STEP ONE: Designing a Compliant Interface

The merchant account provider must be able to supply the committee with **all** of the necessary information **as completed by the contributor** on the online contribution form. The Commission has sample interfaces for campaigns to copy. We have also posted forms created by companies that we have reviewed and approved in the past.

The treasurer **must** ensure that the system they choose receives and adequately records for each contribution the following information as provided by the individual contributor and the bank:



1. Full name of the individual making the contribution;
2. Residential home address, zip code and telephone number of contributor;
3. Information regarding the billing address on record with card issuer (if different than residential address) including address verification (AVS) and card verification value (CVV) or
4. the type of card, last four digits of the credit card and expiration date. If available, unique identification information regarding the card;
5. Individual's email address;
6. Amount of contribution;
7. Certification as to whether a contributor is a communicator lobbyist, or member of the immediate family of a communicator lobbyist, for contributions that separately, or in the aggregate, exceed \$50 (best practice is to obtain it at all amounts). Both the question asked and the answer given must be recorded for each contributor;
8. Certification that contributor is not a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor for contributions that separately, or in the aggregate, exceed \$50 (best practice is to obtain it at all amounts). Both the question asked and the answer given must be recorded for each contributor;
9. Principal occupation, if individual's aggregate contributions to the committee exceed \$50 (best practice is to obtain it at all amounts);
10. Name of employer, if individual's aggregate contributions to the committee exceed \$50 (best practice is to obtain it at all amounts);
11. Age of the contributor (should be asked as "18 or older," "12-17," "Under 12");
12. Contributor must affirm the statement: "I certify that this contribution is made on my personal credit card for which I have a legal obligation to pay and intend to pay from my own personal funds, is not being reimbursed in any manner, is not being made as a loan, is not an otherwise prohibited contribution, and that payment on this card is not made from the funds of a corporation, labor organization or any other entity";
13. Contributor must affirm the statement: "I certify that I have provided my residential address";
14. Contributor must affirm the statement: "I am either a United States citizen or a foreign national with permanent resident status in the United States"; and



14. Contributor must affirm the statement: "All of the information disclosed by me on this contributor form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief"; and
15. A record of all contributions from and returns to each contributor as well as the fees charged.

Important Note: Committees collecting contributions online must provide contributors with a link to the **definitions** provided by the Commission, including those pertaining to the lobbyist and state contractor provisions.

The Commission **strongly** recommends that treasurers *follow this link to the Commission's [sample online interface for credit card qualifying contributions](#)*. **We also urge you to request a compliance review of your online contribution site by Commission staff before the site is activated.**

STEP TWO: Transaction Receipts

Each committee must promptly send confirmation of each credit card contribution received through the Internet to the contributor by electronic mail to the individual's email address. A copy should also go to the committee, or be available through the merchant's site, and these receipts will need to be printed and treated like the contributor's paper certification form at grant application.

The Commission strongly recommends that the campaign choose a merchant account provider that produces receipts showing the questions asked and the contributor's answers to all the questions asked via the compliant interface.

STEP THREE: Credit Card Contribution Certification Ledger (Spreadsheet)

Committees must also be able to provide proof directly from the merchant account provider containing the information as provided by the contributor and by the bank of the card holder.

The committee is required to keep the details of each transaction and ensure that the Commission is able to review all such records (whether held by the committee, merchant account provider or payment gateway on behalf of the committee), including the affirmation provided in the contribution certification form that a personal credit card is being used, the certifications regarding status and employer, and information regarding the cardholder's name, residential and billing address.

STEP FOUR: Merchant Account Provider "MAP" Letter

The committee treasurer, webmaster or the merchant must complete the templated MAP letter at the start of the committee's collecting of online contributions to signify that the site has been provided to staff to review and meets all the necessary requirements of a compliant site.



Specifically, the MAP letter must confirm that the merchant account provider is able to keep the campaign's contributions in a separate, unique (not shared or pooled) merchant account.

The letter should also identify when a contributor is blocked from the site and cannot click through to make a donation. For example, it should be specified in the MAP letter if the site is set up so that any potential contributor indicating that they are a state contractor is prevented from donating. Any pre-filling of information should be identified and explained as well.

At the time of grant application, the committee treasurer, webmaster or merchant must complete the templated Grant Application Letter to certify that no changes were made to the web interface between when the site was approved and when the grant application was submitted (i.e. the entire time the committee collected contributions online).

Reporting Contributions Received Online

The committee will report the entire (gross) amount of the contribution (contribution plus the fee to go to the provider) in **Section B: Itemized Contributions by Individuals**. The spreadsheet export from the company can be assimilated to the upload template so treasurers can batch input these contributions. Call the eCRIS Helpdesk at 860-256-2930 for guidance if you have trouble finding the upload template or issues uploading your information.

Important Note: The Commission strongly recommends that, if you are attempting to upload credit card information from a spreadsheet for the first time, contact the eCRIS helpdesk and carefully review the resulting eCRIS drafts to ensure that all information uploaded correctly before filing. Corrections to upload issues must be entered manually for each contribution and cannot be done via upload once the filing is submitted as final.

The fees charged (typically per transaction) by the merchant should be reported in **Section N: Expenses Paid by Committee**. Use the purpose of expenditure code, "WEB," as these are money processing related charges. The charges should be reported as a lump sum on a quarterly or monthly basis.

Contributions are reported based on **date of receipt**. Contributions made by credit card are deemed received by the committee on the date that the contributor completes the transaction, unless a no charge decision is made before the money is moved into the committee checking account. The money should be moved no later than twenty days of the transaction or by the filing deadline for transactions falling within the reporting period, whichever is earlier. A no charge decision within such time relieves the committee treasurer of any responsibility for reporting the transaction. A committee receiving contributions by credit card must report the full (gross) amount of each contribution before the payment of any fees or deductions to any third party.



The committee's treasurer is responsible for preserving all records of each credit card contribution for a period of four years from the date of the termination filing.

Important Note: Committees should ensure that all online contributions received through the committee's website have been **transferred** into the committee's checking account before applying for a grant.

[General Statutes §§ 9-606(a), 9-607(f), 9-706; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#)]

f. Treasurer's Best Practices Checklist: Qualifying Contributions

For Every Qualifying Contribution:

- Committees planning to receive online contributions are **strongly encouraged** to contact their Elections Officer before making the online contribution link live or **before** receiving any such online contributions.
- Contributions must be monetary and donated by individuals in amounts no less than \$5 and no greater than \$340.
- Obtain a completed qualifying contribution certification form ("[QC Cert Form](#)") signed by the person making the contribution for every contribution. The certification forms can be found on the Commission's website, <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>. There are several certification forms so be sure you are using the appropriate form for your committee.
- eCRIS automatically assigns a **unique sequential identifying number** ("contribution ID number") to each contribution reported, even if the contribution was provided by an individual who had previously made a contribution. **Mark the contribution ID number on each QC Cert Form or Credit Card Transactional Receipt documenting that contribution.**
- Photocopy or scan and keep a copy of all contributions made by personal check, money order, bank/cashier's check, debit or credit card.
- Ensure that the contribution ID number on the [QC Cert Form](#) and copied documentation matches the contribution ID number entered into the itemized contributions section (Section B) of [SEEC Form 30](#).

Documenting "In-District" or In-State Qualifying Contributions:

- If the [QC Cert Form](#) lists a post office box address, obtain a new QC Cert Form that lists the contributor's residential address. A copy of an email from the contributor to the treasurer would also be acceptable.



- If a contributor has recently moved into a town in the district or state (as applicable) and the address pre-printed on the personal check does not match the individual's residential address, the Commission will look to the address on the [QC Cert Form](#) from the contributor. Make sure that the residential address on the certification form is the address reported on the SEEC Form 30.
- Report the residential address for each contributor in Section B of [SEEC Form 30](#) (unless the contributor has provided an alternative address and is either admitted into the Address Confidentiality Program pursuant to General Statutes § 54-240(a) or has a protected address status articulated in General Statutes § 1-217)).

Documenting Contributions from Individuals:

- Check and accompanying [QC Cert Form](#) should be signed by the same individual.
- Individuals with joint checking accounts who are making contributions may sign their own separate checks, both sign the signature line of a joint check, or have one of the joint account holders sign the contribution check. The QC amounts must be allocated in accordance with the accompanying QC Cert Forms and reported as separate contributions on the SEEC Form 30.
- Only *personal* checks may be accepted. Contributions must be from individual human beings or sole proprietorships, and not from the checking accounts of businesses (including trusts).

Certifications whether the Contributor is a Communicator Lobbyist and that they are not a Principal of a State Contractor:

- While contributions of up to \$100 are permitted from individuals who are communicator lobbyists or members of the immediate family of a communicator lobbyist when the General Assembly is not in session, the lobbyist status of such contributors must still be reported. When the legislature is in session, the sessional ban applies and communicator lobbyists may not make contributions of any amount to, or solicit for, General Assembly or statewide office candidates.
- Contributions in any amount from principals of current or prospective state contractors are not qualifying contributions and are prohibited.
- Indicate on [SEEC Form 30](#) for each itemized contribution **at every dollar amount** whether or not the contributor is a communicator lobbyist, member of such a lobbyist's immediate family, or a principal of a current or prospective state contractor.



- ❑ **If the treasurer does not check off yes or no for the principal of a state contractor box for any contributor in Section B of [SEEC Form 30](#), that contribution will not count as a qualifying contribution.** The best practice is therefore to obtain a [QC Cert Form](#) from every contributor at the time of each contribution.
- ❑ The treasurer **must** obtain a [QC Cert Form](#) from the contributor containing the contributor's name and address. If a contribution is over \$50 the entire form must be filled out. Again, the best practice is to obtain a fully filled out [QC Cert Form](#) from every contributor at the time the contribution is made (so if an individual contributes \$50 one week and \$50 a week later, the contributor should complete a [QC Cert Form](#) two times); otherwise, the treasurer will be held strictly liable in the event the committee receives and deposits a contribution from a principal of a current or prospective state contractor.
- ❑ If the treasurer has not received a [QC Cert Form](#) for a contribution over \$50, do not deposit the contribution and send a request for the [QC Cert Form](#) to the contributor not later than three business days after having received the contribution.
- ❑ Send the request for the [QC Cert Form](#) by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- ❑ Do not deposit the contribution until the [QC Cert Form](#) is in hand.
- ❑ If the treasurer does not receive a [QC Cert Form](#) after the mailed request, return the contribution to the contributor by the *later* date below:
- ❑ Fourteen days after the written request; or
- ❑ The end of the reporting period in which the contribution is received.

5. Expenditure Documentation

a. Expenditure Records

Connecticut campaign finance law requires treasurers to obtain and maintain internal contemporaneous records in order to substantiate all claimed permissible expenditures to be paid from committee funds. If reviewed by the Commission as part of its post-election review process or in response to a complaint, committees may be asked to submit such documentation to substantiate all expenditures. **Remember: The committee may only have a single depository, all transactions must go through that depository, and all items on the bank statement must be reported on the [SEEC Form 30](#).**

Important Note: Invoices and receipts should be generated at the time the transaction occurs or the service is provided. Service agreements should be in writing **before** work begins.



Expenditure records should be contemporaneous (rather than created long after the transaction) and adequate to demonstrate the permissibility of the goods or services that were received. Examples of expenditure records include such things as invoices and receipts; cancelled checks; bank statements; personal credit card statements for the purposes of reimbursement; secondary payee information from consultants; order verifications or other documents describing expenditures incurred but not yet paid; leasing agreements; travel itineraries or journal entries for the candidate and campaign workers for permissible campaign-related travel; written approvals for any services over \$100 created before work began and specifying the type and amount of work to be done as well as the cost; and notes or other documentation to demonstrate how the committee determined its proportional (*pro rata*) share for any joint expenditures made with other committees.

Important Note: The Commission recommends that treasurers double-check all expenditures reported in their financial disclosure statements against the accompanying documentation to ensure the accuracy of the amount reported.

[General Statutes § 9-607(f), (j), and (k); Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-607-1]

b. What is “Contemporaneous Detailed Documentation”?

The treasurer must keep “contemporaneous detailed documentation” regarding all committee expenditures.

Contemporaneous detailed documentation means documentation that was created at the time of the transaction and helps to demonstrate that the qualified candidate committee's expenditure was campaign-related and made to directly further the participating candidate's nomination or election. Contemporaneous detailed documentation should include but not be limited to the documentation described in General Statutes § 9-607(f).

[General Statutes § 9-607(f); Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-1(b)]

Detailed documentation will differ for various types of committee expenditures. See below for the different detailed documentation needed for certain committee expenditures.

1. Documenting Advertisements placed on social media, radio and television.

Advertisements broadcast on radio or television and those placed on social media platforms such as Meta and Google, must be substantiated by a price sheet or agreement and invoice from the social media platform, radio station, and broadcast network. Committee treasurers are required to approve the pricelist or agreement prior to the broadcast or posting of the advertisement. The pricelist should set out the projected rate, quantity, running time and dates. Prior to paying for the advertisement, the treasurer should be in possession of an invoice showing the dates the advertisement runs, the total cost including any agency commission, and any available metrics (i.e., the number of impressions, per day frequency, distribution



ranges, length of ad). Treasurers should also keep a copy of the actual advertisement run.

Important note: The documentation should demonstrate that the advertising actually ran and verify the metrics associated with the calculation of the cost.

Samples of social media invoices and statements from Meta and Google may be found in Appendix B.

Example, Wright does it right: Treasurer Wright agrees with participating candidate Johnson's suggestion that the committee purchase five 30-second announcements on WCAN Radio during the 5:00 p.m. weekly commuter hour. Wright orders the broadcast spots, and receives a pricelist and agreement setting out the projected rate, scheduled air dates and time, frequency, length and quantity. Wright approves the order in writing. After the announcements are run on radio, Wright receives a dated invoice on WCAN's letterhead showing the dates and times the announcements run, charged rate per unit, length of the ad, description of the advertisement, and total cost of all the announcements run. Three days later, the treasurer scans and saves the invoice, pays the radio station in full using a committee check and notes the check number, date of payment, payee, purpose of the payment, and invoice number in the committee's electronic checking account register.

2. Documenting Payments for Services rendered by campaign workers, including consultants

To substantiate any payment for services rendered by committee workers, including campaign staff, consultants or professional personnel, the committee **must** require and maintain:

1. A *written agreement* signed before the performance of any work or services for which payment is sought or expected in excess of \$100. This written agreement should set forth (a) the nature and duration of the *fee arrangement*, and (b) a *description* of the scope of the work to be performed or services to be rendered; *and*

Example: A candidate committee decides to hire a web designer to create a committee website at a rate of \$30 per hour. The designer estimates that it will take him at least five hours to complete the website design. Because the fee is anticipated to be over \$100, the committee must have a prior written approval in place which lays out the nature and duration of the fee arrangement, the amount to be paid and describes the scope of work to be performed **before** any work is begun.



2. *Contemporaneous records* created at the time the work or service is performed, which set forth the time spent and a description of the work performed or services rendered. These records need to contain enough information to allow the treasurer to know what work was actually done and at what cost before paying. For example, committee workers should submit time sheets with description of work performed. There is a difference between being charged \$5,000 for 10,000 mailers to be sent and being charged \$5,000 for ten mailers to be sent. Similarly, there is a difference between being charged \$5,000 for one hour of general consulting and \$5,000 for twenty hours of work on a canvassing project and communications strategies. Invoices should contain enough detail for a treasurer to assess whether payments are in excess of the usual and normal charge for goods and services.

Example of permissible documentation: While designing the committee website in example 1, the candidate likes the mark-ups so much that they repeatedly request additional work done. It becomes apparent that the web designer will need to spend twice as much time as originally thought. After the web designer and treasurer discuss this, the treasurer sends the web designer an email approving an additional three to five hours of work at the negotiated price of \$20 per hour.

When the website is complete, the web designer provides the treasurer with an invoice detailing the services provided, listing actual hours worked as eight, and the total cost of services provided as \$210. After receipt of the invoice the treasurer pays the invoiced amount to the web designer.

Example of impermissible documentation: A candidate committee decides to hire a web designer to create a committee website. The web designer and treasurer sign a general agreement that says price will be determined later and describes the work to be done as assistance with communications. Before the website goes live but after the design is finished and has been approved the web designer, sends the treasurer an invoice for \$300, listing the description of work as consulting and quantity a "1". Here there was no written record of approval before work began with information regarding the type of work to be done, the amount and the cost. The invoice sent did not provide enough information to determine the type of work or the amount provided.

Sample documentation is available on the Commission's website. **Any payments inadequately substantiated by a written agreement and contemporaneous records could be found to constitute impermissible expenditures.** Payments contingent on whether the candidate gets a grant are also prohibited under the Program.

If the campaign modifies any of the terms of the agreement, then an amended agreement must be executed.

We strongly encourage candidates and treasurers to watch our [online training module](#), "Compensation, Reimbursements, and Consultants," for more information on this topic.



Important Note: Remember that participating candidate committees may not compensate the candidate or the candidate's or candidate spouse's extended family for campaign services. The candidate or the candidate's extended family may volunteer their services to the campaign and may also be reimbursed for permissible, authorized expenditures without running afoul of the law. See General Statutes

§ 9-607(g)(2)(L).

Post-election bonuses for campaign staff are generally prohibited. However, a qualified candidate committee may, following an election or unsuccessful primary, distribute surplus to the campaign treasurer for services rendered to the candidate committee, provided such payment does not exceed the lesser of \$1,000 or the remaining surplus. If the candidate would like to give some of the \$1,000 to the deputy treasurer, they may do so as long as the payments to the treasurer and deputy treasurer do not exceed \$1,000 in the aggregate.

Important Note: It is required that the names of campaign workers and consultants providing services on behalf of the campaign be disclosed as direct or secondary payees. If the committee is using a service provider to assist with **payroll** in any way, it should contact its Elections Officer to ensure proper reporting of the arrangement.

[General Statutes § 9-608(e)(1)(G); Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-607-1, 9-706-1, 9-706-2]

3. Documenting Reimbursements to Consultants, Committee Workers, and Candidates, and Reporting of Secondary Payees

The committee may reimburse a consultant, committee worker, or candidate if:

1. The treasurer authorized the expenditure;
2. The consultant, worker, or candidate has made the expenditure on behalf of the committee from their own personal funds or the funds of the consulting business;
3. The consultant, worker, or candidate provides the treasurer with a written receipt from the vendor proving payment by the worker or candidate;
4. The expenditure is for the lawful purpose of the committee; and
5. The expenditure is not a contribution to any other committee.

All reimbursement requests must be substantiated with receipts from the individuals who made purchases for the committee from their personal funds. The worker or candidate seeking reimbursement or consultant being paid under contract **must** provide the treasurer with a detailed accounting of the expenditure detailing the name of the vendor(s) paid, date, amount, and description of the purchases. The treasurer is required to report these expenditures in the financial disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) and itemize the vendor(s) paid. The Commission recommends that treasurers use a reimbursement voucher to keep track of all advances. The treasurer must reimburse



the committee or candidate with a check written from the committee's depository account (a committee may **not** reimburse via items, such as meal or gas vouchers).

An expenditure from a *committee worker's* own funds that is not reimbursed within a reasonable time constitutes an impermissible in-kind contribution. A committee expenditure made by the *candidate* from their own funds that is not reimbursed within a reasonable time constitutes the provision of personal funds and counts toward the candidate's personal funds limit. The Commission has stated that 45 days is generally a reasonable amount of time. Moreover, once a candidate committee receives funds from the Citizens' Election Program, no other contributions or personal funds may be accepted. Consequently, an unreimbursed or untimely reimbursed advancement of funds by a committee worker or candidate violates Program requirements.

a. Reporting reimbursements

A reimbursement made to a candidate or committee worker or consultant must be reported in **two** sections of the [SEEC Form 30](#): (1) as an expense paid by the committee, in Section N, with the candidate/committee worker or consultant listed as the payee, together with the expenditure code, "RMB"; **and** (2) in Section O (if paid by the candidate) or in Section R (if paid by a committee worker or consultant) listing the vendor paid by the candidate or committee worker or consultant as the "secondary payee". Please see the [SEEC Form 30](#) instructions for more information.

If the candidate/committee worker or consultant is not paid in the filing period in which they made the expense, the reimbursement owed them would get reported as an expense incurred in Section Q and their underlying payment in Section O (if paid by the candidate) or in Section R (if paid by a committee worker or consultant).

If a committee hires a consultant, and the consultant has made any payments to a vendor (such as for media advertising) as part of the contract with the committee, the consultant should provide detailed documentation of the payments to the treasurer as such subvendor(s) (secondary payees) are required to be disclosed in Section R of [SEEC Form 30](#).

Example: The Sam for Senate candidate committee contracted with Campaign in a Box, LLC for consulting services, paying the company \$2,000 to provide general campaign strategy and to put together a direct mailer and a radio advertisement. Campaign in a Box, LLC prepared the content of the mailer and radio ad and then paid \$1,000 to Political Advertising Warehouse for the mailer and \$500 to WXYZ Radio for the radio ad. Campaign in a Box, LLC must provide the committee detailed pricelists and invoices for payments made to Political Advertising Warehouse and WXYZ Radio. The Sam for Senate candidate committee must then report the \$2,000 payment to Campaign in a Box, LLC in Section N of [SEEC Form 30](#) and the secondary payments to Political Advertising Warehouse and WXYZ as separate entries in Section R of [SEEC Form 30](#).

This disclosure is not optional. We strongly recommend that treasurers use the language provided in our [sample fee arrangement forms](#), which puts anyone you hire



on notice that they are required to provide you with secondary payee information. If you make them agree to provide this as part of your contract/agreement, and make sure that they are in fact providing you with the required underlying information, this will help your committee be in compliance. The treasurer is ultimately liable if campaign funds are not spent to directly further the candidate's campaign, and the candidate's reputation is at stake if something goes awry or if the disclosure lacks sufficient transparency to demonstrate campaign funds were used for lawful campaign expenditures.

Important Note: Since the treasurer is ultimately responsible for making permissible expenditures under the law, treasurers should take care not to delegate their authority to a consultant or campaign worker, and should carefully review all invoices and documents provided by any consultant, in a timely manner, to minimize the chance of any continuing issues.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601a(b), 9-607(g)(2)(O) and (j); Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2]; § 9-608(c)(1); [Declaratory Ruling 2019-03](#)]

Below is a summary of the documentation treasurers should obtain, copy, and keep for all campaign expenditures.

<u>BANK RECORDS</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bank statements</u> (electronic or paper) • <u>Canceled committee checks</u> • <u>Deposit slips or tickets</u> • <u>EFT transaction slips</u> • <u>Interest paid or fees charged.</u> • <u>Voided check documentation</u>
<u>FUNDS RECEIVED BY COMMITTEE</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution checks, money orders (photocopies or electronic images) • Signed qualifying contribution certification forms • Copy of treasurer's letter, return receipt requested, for contributor certifications not provided • Transaction receipts for contributions made by credit or debit card • Ledgers containing details of each credit card contribution transaction from merchant account provider or payment gateway demonstrating that all required contributor information and certifications were gathered, covering entire time account with processor open • Loan agreements and guarantor agreements (permitted from financial institutions only) • Receipts for sale of surplus equipment and record of how fair market value was determined
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compensation agreements created before work begins by staff or any other service providers including amount to be paid and scope of work to be done • Records showing time and detail of work done for consultants or committee staff



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Itemized secondary payments committee workers including consultants and candidates have made to vendors on behalf of committee • Cash register receipts for purchases • Debit card slips and statements for every committee purchase/expenditure • Invoices and bills • Written receipts in support of requests for reimbursement (dated, showing items, amount) • Documents describing expenditures incurred but not yet paid • Rental or lease agreements for real or personal property • Written account of all petty cash disbursements
<p>FUNDRAISING & MISC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Names and addresses of all individuals appointed as solicitors</u> • <u>Lists from solicitors with contributor information for all contributions collected or promised</u> • <u>Detailed information for each fundraising event including date, time, and location</u> • <u>List of each contribution received at or in connection with each event</u> • <u>Fundraising event tickets, invitations, programs, and advertising</u> • <u>Receipt for candidate's attendance fee for community event, copy of invitation to same</u> • <u>Copy of documentation provided by party, legislative leadership committee or legislative caucus committee describing organization expenditures</u> • <u>Travel itineraries (campaign travel)</u>

This chart is intended only as a guide. Treasurers are advised to refer to the specific statutory provisions, regulations, declaratory rulings, and advisory opinions mentioned in this chapter.

c. Form of Payment for Committee Expenditures

1. Checks

The recommended form of campaign expenditures is by committee check, check card or debit card through the candidate committee's sole depository institution. Expenditures made by check simplify internal recordkeeping, campaign finance disclosure reporting, and reduce unnecessary advances or petty cash expenditures.

Only the treasurer or deputy treasurer in the treasurer's absence may use the committee debit card for campaign purchases and must obtain and keep all receipts for purchases made with the debit card.

Committee credit cards are not permitted.

[General Statutes §§ 9-607(e), 9-710(a)]



2. Petty Cash

Expenditures of \$50 or less may be made in cash, but only from a single petty cash fund kept by the treasurer, and then only from proceeds originally deposited into the depository account. The treasurer may replenish the petty cash fund from time to time, provided that the total balance of the fund may never exceed \$100, and provided further that the fund is not replenished more than twice in any seven day period. All cash expenditures must be carefully documented and receipts for each purchase must be obtained.

[Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2]

d. Documenting contribution refunds

The committee is required to document all refunds that go out of its bank account. Contribution refunds should be reported in section N of the SEEC Form 30 as a committee expenditure and the code "REF" should be used. In the description section, reference should be made to the contribution ID of the contribution being refunded. It should also include a statement as to whether the contribution is partial or whole and how the refund was processed, i.e., whether it was by way of committee check or through the committee's online contribution platform.

Contributions made using a committee's online contribution platform that are refunded via the online contribution platform before those funds hit the committee's bank account do not need to be reported. This applies to both the contribution and refund because they did not hit the committee's bank account.

Example 1: Benson contributes \$10 to "Winners Committee" using their online contribution platform. That same day, Benson changes his mind about contributing to the committee and recalls his contribution through his credit card company as a mistake. The online contribution platform immediately refunds the \$10 to Benson. Winners Committee is not required to report Benson's contribution and refund because it was not deposited into their account by the online contribution platform.

Example 2: In January Wright contributes \$30 to the "Slick Committee" using the committee's online platform and the contribution was transferred to the committee's bank account. In February Wright decides the committee does not align with his political values and requests a refund from Slick Committee's treasurer. The treasurer completes the requested refund to Wright through the credit card processor. In the April Quarterly report, Slick committee is required to report Wright's contribution in section B and the refund in Section N of the SEEC Form 30. The expenditure code is "RFD" and the description must reference Wright's contribution ID and that the refund was made in whole through the committee's online contribution platform made by check.

For contributions that are deemed non-qualifying by SEEC during the grant application review and donated to a charitable organization by the committee, these should be reported as committee expenditures in section N of the SEEC Form 30 and the code "CHAR" should be used. In the description a reference should be made to the



contribution ID being donated to the charitable organization. Since candidate committees are not permitted to make donations to charitable organizations, save for this exception, it is mandatory for the committee to complete the description filed for any non-qualifying contributions donated to a charitable organization.

Important Note: Participating committees can only donate those contributions that have been deemed to be non-qualifying by SEEC. As such, participating committees cannot make such donations absent such a determination by SEEC.



IX. DISCLOSURE

Campaigns must file campaign finance disclosure statements and maintain and furnish upon the Commission's request detailed documentation of campaign activity, including contributions and expenditures. Accurate and timely disclosure is critical. First, it enables the Commission staff to determine whether each grant applicant qualifies to receive a grant (including an initial grant and any applicable additional grant funds). Second, disclosure enables the Commission staff to oversee compliance with the Program requirements. Third, disclosure serves the Program's goals of transparency and accountability in the election process, as disclosure enables the public, other candidates, and the media to observe who contributed to various campaigns and how candidates spend their money.

A. Reporting Calendar and Filing Deadlines

All candidate committees of participating candidates are required to file periodic campaign finance disclosure statements using [SEEC Form 30](#). Treasurers of participating candidate committees should follow the instructions for [SEEC Form 30](#).

The treasurer must file a financial disclosure statement for receipt by the Commission on the following deadline dates (depending on the date of inception of the committee): the 10th day of January, April, July and October. There are also post-primary and post-election filing deadlines. In addition, *treasurers of all candidate committees in a race in which there is at least one participating candidate must file weekly supplemental statements [for most candidates, [SEEC Form 30](#)] with the Commission, beginning a few weeks before the primary or election. With the exception of 24 or 48 hour Declaration of Excess Expenditures (described below), if a filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the statement is due on the next business day.*

A more specific [filing calendar](#) is available from the Commission and is posted on its website.

Important Note: As the committee approaches its fundraising goal, the treasurer should continue inputting information into the eCRIS report for the next chronological quarterly filing (July 10 filing, October 10 filing, etc.). Once the committee has achieved the required contribution threshold (plus an adequate buffer amount) and is ready to apply, the treasurer can change the report from the quarterly filing to the "Itemized Statement Accompanying Application for Public Grant." The "Itemized Statement Accompanying Application for Public Grant" will cover the first day after the committee's last completed filing through the present day, and the treasurer can make any adjustments to the end date as necessary. For assistance, please call the Candidate Services Unit at 860-256-2985.

Statements must be submitted at some time during the filing period, which begins at the conclusion of the reporting period and ends on the filing deadline date. For example, the July 10th reporting period ends June 30, so that statement can be filed any time between July 1 and July 10. Statements filed electronically by eCRIS are timely if transmitted to the Commission not later than 11:59 p.m. on the deadline date.



All candidate committees and exploratory committees of candidates running for statewide office or General Assembly that raise or spend over \$1,000 are required to file electronically through eCRIS.

[General Statutes §§ 9-608, 9-675]

B. Declaration of Excess Expenditures Statement

Participating candidates are prohibited from incurring or making expenditures in excess of their applicable expenditure limit. Nonetheless, should the candidate committee of a participating candidate make or incur expenditures that, in the aggregate, exceed 100% of the applicable expenditure limit for the primary or general election period, as the case may be, the treasurer must file a Declaration of Excess Expenditures with the Commission. If the excess expenditure is made or incurred more than 20 days before the primary or election day the declaration must be filed within 48 hours of the excess expenditure. If the excess expenditure is made or incurred 20 days or less before the primary or election day, the declaration must be filed within 24 hours of the excess expenditure. Please see the Applicable Expenditure Limits tables below.

[General Statutes § 9-712(a)(3)]

1. Excess Expenditure Triggers

The amounts listed below are applicable to candidates who received full grant amounts.

a. Participating Candidates in the Primary

<i>Nomination Sought in Primary</i>	100% of Applicable Expenditure Limit
Governor	<p>\$4,085,855.00 (candidates that did not receive convention campaign grant)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>\$3,148,266.25 (candidates that received convention campaign grant)</p>
Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney General	\$663,573.00
State Senator	\$74,105.00
State Senator – Party-Dominant District	\$135,825.00
State Representative	\$22,130.00
State Representative – Party-Dominant District	\$45,275.00

[General Statutes § 9-712]



b. Participating Candidates in the General Election

<i>Office Sought in General Election</i>	100% of Applicable Expenditure Limit
Governor	\$18,337,204.00
Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney General	\$1,226,450.00
State Senator	\$151,255.00
State Representative	\$45,275.00

[General Statutes § 9-712]

2. Penalties for Exceeding Expenditure Limits

Participating candidates and treasurers who exceed the Program's expenditure limits may face serious penalties for their violations. Committees that have violated expenditure limits are also not eligible for any additional grant money and therefore may not receive rollover grants.

[General Statutes § 9-711]

C. How to File Weekly Supplemental Statements

All candidate committees in a race with at least one participating candidate **MUST** file weekly supplemental statements close in time to primary date (if applicable) or election day. If you are required to file the weekly supplemental statements you will NOT be required to file the 7th day preceding primary report (if applicable) or the 7th day preceding election report. The deadlines for filing weekly supplemental statements for a primary or general election are as follows:

Weekly Supplemental Statements for Candidates in a Primary

Name of Report	Period Covered	Filing Deadline
First Weekly Supplemental	07/01/26 through 07/21/26	July 23, 2026
Second Weekly Supplemental	07/22/26 through 07/28/26	July 30, 2026
Final Weekly Supplemental*	07/29/26 through 08/04/26	August 6, 2026



Weekly Supplemental Statements for Candidates in the General Election

Name of Report	Period Covered	Filing Deadline
First Weekly Supplemental	10/01/26 through 10/20/26	October 22, 2026
Final Weekly Supplemental*	10/01/26 through 10/27/26 Candidate committees in general election with an unopposed CEP participant -- ----- 10/21/26 through 10/27/26 Candidate committees in a general election with at least one CEP participant	October 29, 2026

* A participating candidate who is **unopposed** in their underlying race is only required to file the final weekly supplemental statement.

Important Note: Please be sure that for the final weekly supplemental statement, you are selecting the final weekly supplemental filing from the dropdown menu and NOT the 7th day preceding primary or election filing. These reports have different filing periods and deadline dates.

[General Statutes § 9-712; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-712-1]

D. Organization Expenditure Disclosure Requirements

An *organization expenditure* is a specific type of expenditure made to benefit statewide office or General Assembly candidates by a party committee or to benefit General Assembly candidates by a legislative caucus committee or legislative leadership committee. An organization expenditure is not a contribution or expenditure under Connecticut law, but nevertheless some documentation and reporting requirements apply.

When a legislative caucus committee, legislative leadership committee or party committee makes an organization expenditure to benefit a candidate as described above, the treasurer of the committee making the organization expenditure must report it on itemized campaign finance disclosure statements ([SEEC Form 20](#)) and expeditiously and contemporaneously notify the candidate committee that the organization expenditure has occurred.

Benefiting committees should retain a copy of the notice received or other contemporaneous documentation from the expending committee that made the organization expenditure on its behalf.

The Commission will post a link on its home page to a listing of all reported organization expenditures reported by a party, legislative leadership, or legislative caucus committee, including the committee making the expenditure, the committee receiving the expenditure, and the date and purpose of the expenditure, as reported by the expending committee.

[General Statutes §§ 9-601(25), 9-601a(b)(16), 9-601b(b)(8), 9-608(c)]



E. Expenses Incurred but Not Paid

Each expense incurred by the treasurer, candidate, or authorized agent of the committee but not yet paid must be **separately itemized** in the same manner as expenditures paid, including the disclosure of any secondary payees. Expenses incurred but not paid are reported in Section Q, "Expenses Incurred by Committee but Not Paid During this Period." The obligation to report expenses incurred arises when the committee enters into a written contract, promise or agreement to make an expenditure or when goods or services are delivered.

[General Statutes § 9-601b(c)]

Example 1: Committee A's treasurer orders lawn signs on September 30. Because September 30 is also the end date for the period covered in the committee's next quarterly disclosure statement, the treasurer reports in Section Q the amount of the lawn sign order as an expenditure incurred but not yet paid.

Example 2: Committee B's treasurer signs a contract for advertising on August 1. The treasurer receives an invoice on August 15 and pays the advertising firm in full on September 30, reporting the payment in Section N of the next quarterly disclosure statement, which covers the period from July 1 through September 30. In this example, no reporting in Section Q for this incurred expense is needed because it was paid in the same period as it was incurred.

If a committee incurs an expense but will not know the actual cost until it receives an invoice at a later date, it should still report the expenditure incurred in Section Q in the period in which it was incurred and provide a good faith **estimate** of the amount.

When you **pay off** an outstanding expense incurred, you must not only report the expense paid in Section N but must **manually** remove the corresponding amount from the outstanding expenses incurred still unpaid reported on the summary totals page.

Important Note: If the candidate or a committee worker has gone out and made an expenditure for the campaign for which they seek reimbursement but which you have not repaid in the period covered by the given filing, the payment owed to them would be reported in Section Q and the information on the payment they made would be disclosed in Section O, "Campaign Expenses Paid by Candidate," for candidate expenses, or Section R, "Itemization of Reimbursements and Secondary Payees," for committee worker expenses. Once you pay them, that expense will be reported in Section N.



X. Termination of the Committee: Distribution of Surplus and Elimination of Deficits

A. Termination of Exploratory Committees

1. Triggering Events Requiring Dissolution

There are several triggering events that necessitate the dissolution of an exploratory committee:

- Candidate makes a [public declaration](#) of their intent to seek nomination or election to a particular public office; OR
- Candidate receives endorsement for a particular public office at a convention, caucus or town committee meeting; OR
- Candidate files candidacy for nomination under Section 9-400 or 9-405 of the General Statutes (forcing a party primary); OR
- Candidate decides, before any triggering event mentioned above, to terminate the exploratory committee and form a candidate committee for a particular public office in the same election cycle.

Important Note: For more information on what constitutes a public declaration, please see [Declaratory Ruling 2009-01: "Public Declarations by Candidates in an Exploratory Committee,"](#) available at the Commission's website, <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>.

The candidate must file an Exploratory Committee Notice of Intent to Dissolve ([SEEC Form 5](#)) with the Commission within 15 days of any of the triggering events listed above. After the triggering event, the candidate must form a candidate committee within 10 days of making an expenditure or receiving a contribution, or within 15 days from filing the [SEEC Form 5](#), whichever is earlier. The exploratory committee must also distribute its surplus to the candidate committee or the Citizens' Election Fund ("CEF"), as the case may be, and file a termination [SEEC Form 30](#) and a "carry-forward" letter within 15 days of filing the [SEEC Form 5](#). **This filing terminates the exploratory committee and should disclose the exploratory committee's distribution of surplus to the candidate committee or the CEF, as well any goods or services paid for by the exploratory committee that are being carried forward for use in the candidate committee.**

In order to facilitate a smooth transition from exploratory committee to candidate committee, the Commission recommends that the candidate open up a depository account and form a candidate committee **as soon as possible** after the triggering event. This allows the campaign to continue without interruption, provides a place to deposit the surplus and any other newly arrived contributions, and helps to avoid running afoul of the statutory deadlines. After the candidate committee account is opened, the exploratory committee treasurer should distribute the exploratory committee's surplus to the candidate committee as soon as possible and file a committee's termination statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) at the same time as the Exploratory Committee Notice of Intent to Dissolve ([SEEC Form 5](#)) is filed, i.e. within 15 days of the triggering event.



Important Note: The twenty-day rule for treasurers to deposit contributions still applies. **Contributions made after the triggering event should not be deposited in the exploratory committee's depository account, but instead should be deposited in the newly formed candidate committee's depository account.** If a contribution is made and received after the triggering event, then the treasurer must open a depository account within twenty days and deposit the check, regardless of the time periods for filing a termination [SEEC Form 30](#).

2. Checklist for Dissolving the Exploratory Committee

For the Candidate:

- Notify the campaign treasurer when you are ready to dissolve the exploratory committee.
- Complete and sign [SEEC Form 5](#), *Exploratory Committee Notice of Intent to Dissolve*.
- File [SEEC Form 5](#) with the State Elections Enforcement Commission, Campaign Disclosure and Audit Unit, Eighth Floor, 55 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105, no later than 15 days of an event triggering dissolution.

For the Exploratory Committee Treasurer:

- Complete and file a termination statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) **when the distribution of surplus is complete, and in no case later than 30 days after the triggering event that necessitated the dissolution of the exploratory committee.**
- To complete the filing, select Non-Standard Report and then Termination for Type of Report on the [eCRIS](#) Reporting home page.

Period Covered

- Report all of the exploratory committee's activity on the [SEEC Form 30](#) beginning with the last day not covered by the previous filing through the day before it is filed with the Commission.
- The period should close on 11:59 p.m. of the day before you submit the statement. If filing via [eCRIS](#), the closing date of the period cannot be the same day that you submit the report electronically.

Exploratory Committee Depository

- Keep the exploratory committee depository open until all committee checks written, including the surplus distribution check(s), have been honored by the bank.
- Check any contracts entered into by the exploratory committee to ensure expenditures incurred by the exploratory committee under the contract are paid. Determine if a new contract is needed for the candidate committee.
- Do not make any expenditures for the candidate committee from the exploratory committee depository, except to distribute surplus.
- Do not deposit any contributions made after the triggering event into the exploratory committee depository. Either deposit any new checks into the newly



formed candidate committee depository account or return them, if appropriate, to the contributor.

Recordkeeping

- Obtain and keep copies of documentation for all exploratory committee transactions.
- The treasurer (or candidate, if so desired) must keep the committee records* for **four years** from the date of the termination filing.

*See Treasurer's Best Practices Checklist Records Treasurers Must Obtain, Copy and Keep, available at the Commission's website, <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>.

3. Checklist for Forming the Candidate Committee

For the Candidate:

- Promptly designate a campaign treasurer and committee depository for the candidate committee.
- Designating a deputy treasurer is also **highly** recommended.
- Register the candidate committee by filing [SEEC Form 1/1A](#) with the Commission within 10 days of soliciting or receiving contributions or making an expenditure, and in any event, no later than 30 days after the triggering event that necessitated the dissolution of the exploratory committee. Electronic registration is encouraged.

For the Candidate Committee Treasurer:

- Open the candidate committee depository account **as soon as possible**. The account may be with the same institution where the exploratory committee maintained an account, *but the candidate committee must open a new account*.
- Obtain surplus distribution check(s) and qualifying contribution documentation (if applicable) from the exploratory campaign treasurer.
- Within 20 days of your receipt, deposit surplus distribution check(s) into the candidate committee depository. The same rule applies to any other post-trigger contributions.
- Report the receipt of surplus funds from the exploratory committee in Section C2, "Reimbursements or Payments from other Committees," in the candidate committee's first itemized disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)).

4. Distribution of Surplus Monies from Exploratory Committee to Candidate Committee that Intends to Participate

During the exploratory committee stage, a candidate may begin collecting and properly documenting contributions \$5 and \$250 (if they are considering state representative according to their exploratory committee registration) or \$340 (if not considering state representative) from individuals that may be claimed as qualifying contributions at the time of grant application. If the candidate's exploratory



committee has a surplus when it is dissolved, and the candidate intends to participate in the Program, the campaign treasurer of the exploratory committee must:

1. distribute to the candidate committee the surplus funds that meet the criteria for qualifying contributions, *and*
2. distribute any remainder of the surplus, including any non-qualifying contributions, to the Citizens' Election Fund.

A candidate whose exploratory committee does not follow these rules for distributing surplus may not be eligible to receive a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund.

If an exploratory committee has a surplus that is *equal to or less than* the total amount of qualifying contributions raised in the exploratory committee, the treasurer of the exploratory committee may distribute the entire surplus to the candidate committee.

Example 1, Exploratory committee with surplus equal to or less than the total amount of qualifying contributions raised: A candidate who ultimately decides to run for the office of State Senator and intends to participate in the Program raises \$5,000 in potential qualifying contributions and \$2,500 in non-qualifying contributions in the exploratory committee, and dissolves an exploratory committee with a surplus of \$1,000. Because at least \$1,000 in small dollar contributions was raised in the exploratory committee, the treasurer of the exploratory committee may distribute the \$1,000 surplus to the candidate committee.

If an exploratory committee has a surplus that is *greater than* the total amount of potential qualifying contributions raised in the exploratory committee, the campaign treasurer of the exploratory committee must distribute to the candidate committee the amount of the surplus that is equal to the potential qualifying contributions raised in the exploratory committee and must distribute any remainder of the surplus to the Citizens' Election Fund.

Example 2, Exploratory committee with a surplus greater than the total amount of qualifying contributions raised: A candidate who ultimately decides to run for the office of State Representative and intends to participate in the Program raises \$5,000 in potential qualifying contributions and \$2,500 in non-qualifying contributions and dissolves an exploratory committee with a surplus of \$6,000. Because \$5,000 in potential qualifying contributions was raised in the exploratory committee, the treasurer of the exploratory committee may distribute \$5,000 of the surplus to the candidate committee. The treasurer must distribute the remaining \$1,000 to the Citizens' Election Fund because that amount was not raised from potentially qualifying contributions and therefore should not be rolled into the committee of a candidate who intends to participate.

If an exploratory committee has a surplus of small dollar contributions (that may be claimed as qualifying contributions at the time of grant application) which exceeds the grant qualification threshold for the office sought, an amount equal to the required qualifying contribution amount may be distributed to the candidate committee and the excess or buffer qualifying contributions must be transmitted to the Citizens' Election Fund. The amount of excess qualifying contributions transmitted to the Citizens' Election Fund may count towards the candidate's "buffer" amount, so long as the excess qualifying contributions are properly documented.



Example 3, Exploratory committee with surplus of qualifying contributions that is greater than the threshold for the office sought: An exploring candidate who ultimately decides to run for the office of State Senator and intends to participate in the Program raises \$21,000 in potential qualifying contributions and \$2,000 in non-qualifying contributions in the exploratory committee, and dissolves an exploratory committee with a surplus of \$18,000. Because at least \$20,100 in potential qualifying contributions was raised in the exploratory committee, the treasurer of the exploratory committee may distribute the \$20,100 surplus to the candidate committee and must distribute the remaining \$2,900 to the Citizens' Election Fund. The \$900 amount of excess potential qualifying contributions is transmitted to the Citizens' Election Fund, but its documentation may count towards the candidate's "buffer," so long the excess qualifying contributions are properly documented.

[General Statutes §§ 9-608(f); 9-704(a)(1) – (4); [Declaratory Ruling 2007-02](#)]

5. Carrying Forward Goods and Services from Exploratory Committee to Candidate Committee

Exploratory committees must also submit an [exploratory "carry forward" form](#) identifying goods or services, if any, purchased or prepaid by the exploratory committee which they intend to carry forward to the candidate committee. The campaign treasurer will have to identify:

- Any durational agreement, such as a lease for headquarters, or ongoing consultant contract;
- Purchase of or lease for equipment, furniture, or leased vehicle with a cost of \$250 or more;
- Purchases made for advertising to be used by the candidate committee (advance payments for ads, mailers, palm cards, website, etc.);
- Advertising expenditures made by the exploratory committee solely to aid or promote the candidate's primary or general election campaign (as opposed to expenses incurred for permissible activities of an exploratory committee such as communicating with potential nominating authorities, soliciting funds, polling or otherwise testing the waters); and
- Prepaid postage or supplies, or a website or web domain name, or other items for which the exploratory committee had paid.

The committee must **also** list any additional expenditures of the exploratory not previously reported, such as anticipated costs of wrapping up the exploratory committee, and whether such expenses should be attributed to the exploratory or candidate committees, or in part to both.

If **no** goods or services will be carried forward, the committee will have to simply state that in the required [carry forward form](#).



Important Note: An exploratory committee exists to “test the waters,” as opposed to a candidate committee from which a participating candidate may properly make expenditures to promote their election to the general public through advertising. Therefore, if a candidate makes such advertising expenditures in the exploratory committee, they must be fully reported in the [carry forward form](#).

Alternatively, the exploratory committee may choose to **sell for fair market value** to permissible recipients the equipment, furniture or supplies it purchased. Reporting these sales is accomplished as follows:

- Report the sales of the items in Section S, “Surplus Distribution of Equipment and Furniture.”
- Report the proceeds from such sales in Section I, “Miscellaneous Monetary Receipts Not Considered Contributions.”
- Include the proceeds in a distribution check written to the candidate committee or the Citizens’ Election Fund, as appropriate. For candidates who have documented qualifying contributions that exceed the cash on hand in the exploratory committee at the time of dissolution, the assets of the exploratory committee can be sold and proceeds rolled over to the candidate committee up to the amount of the difference between the cash-on-hand and the documented qualifying contributions. Report the distribution check in Section N, “Expenses Paid by Committee.” The Expenditure Code is SRPLS.
- If the exploratory committee chooses not to sell the equipment, furniture or supplies it purchased, but instead chooses to transfer ownership of such items to the candidate committee, this should be documented in the [carry forward form](#) accompanying the termination [SEEC Form 30](#).

6. Exploratory Committee Surplus Distribution Checklist

Exploratory Committee Treasurer:

- Write a committee check to distribute the portion of the surplus that fits the description of qualifying contributions to the candidate committee.
- Write a committee check to distribute the portion of the surplus representing excess qualifying contributions or non-qualifying contributions (contributions from party committees and political committees, individual contributions exceeding \$100, liquidated in-kind contributions, and so on) to the Citizens’ Election Fund.
- Report the distribution(s) in the exploratory committee’s termination [SEEC Form 30](#) and submit the [carry forward form](#) describing any goods or services being carried forward from the exploratory committee to the candidate committee or indicating that nothing was carried forward;

Reporting Distribution of Surplus

- Report in Section N, “Expenses Paid by Committee,” the committee check(s) distributing surplus to the candidate committee.



- Make photocopies or electronic images of all qualifying contribution documentation for submission to the Commission together with the exploratory committee's termination [SEEC Form 30](#).

Additional Materials

- Qualifying contribution documentation: photocopies or flash drive containing electronic copies of all qualifying contribution documentation not already submitted to the Commission; and
- Check made out to "Citizens' Election Fund" for proceeds from sales of exploratory committee equipment and furniture (if that sum exceeds the amount for which there are documented qualifying contributions) or for excess qualifying contributions or non-qualifying contributions (if applicable).

7. Exploratory Committee Deficit

In the event of an exploratory committee deficit, the deficit carries over and becomes an assumed deficit of the candidate committee, as an "expense incurred but not paid" of the candidate committee. Because the Program has expenditure limits, the transfer of a substantial deficit to the candidate committee may impact a candidate's ability to comply with the limits.

The exploratory committee must file a termination [SEEC Form 30](#), with all applicable attachments, as described above. The candidate committee treasurer must report all liabilities carried over from the exploratory committee in Section Q, "Expenses Incurred by Committee but Not Paid During this Period," of the candidate committee's first itemized campaign finance disclosure statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)).

For additional guidance, please call your Elections Officer.

[\[Declaratory Ruling 2007-02\]](#)

8. Exploratory Candidates Deciding Not to Transition into Candidate Committee

If a candidate in exploratory committee decides not to seek nomination or election to any office and the exploratory committee has a surplus, the surplus must be distributed to one or more of the following:

- a. An ongoing political committee (so long as such political committee has not been established to finance future political campaigns of the candidate);

Important Note: The Commission has concluded that a political committee is deemed to have been established to finance future political campaigns of a candidate where 26% or more of the committee's expenditures go to the candidate's future campaigns.

- b. A party committee (no strings attached or earmarking for later use);
- c. A tax-exempt, tax-deductible organization under Section 501(c)(3) or a veterans organization under Section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code;



- d. All contributors on a *pro rata* basis based upon the relationship of the aggregate contribution from a particular contributor to the total of all contributions received by the committee from all contributors; or
- e. The Citizens' Election Fund.

If the candidate decides not to seek nomination or election to any office and the exploratory committee has a deficit, the treasurer must file a deficit statement ([SEEC Form 30](#)) with the Commission thirty days after the decision or declaration. This deficit statement shall include all contributions received and expenditures made from the date of the last filed statement completed as of seven days before the filing of the deficit statement and shall include the amount of the deficit.

The exploratory committee must remain in existence until the deficit is eliminated. The treasurer is required to file an additional statement on the 7th day of any succeeding month when there is an increase or decrease in the deficit that is greater than \$500 from the last disclosure statement and/or when the deficit is eliminated.

[General Statutes § 9-608(f)]

B. Termination of Candidate Committees

1. Timing of Termination

A candidate committee of an unsuccessful primary candidate is required to distribute its surplus within ninety days, or, if notified of a post-election review by the Commission, within 120 days after the primary.

In districts where a primary has been held, a candidate committee of an unsuccessful primary candidate may, for purposes of termination and surplus distribution deadlines, assume that it has been selected for a post-election review until the Commission announces the results of the post-election review lottery. What this means in practice:

- The committee is permitted to rely on the extended 120-day deadline following the primary.
- The committee is not required to distribute surplus or file a termination statement within the standard 90-day period following the primary.
- The Commission will not take enforcement action for failure to meet the 90-day deadline during the period prior to the announcement of the post-election review lottery results.
- A committee that prefers to terminate earlier may do so at any time after the primary, provided it satisfies all termination requirements.

Important Note: Treasurers should be using this interim period to organize financial records and prepare for the possibility of a post-election review.

The campaign treasurer must file a termination report using [SEEC Form 30](#), indicating all of the committee's wrapping-up expenditures. The ending balance on the summary totals section of the termination [SEEC Form 30](#) should show a zero balance. If your ending balance is any amount other than zero, please contact your assigned Elections Officer for further assistance.



A participating candidate's committee must distribute all surplus to the Citizens' Election Fund. The distribution must be reported in Section N of its final [SEEC Form 30](#) termination statement. All surplus furniture and equipment must be sold at fair market value (see "Sale of Committee Furniture and Equipment," below), and the proceeds must be distributed to the Citizens' Election Fund.

Failure to repay surplus funds to the Citizens' Election Fund within the surplus distribution deadlines outlined above after the applicable primary or election may constitute larceny.

Important Note: Expenditures made after the election are generally restricted to payment for outstanding liabilities, preparation for a post-election review, and nominal expenses associated with "winding up" a campaign. Participating candidates are not permitted to make bonus payments to campaign staff or volunteers, with the exception of a payment of up to \$1,000 to the campaign treasurer, as outlined previously. It is therefore very important for a committee to contemporaneously document any service agreements made before the election that will result in payments afterward. For more information on proper post-election expenditures, please see "Post-Election Spending" in [Chapter VI. Campaign Expenditures](#).

[General Statutes § 9-608(a)(1) & (2), (e)(1); Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-2]

2. Sale of Committee Furniture and Equipment

After the election, the law requires candidate committees to sell their surplus equipment (e.g. furniture, computers, printers, and cell phones) prior to termination. These items must be sold at fair market value, and the campaigns should use their best efforts to reasonably estimate this value. Committees can look to the marketplace (by contacting vendors and/or looking to the Internet) to determine the current average cost of the item. If a committee is selling equipment in a transaction that is not at arm's length, it must be particularly mindful that it is for the fair market value. Indications of fair market value may include the Internal Revenue Service's guide on "[How to Depreciate Property](#)," or comparable listings on websites where used goods are resold. The law permits sale of these items to **any person**, which includes sale to individuals (including the candidate), committees, corporations, partnerships, organizations, or associations.

Important Note: As a general rule a committee does not need to sell items that have a fair market value of less than \$50.

The candidate committee should keep an internal record of how fair market value was determined as well as a receipt for the sale. The proceeds from the sale of these items are reported in Section I (Miscellaneous Monetary Receipts not Considered Contributions) of [SEEC Form 30](#). In the "Description" field, the treasurer should provide a brief description of each item sold as well as the original purchase date. **These proceeds are considered surplus and must be included in your surplus check.**

Important Note: Prior campaign assets such as campaign paraphernalia, lawn signs and stationery containing the candidate's name or committee's name, are not considered equipment and may be stored for use in future elections.



3. Distribution of Surplus Funds

a. Participating Candidates Who Received Grants

Prior to termination, candidates participating in the Citizens' Election Program who have received grant monies must pay all outstanding debts, sell furniture and equipment and **distribute all surplus funds** remaining in their bank accounts including interest earned to the Citizens' Election Fund.

The candidate committee treasurer should write a check payable to the “**CEF**” and indicate on the memo line that the check represents “distribution of surplus.” The check and a simple cover letter (including the committee's name, candidate's name, and treasurer's name) should be sent to the Commission to: State Elections Enforcement Commission, Campaign Disclosure & Audit Unit, 8th Floor, 55 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105.

As noted above, once a committee has distributed its surplus, it has **seven days** to terminate by filing a termination statement using [SEEC Form 30](#). This statement must report the distribution of surplus in Section N (Expenses Paid by Committee) using the code SRPLS.

The **deadlines** to distribute participating candidate surplus are as follows:

Special election not held in November	120 days following election day
Unsuccessful in primary	120 days following primary day
Election held in November – not notified of post-election review	March 31 of year following election day
Election held in November – notified of post-election review	June 30 of year following election day

A complete [filing calendar](#) is available on the Commission's website.

[General Statutes § 9-608(e)]

b. Participating Candidates Who Did Not Receive Grants

Prior to termination, participating candidates who did **not** receive grant monies must pay all outstanding debts, distribute furniture and equipment (as described above), and **distribute all surplus funds** remaining in their bank accounts to either:

1. the CEF (as outlined above); or
2. a tax-exempt, tax-deductible organization under Section 501(c)(3) or a veteran's organization under Section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code.



Important Note: A committee is responsible for determining whether an organization is a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) organization prior to distributing any surplus funds to said organization. The IRS [maintains a database](#) of 501(c)(3) organizations.

Once a committee has distributed its surplus, it has **seven days** to terminate by filing a termination statement using [SEEC Form 30](#). This statement must report the distribution of surplus in Section N (Expenses Paid by Committee) using the code **SRPLS**.

The deadlines for a candidate committee that did not receive a grant to distribute its surplus are the same as listed above.

[General Statutes § 9-608(e)]

4. Treatment of Liabilities (Deficit)

Participating candidates are bound by the Program's expenditure limits. Generally, participating candidates who run up a deficit during the campaign cycle face various penalties, and among other penalties, the candidate and campaign treasurer may be personally liable to repay the amounts due.

Participating candidates who have received grant monies should not have a deficit after the election. There is an exception to this principle for **certain minor party and petitioning candidates who received a 1/3 or 2/3 grant**. As previously explained, these candidates are allowed to raise "differential contributions" (i.e., additional qualifying contributions) to make up the difference between the initial grant amount received and the amount of a full (100%) grant. In addition, these candidates may incur expenditures before having raised such funds and thus may face a deficit after the election. These candidates have several options: (1) they can raise additional differential contributions to pay off the deficit; (2) in some instances, they may qualify for a post-election grant; or (3) they may use the proceeds from the sale of surplus equipment to pay off a deficit.

A minor party or petitioning candidate who qualifies for a partial initial grant (i.e. a 1/3 or 2/3 grant) may receive a supplemental post-election grant if the minor party or petitioning candidate receives a greater percentage of votes cast for all candidates for that office than the percentage of votes or signatures such candidate used to qualify for the grant. To receive a post-election grant, such candidate's campaign must be in compliance with all Program rules, report a deficit in the campaign finance disclosure statement filed after the date of the general election, and have documented outstanding expenses incurred but not paid which were made to further the candidate's election.

[General Statutes § 9-608(e)(1)(A) and (E)]

5. Uncashed Checks

If committee workers, consultants, or vendors the committee paid by check have not cashed those checks by the time the committee must terminate, then the treasurer should **keep the depository account open**, retain in there the amount needed to cover the uncashed checks, and notify the Commission. The same is true of checks made out to contributors whom the committee has decided to issue a return of funds from the Commission so that they can make refunds to the contributor after the contribution was found non-qualifying during application. The treasurer should pursue the payee to



cash the committee check. A vendor or worker who does not cash a committee check made in payment for goods or services rendered may be making an unauthorized contribution to the committee. If the payee has lost the original payment check, then the treasurer should contact the Commission for further guidance. If the deadline to terminate arrives and the committee check still has not been cashed, after multiple attempts to communicate by the treasurer, then the amount should be included in the surplus. The treasurer should report the uncashed check in Section I Miscellaneous Monetary Receipts not Considered Contributions of SEEC Form 30 and use the code "MISC". In the description filed the treasurer should reference the reported check payment that was not cashed.

6. Obtaining Bank Records

Prior to closing the depository account, the treasurer must ensure that the committee has copies of all banking records, **including images of cashed checks**. This is especially important when a committee does electronic banking with an institution that keeps transaction details available for only a short period of time. Accordingly, the Commission strongly encourages treasurers to make copies of such records during the course of the campaign.

7. Closing out your On-line Merchant Account Processor Account

If the committee collected credit card contributions, the treasurer must make sure that the account has been closed and that there are no funds left in the account that have not been transferred to the committee bank account. The treasurer must retain records of the backup documentation for all contributions received and refunds made through the merchant account processor. With the closing of the account, the treasurer should run a copy of the electronic ledger covering the entire time that the account has been open by the committee and email it to themselves. Potential Pitfalls Regarding Post-Election Activity

The following are some potential post-election problems:

- Not filing the required disclosure statements following the election;
- Failing to keep the Commission updated with current contact information;
- Making impermissible post-election expenditures, such as bonuses to staff (other than a payment of up to \$1,000 to the campaign treasurer as described above);
- Failing to obtain copies of all bank records while the committee account is still open, including canceled checks written for committee expenditures;
- Filing a termination statement reporting a remaining balance, rather than a zero balance;
- Failing to timely distribute surplus and close the bank account after the last committee check was cashed; and
- Failing to respond to post-election review requests in a complete and timely manner.

[General Statutes §§ 9-7B(a)(5), 9-607(f), 9-608; Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-706-1, 9-706-2]



XI. Post-Election Review

A post-election review is a comprehensive examination of a committee's reported financial activity and the supporting documentation maintained by the treasurer conducted pursuant to the statutory. During a post-election review, the Commission reviews eligible candidate committees to determine whether campaign funds were spent permissibly to promote the campaign of the candidate who established the committee, and whether the campaign's financial activity has been accurately reported and properly disclosed. The purpose of reviewing supporting documentation is not to require retention of every receipt for its own sake, but to confirm that reported expenditures were lawful, program-compliant, and not improper, fraudulent, or personal in nature.

The Commission uses a stratified sampling method to ensure compliance with applicable campaign finance laws in a fair and efficient manner. By analyzing committees' documentation and records, Commission staff are able to identify recurring issues, discern areas of confusion, enhance training and outreach materials, and recommend legislative changes where appropriate.

Commission examiners review financial disclosure statements covering the period from the inception of the committee through termination of the candidacy. In addition, a request is sent to each committee to provide copies of backup documentation, which include bank statements, copies of cancelled checks, invoices, and receipts. In some instances, other publicly available materials may be referenced.

Each committee is reviewed in accord with the following process:

- Using the campaign finance filings as well as backup documentation, a stratified sampling of certain higher dollar expenditures is performed. Certain classifications of expenditures are reviewed. This review includes verifying that campaign receipts were spent to promote the campaign of the candidate who established the committee. It also now includes verifying completion of refunds to contributors or charitable donations from any contributions that were deemed non-qualifying during the grant application review and that the committee opted to have returned to their committee account
- For those candidates who participated in the Citizens' Election Program, these expenditures are examined to determine that public funds were spent in accordance with Citizens' Election Program requirements. Contributions to participating candidates were reviewed at grant application and unless otherwise specified, any findings regarding receipts by the committee reflect information available during grant approval. Not all information that may have been provided to a committee regarding contributions and steps necessary to qualify them will be reflected in this report. Rather, as with all transactions, the findings in this report reflect a stratified approach; and
- For those committees that did not participate in the Citizens' Election Program, a stratified review of the contribution information is also performed as a part of the post-election examination process.



Most committees receive a Final Summary that addresses some observations regarding the documentation provided by your committee. This is provided as training material only. The Commission will take no further action with respect to these findings. When serious violations are found, they are referred for further investigation and possible fines and penalties.

[General Statutes §§ 9-7b, 9-607(g); Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-706-1, 9-706-2]

A. Candidate Committees Subject to Post-Election Review

For the 2026 primary and general elections all eligible candidate committees for statewide office will be reviewed and twenty percent of the eligible General Assembly candidates will be selected in a random weighted lottery.

A candidate committee is eligible for post-election review if the candidate was required by law to register a candidate committee based on the information available at the time of the review and if the candidate either qualified for a position on the primary or general election ballot in the relevant district, received a grant from the Citizens' Election Program, or satisfied both conditions.

Write-in candidates, candidates who registered a committee but neither appeared on the ballot nor received a grant, candidates exempt from forming a committee under section 9-604(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and candidates whose committees were not required to file disclosure statements under section 9-608 (b) are not subject to post-election review.

Following any General Assembly primary or general election, primary or general election, the Commission selects for review no more than twenty percent (20%) of eligible candidate committees through a randomized lottery process. Separate lotteries are conducted for House of Representatives and Senate districts. The selection process is weighted based on how frequently a district has been reviewed during the three most recent regular elections for the applicable office. Districts reviewed more frequently have a lower probability of selection, while districts reviewed less frequently have a higher probability.

If a district is selected through the lottery, all eligible candidate committees from that district are subject to post-election review, including committees formed for both the primary and the general election.

Important Note: Unsuccessful primary candidate committees are treated as selected for purposes of applicable termination and surplus-distribution deadlines unless and until the lottery results indicate otherwise.

Any lottery conducted for post-election review is open to the public. The Commission posts notice of the lottery on its website at least five calendar days in advance and publishes the results on its website within two weeks after the lottery is conducted



B. Notice of Review and Committee Obligations

Statewide candidates will receive notice of review and instructions on producing documents shortly after the election. The Commission issues written notice to General Assembly candidates of selection for post-election review following the lottery.

Candidate committees are responsible for ensuring that their registration information, including mailing address and email address, is accurate and up to date by properly updating SEEC Form 1. If the Commission sends notice using the contact information supplied by the committee, the committee will still be subject to post-election review for that election. Failure to receive notice due to outdated or inaccurate contact information is the responsibility of the committee.

The treasurer of a general election candidate committee selected for review must submit all required documentation **within seven (7) calendar days** after the committee terminates.

The treasurer of an unsuccessful primary candidate committee selected for review must submit all required documentation **within ten (10) calendar days** after the Commission issues notice of selection.

Treasurers must maintain all documentation required for post-election review until final resolution, including any enforcement referrals or resulting litigation. Failure to timely submit or maintain required records may result in penalties or other legal remedies authorized by law.

C. Preparing for a Post-Election Review

A critical component of a post-election review is the Commission's evaluation of whether campaign funds, including public funds received through the Citizens' Election Program, were used for lawful campaign purposes and within applicable expenditure limits. Candidates and treasurers should be prepared **to document that all reported activity is accurate and supported by contemporaneous records**. See [Chapter VIII](#) for more information.

Committees participating in the Citizens' Election Program may use committee funds or their own money, or a combination of both to comply with a post-election review. **Prior** to termination, surplus public funds may be used for reasonable costs associated with compliance, including copying, printing, or reproducing records requested by the Commission.

Again, it is the candidate's responsibility to keep the Commission updated with current contact information, any changes in treasurer or deputy treasurer, and the location of campaign records even after the election has concluded.

[General Statutes §§ 9-7b, 9-606(a), 9-607(f), 9-608(e)(1)(H)]

Maintaining organized campaign records throughout the election cycle will make the post-election review process more efficient and help ensure timely compliance. Failure



to produce documents requested by the Commission could result in the Commission assessing penalties or requiring a return of public funds.

[General Statutes §§ 9-7b, 9-607(g); Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-706-1, 9-706-2]

D. Documentation Required for Post-Election Review

1. Request for Documentation

A candidate committee to be reviewed will receive a formal written request letter from the Commission identifying required documentation and submission deadlines. This letter includes a detailed checklist of requested materials. The documentation request letter is included in Appendix **A** to this Guidebook. It is a complete and detailed list of all documentation and internal records that the treasurer is required to maintain and furnish for the purpose of complying with the post-election review.

Candidate committee must provide the Commission with complete financial records from the inception of the candidacy through termination. This includes documentation from an exploratory or time as a 1-B filer, if applicable. Treasurers are strongly encouraged to obtain and retain these records before closing the committee's bank account or credit card merchant account processor.

Note: Do not submit original documents unless specifically directed by Commission staff. Original records must be retained by the treasurer for at least four years.

The list attached in Appendix A is the complete list of documents to be produced. The remainder of this section summarizes and highlights certain requirements and is not intended as a substitute for the list in Appendix A. See [Chapter VIII](#) for more information.

These required records include bank and financial records such as bank statements, canceled or voided checks, deposit slips, debit card transaction documentation, petty cash records, and wire transfer documentation. Committees must also provide documentation related to contributions and other funds, including copies of contribution instruments, contribution certifications, credit card transaction records and processor documentation, records of prior assets, loan and guarantor agreements, documentation relating to the sale of committee equipment, and records of security deposits and refunds. Original documents must be retained by the treasurer for at least four years and should not be submitted unless specifically requested.

Records demonstrating the proper resolution of non-qualifying or disqualified contributions identified during grant application must be maintained and produced, including refund documentation or proof of charitable donation to a 501(c) organization where permitted by law. Solicitation records, such as solicitor information, assignment dates, contributor lists, and fundraising materials, must also be retained.



Committees must maintain contracts and agreements, including hiring agreements, leases, joint expenditure agreements, and purchase contracts, along with contemporaneous records of work performed and payment documentation.

If no contemporaneously written contract, agreement, or memorandum exists at the time a vendor is retained or otherwise authorized by the candidate or committee, then the candidate or committee must create and maintain a written record that includes:

- the date the vendor was retained or otherwise authorized;
- the vendor's name and address;
- the terms of the agreement or understanding between the candidate or committee and the vendor, including the terms of payment; and
- a detailed description of the goods or services the vendor is expected to provide.

Advertising records must document the creation, placement, and duration of all printed, digital, and social media communications, including invoices, billing statements, proof of publication, and consultant or secondary payee records.

If the agreement or understanding is amended at any time, the candidate or committee must create and maintain a contemporaneously written record describing in detail the changes to the terms and conditions of the agreement or understanding.

Committees must further retain all records related to expenditures and reimbursements, including invoices, receipts, mileage logs, charitable event documentation, and the treasurer's written approval of each expenditure. Any other written or electronic documentation demonstrating the lawful purpose of a transaction must be maintained where applicable. See [Chapter VIII](#) for more information.

Important Note: If the candidate previously formed an exploratory committee, then documentation for both the exploratory committee and the candidate committee must be submitted as separate, clearly labeled packages.

2. How to Respond to a Request for Documentation

Responding to a documentation request is easier and more efficient when records are organized in a way that mirrors how activity was reported.

How to Prepare Your Submission

- Begin by printing or exporting a list of all reported expenditures from eCRIS.
- Download the expenditure data into an Excel spreadsheet.
- Sort expenditures by payee and total amount paid.
- For each expenditure, ensure that you have:



- A bill, receipt, or invoice showing what was purchased; and
- Proof of payment, such as a canceled check, debit transaction record, or wire transfer documentation.
- For all services aggregating over \$100: (e.g., communications, door-knocking, consulting, committee workers) you should have two sets of documents,
 - Written approval describing scope of work, amount of work to be done and amount to be charged in place **before** work began; and
 - detailed invoices after the work was performed along with proof of payment.
- For television advertising and digital media contract, where the ads were run, how long the ads were run, and proof of advertisements run.

Pay particular attention to vendors that:

- Received a large portion of campaign or public grant funds; OR
- Provided multiple services or received multiple payments.

Formatting and Submission Tips

- Documents should be clearly legible and complete.
- Do not staple documents together.
- Organize materials in the same order as the Commission's request letter.
- Group documentation by vendor or transaction where possible.
- Ensure that electronic submissions are clearly labeled and searchable.

Organizing documentation in this manner often allows treasurers to identify missing items before submission and reduce follow-up requests from Commission staff

E. Post-Election Draft Summary of Examination

The Commission will review the documentation provided and prepare a draft summary of examination detailing findings about the campaign's compliance with Program requirements and in some cases, requesting further information about certain transactions. The main purpose of the draft summary is to list issues and to provide the candidate and treasurer with an opportunity to respond to preliminary findings with further explanation or with more documentation to fill gaps in the records.

The campaign should respond to the draft summary of examination in a timely manner, even if the campaign agrees with the proposed findings or has no further information.

If a candidate disagrees with the preliminary findings in the draft summary of examination, then they are encouraged to submit detailed explanations with corresponding relevant documentation. The campaign's response may also include an amendment to the disclosure statements to report previously unreported or misreported items.

F. Post-Election Final Summary of Examination

The final summary of examination will be the Commission's final determination of a campaign's compliance with the Program. The final summary will be based on the



draft summary and the candidate's response thereto. The final summary of examination is a public document and will be placed on the Commission's website.

[General Statutes §§ 9-703(a), 9-711(a)]

No later than twelve months after the selection of a candidate committee for post-election review, the Commission will complete the review by issuing a final report with findings **OR**, by Commission vote, referring the matter to the agency's Enforcement Unit for investigation and potential penalties. Such a referral constitutes completion of the post-election review.



XII. COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

To ensure that the public's investment is protected, the Commission offers compliance advice and training. Program participants are encouraged to keep in frequent contact with the Candidate Services Unit and to seek advice about any concerns.

It is the candidate's responsibility to keep the Commission updated with current contact information, any changes in treasurer or deputy treasurer, and to know the location of campaign records **even after the election has concluded**. The Commission will provide reminders and opportunities to provide missing documentation throughout the process in order to help committees avoid referral to enforcement and any possible resulting penalties. Candidates and treasurers are therefore strongly encouraged to file an amended [SEEC Form 1](#) to note any changes in contact information for the candidate, treasurer or deputy treasurer.

[General Statutes §§ 9-602(c), 9-604, 9-606]

A. Avoiding Violations

The easiest way to avoid a referral to the Commission's enforcement unit is to keep in frequent contact with your Elections Officer. See the contact information at the beginning of this Guide for phone numbers and email addresses. If a campaign has specific questions and would like the Commission to take official action and/or respond in writing to clarify the applicable requirements, the process to request a written opinion is outlined below.

The following are some important points to remember to help stay in compliance:

- Keep in regular contact with your Elections Officer;
- Respond promptly to requests for information;
- Candidates and treasurers will be individually and personally responsible for penalties assessed against their campaign; and
- Read all Program materials, including General Statutes Chapters 155 and 157 and this Guide, and visit the Citizens' Election Program section on our website at <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>.

B. Written Advice

The Commission and/or its staff issue three types of written advice: Opinions of Counsel, Advisory Opinions, and Declaratory Rulings. The Commission will not respond to requests for advice concerning: (1) the conduct of another; (2) conduct that has already occurred; or (3) issues that are not covered under the campaign finance laws.

1. Opinions of Counsel

Opinions of Counsel may be requested from the Commission staff but are not binding on the Commission. However, the person to whom an Opinion of Counsel is rendered may rely upon the opinion with respect to any matter brought before the Commission based upon the same facts and circumstances addressed in the opinion. If there is an omission or change in any facts or assumptions presented, and such omission, fact or assumption is material to the conclusions presented in the opinion of counsel, then the



requestor may not rely on those conclusions in support for such activity brought before the Commission. Please contact your Elections Officer or any member of the Commission's legal staff for assistance in requesting an Opinion of Counsel. Contact information is listed at the beginning of this Guide.

[General Statutes § 9-7b(a)(17)]

2. Advisory Opinions

Where the Commission sees that similar questions are being asked by various individuals or concludes that the regulated community would best be served by written guidance, the Commission may opt to issue an Advisory Opinion. An Advisory Opinion is an official Commission response to a question relating to the application of Connecticut campaign finance law and has general applicability.

3. Declaratory Rulings

Finally, an individual or entity may also request a declaratory ruling from the Commission.

The subject of a declaratory ruling may concern the applicability of any provision of Chapter 155 or 157 of the General Statutes, or any regulation promulgated by the Commission, with respect to a course of action contemplated by the person seeking the ruling.

A request for a declaratory ruling must contain the following:

- An original signature, address, and telephone number of the person(s) requesting the opinion or ruling;
- A clear and concise statement of the issue and the underlying facts;
- A statement that the course of action contemplated by the person is real and not hypothetical or imaginary;
- An identification of the particular aspect of the provisions of Chapter 155 or 157 of the General Statutes or regulation to which the request is addressed; and
- Any facts and arguments that support the position of the person making the inquiry.

The declaratory ruling procedures may not be used to challenge the legality or legal sufficiency of another person's actions. Instead, the complaint process must be used for that purpose.

A declaratory ruling request must be mailed to the Commission or delivered in-person during regular business hours. If the Commission determines a declaratory ruling will not be rendered, then it will, within thirty days of such determination, notify the person(s) requesting the same of its denial.

A declaratory ruling generally involves a comment period and people on file as having requested notice of such opportunities to comment are made aware of the draft available for comment. Contact your Elections Officer to be added to this list if you would like such notice.



A declaratory ruling is binding upon the Commission and also will be applied broadly across the Program.

[General Statutes § 4-176; Regs., Conn. State Agencies §§ 9-7b-63, 9-7b-64, 9-7b-65]

Important Note: The Commission may not issue any declaratory rulings or advisory opinions relating to the provisions of Chapters 157, which implements the Citizens' Election Program, during the one-hundred-eighty-day period immediately preceding the election, which begins on May 7, 2026.

C. Violations

Upon filing the Affidavit of Intent to Abide ([SEEC Form CEP 10](#)), the candidate and the treasurer and deputy treasurer, if applicable, are legally bound to comply with all Program requirements. **Ignorance of the Program requirements is not an acceptable defense for non-compliance.** The Commission's Elections Officers are available to assist campaigns with questions or problems they may have but it is ultimately the candidate and treasurer's responsibility to ensure compliance with the Program.

Failure to comply with Program requirements may lead to an assessment of a civil penalty by the Commission and the disqualification or suspension of public funds. The Commission can levy civil penalties up to \$2,000 per offense or twice the amount of any improper payment or contribution, whichever is greater, against persons found to be in violation of public finance laws. Any person who knowingly and willingly violates the campaign finance laws may be found guilty of a Class D felony. A person who fails to timely repay their surplus funds to the Citizens' Election Fund may be found guilty of larceny.

Remember, the candidate and treasurer and deputy treasurer (if applicable) are responsible for the payment of all penalties assessed and repayments of public funds.



Important Note: Proper documentation demonstrating the source of each contribution is essential to receive a CEP grant. Giving in the name of another (a straw contribution) is strictly prohibited and knowingly receiving such contributions may endanger a CEP grant application and expose any of those involved to civil penalties or criminal referral. However, occasionally, individuals may give to a campaign in the name of another without the knowledge of a candidate, treasurer, or solicitor.

Accordingly, treasurers are encouraged to review all contributions for indications of straw contributions, including, but not limited to contributions from people living at different address utilizing the same credit card. If such contributions are identified, the committee is encouraged to return the contributions or disgorge them before filing your application. Elections officers are available to navigate treasurers through this process.

If potential straw contributions are identified as part of the Commission's application review, those contributions may be disqualified and the matter may be referred to the Commission's enforcement unit. A referral of potential straw contribution violations to the enforcement unit does not necessarily mean that the candidate or treasurer are respondents. Rather, it may be the case that individuals operated without the knowledge of the candidate and treasurer.

If a straw contribution matter is referred to the enforcement unit concerning your campaign, you will be notified and instructed as to next steps.

[General Statutes §§ 9-7b(a)(2)(D), 9-623(b), 9-703, 53a-119; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-706-3]

D. Who May File a Complaint?

Any individual may file a complaint under oath with the Commission requesting it to investigate any alleged violation of the election laws. The Commission may, on its own initiative, also decide to conduct an investigation on any possible violation of the State election laws.

[General Statutes § 9-7b; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-7b-25]

E. Form of Complaint

All complaints filed with the Commission must be in writing and sworn to under oath by the complainant. A pre-printed form, which is available both at the Commission's offices and at its website, <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>, may be used to file complaints. A complaint may also be filed in letter form provided that it is sworn to under oath. Complaints must include the complainant's original, wet signature and are not accepted via fax or electronic mail.

Complaints should include the following:

- The legal name, address and telephone number of the individual filing the complaint;
- A clear and concise statement of the facts;
- The date of the alleged violation(s);
- The identity of the person(s) alleged to have committed the violation(s);



- The identity of any person(s) who may have knowledge of the facts asserted in the complaint; and
- Any other document, written material or other information known to the complainant and having a bearing on the violation(s) alleged in the complaint.

The Commission must dismiss a complaint if the Commission fails to issue a decision on the complaint within one year of receiving it. That time may be extended by the length of time it takes for: (1) the Commission or its staff granting any extension or continuance to a respondent prior to the issuance of a decision; (2) any subpoena being issued in connection with the complaint; (3) any litigation in state or federal court related to the complaint; or (4) any investigation by or consultation of the Commission or its staff with the Chief State's Attorney, the Attorney General, the United States Department of Justice, or the United States Attorney for Connecticut related to such complaint.

In the event of a complaint being filed, respondents, including treasurers, should be prepared and organized to immediately respond to requests for information from the Commission in order to comply with the new statutory deadline.

[General Statutes §§ 9-7a, 9-7b; Regs., Conn. State Agencies § 9-7b-25]

GLOSSARY

Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits: The document ([SEEC Form CEP 10](#)) required from each participating candidate before the candidate can apply for or receive a Program grant and which reflects the candidate's intent to follow the Program's requirements, including fundraising and expenditure limits. The candidate must file the affidavit by the applicable deadline. Conversely, candidates who decide not to participate in the Program must file an affidavit stating that they will not abide by the expenditure limits. This affidavit for nonparticipating candidates ([SEEC Form CEP 11](#)) must be filed with the Commission by the applicable deadline. The applicable deadline is 40 days before a regular election and 25 days before a primary or special election. Candidates claiming an exemption from forming a candidate committee (1B filers) are not required to file either affidavit and are deemed nonparticipating candidates. General Statutes § 9-703.

Buffer Qualifying Contribution: A contribution that meets the criteria for a qualifying contribution and is received after a candidate committee has already raised the required threshold (number of in-district or in-state contributors and aggregate dollar amount) for qualifying contributions. Such contributions are useful in the event that some of the candidate committee's other contributions are deemed to be non-qualifying during the grant application review. The amount of any buffer qualifying contributions raised beyond the qualifying threshold must be transmitted to the Citizens' Election Fund with the committee's grant application.

Bundle: The forwarding of five or more contributions to a single committee by a communicator lobbyist, an agent of such lobbyist, or a member of the immediate family of such lobbyist, or raising contributions for a committee at a fundraising affair held by, sponsored by, or hosted by a communicator lobbyist or an agent of such lobbyist, or a member of the immediate family of such lobbyist. A communicator lobbyist may not bundle on behalf of a statewide or General Assembly candidate or exploratory committee. General Statutes § 9-601(27).

Candidate: An individual who seeks nomination for election or election to public office even if the campaign proves unsuccessful. Individuals qualify as candidates if they have (A) been endorsed by a party or become eligible for a position on the ballot at an election or primary, (B) solicited or received contributions, made expenditures, or consented to any other person soliciting or receiving contributions or making expenditures so that the individual can win nomination or election to any office, or (C) registered with the Commission as a candidate. General Statutes § 9-601(11).

Candidate Committee: Any committee designated by a single candidate, or established with the consent, authorization, or cooperation of a candidate, for the purpose of participating in a single primary or election and to aid or promote such candidate's candidacy alone for a particular public office. Candidate committees are distinct from political committees or party committees. A candidate may form only **one** candidate committee for a particular office for a particular election. General Statutes § 9-601(4).

Caucus: A meeting at a designated hour and place of the enrolled members of a political party within a municipality or political subdivision thereof held to select party-endorsed candidates for a party primary or to transact other business of such party. General Statutes § 9-372(1).

Citizens' Election Fund: The non-lapsing account within the State of Connecticut's General Fund that serves as the funding source for the Citizens' Election Program grants. Assets in the Citizens' Election Fund result from the sale of abandoned property that has reverted to the State, voluntary contributions, and distribution of committee surplus funds. General Statutes § 9-701.

Citizens' Election Program: Connecticut's publicly-funded, campaign financing program created in 2005, administered by the Commission, which provides campaign grants to qualifying major party, minor party, and petitioning candidates seeking election to Statewide Office or the General Assembly. General Statutes § 9-702(a).

Communicator Lobbyist: An individual or entity that is or should be registered with the Office of State Ethics as a communicator lobbyist. A "communicator lobbyist" is an individual or entity who receives or agrees to receive \$3,000 or more in a calendar year for lobbying. See General Statutes § 1-91(12) & (22).

Contribution: Any gift, loan, payment or expenditure of money, goods or anything of value made to promote the success or defeat of any candidate seeking the nomination or election of any individual to office. A contribution may be monetary or non-monetary (in-kind). All contributions are counted toward the aggregate contribution limits that apply to the particular donor. General Statutes § 9-601a(a). CEP candidates may only receive *qualifying contributions* (see definition below).

Convention: A meeting of delegates of a political party held to choose the candidate or endorse candidates of that party for state or district offices or to transact other business of such party. General Statutes § 9-372(2).

Coordinated Expenditures: See **Non-Independent Expenditures**.

Declaration of Excess Expenditures: A statement required to be filed within 24 or 48 hours by a participating candidate who makes or obligates to make an expenditure which exceeds 100% of the candidate committee's applicable expenditure limit authorized under section 9-702(c) of the General Statutes. General Statutes § 9-712(a).



Depository Account: The single checking account at a depository institution designated as the sole repository for the candidate committee's moneys in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of section 9-604. The depository institution must have a physical location in Connecticut. General Statutes §§ 9-604(a), 9-700(2).

Deputy Treasurer: Appointed by the candidate (or by the chairperson of an exploratory committee), the deputy treasurer may act for the committee treasurer if the treasurer is unable to perform their duties for any reason. General Statutes §§ 9-601(13), 9-602(c).

Differential Contributions: Minor party or petitioning candidates who qualify for a partial grant under the Program requirements in the amount of 1/3 or 2/3 of the applicable full grant amount for that office may continue to raise qualifying contributions after receiving their partial grant. These contributions, known as differential contributions, when added to the partial grant received under the Program, may make up the difference between the partial and full grant amount. Qualifying contributions that would result in exceeding the full grant amount may not be deposited into the committee's account.

Donative Intent: The intent of a contributor to contribute to a campaign, which must be established in order to accept the contribution. Donative intent is established if the following three conditions are met: (a) the decision to contribute is made knowingly and voluntarily by the contributor and is made for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of the candidate; (b) the money contributed is owned or controlled exclusively by the contributor; and (c) the contribution is not made from the proceeds of a gift, the purpose of which was to provide funds to be contributed, or is not otherwise controlled by another individual.

eCRIS (Electronic Campaign Reporting Information System): The SEEC's online campaign finance reporting and disclosure system that allows candidates and their committee treasurers to submit required committee registration information and campaign finance statements detailing the receipts and expenditures of the committee electronically via the Internet. General Statutes § 9-675.

EIN (Employer Identification Number): See FEIN.

Elections Officer: A staff member of the Commission who assists candidates, treasurers, and candidate committees in understanding and complying with Program requirements and regulations throughout the election process. Elections Officers will be assigned to participating candidates and will be available to answer questions, listen to suggestions and provide support with all aspects of the Program.

Eligible Minor Party Candidate: A candidate who has received the nomination of a minor party, making them eligible to appear on the ballot and to apply for a Program grant. General Statutes § 9-700(4).

Eligible Petitioning Party Candidate: A candidate for election to an office whose nominating petition has been approved by the Secretary of the State, making that candidate eligible to appear on the ballot and to apply for a Program grant. General Statutes § 9-700(5).

Excess Expenditure: An expenditure by the qualified candidate committee of a participating candidate that is in excess of the applicable expenditure limit as set forth in Section 9-702(c) of the General Statutes. Participating candidates who make expenditures in excess of the limit set by statute are subject to penalties and, if they have not yet applied, may be ineligible for a grant. Additionally, such participating candidates are required to file a Declaration of Excess Expenditures. General Statutes §§ 9-711(a), 9-712(a). See also **Declaration of Excess Expenditures** and **Expenditure Limits**.

Expenditure: Any purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit, or gift of money or anything of value, when made for the purpose promoting the success or defeat of any candidate seeking the nomination for election, or election, of any person, or to promote the success or defeat of any political party. General Statutes § 9-601(b).

Expenditure Limits: Candidates who intend to participate in the Program as well as those participating in the Program agree to limit their expenditures during the pre-primary/pre-general election period, the primary campaign (if applicable) and the general election campaign. During the pre-primary/pre-general election period, candidates are limited to the sum of allowable qualifying contributions and allowable personal funds provided by the candidate. During the subsequent primary campaign (if applicable) and general election campaign periods the candidate is limited to qualifying contributions, personal funds, and grants from the Fund. Minor party and petitioning candidates who do not receive the full initial general election grant may also raise qualifying contributions up to the amount of the full grant, and expend the additional contributions raised. General Statutes § 9-702(c).

Exploratory Committee: A committee established by a candidate for a single primary or election to determine whether to seek nomination or election to public office. General Statutes § 9-601(5); see also [Declaratory Ruling 2007-02](#).

Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN): Identification number assigned by the Internal Revenue Service; the EIN is a prerequisite to receiving any money from the State Comptroller's Office requires an EIN for any electronic funds transfer. For more information about obtaining an EIN, contact the IRS.

Fund: See **Citizens' Election Fund**.

General Election Campaign: The general election campaign period begins on one of two dates, depending on the nature of the candidate's nomination. In the case of a candidate nominated through a primary, the general election period commences on



the day following the primary. For a candidate nominated without a primary, the general election period starts on the day following the day on which the party nominates the candidate. In any event, the general election ends on the date the campaign treasurer files the termination statement for such committee pursuant to section 9-608. General Statutes § 9-700(7).

Independent Expenditures: Expenditures made by a "person" (individual, entity or committee) without the consent, coordination, or consultation of, a candidate or agent of the candidate, candidate committee, political committee or party committee. In contrast to non-independent expenditures, truly independent expenditures will not cause participating candidate committees to exceed expenditure limits. A candidate committee may not make an independent expenditure to benefit another candidate. Person(s) making independent expenditure(s) must report them to the Commission within 24 hours. General Statutes § 9-601c; Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, Section 9-706-2(b)(13).

Individual: The term "individual" refers to a human being, a sole proprietorship, or a professional service corporation organized under chapter 594a and owned by a single human being. Only individuals who are human beings or sole proprietorships may make qualifying contributions. General Statutes §§ 9-601(9), 9-704(a) and (e).

In-Kind Contributions: Donation of goods, services, or anything of value given free of charge or at less than the usual charge to the recipient committee or candidate. Participating candidate committees may not accept in-kind contributions. General Statutes § 9-601a(a).

Loans: Participating candidate committees may only accept loans from financial institutions, and those loans may not exceed the aggregate amount of \$1,000. Participating candidates may not accept personal loans or any other type of loans other than from financial institutions. General Statutes § 9-710(a).

Major Party: A political party or organization whose candidate for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election received at least twenty percent of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for Governor in that election, or a political party having a number of enrolled members on the active registry list equal to at least twenty percent of the total number of enrolled members of all political parties on the active registry list in the state at the time of the last gubernatorial election. General Statutes § 9-372(5).

Minor Party: A political party that is not a major party and whose candidate for the office in question received at the last-preceding regular election for such office, under the designation of that political party or organization, at least one per cent of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for such office at such election. General Statutes § 9-372(6).

Minors: Individual human beings under the age of eighteen, who are limited to contributing \$30 in the aggregate to any committee. A contribution from a minor



under the age of twelve is not considered a qualifying contribution, even if \$30 or less. General Statutes §§ 9-611(e), 9-704(c).

Non-Independent Expenditures: Considered impermissible for participants in the Program, non-independent expenditures (also known as coordinated expenditures) occur when a candidate or treasurer or consultant or agent thereof is involved with promotions, fundraising events, or other campaign-related efforts benefiting the candidate but paid for by an entity or person. Non-independent expenditures—deemed in-kind contributions—include advertisements and production of other communication media that clearly identify the candidate as well as events or fundraising efforts to benefit the candidate directly. See General Statutes § 9-601c. *Compare to* **Independent Expenditures**.

Nonparticipating Candidate: A candidate who certifies to the Commission his intent not to abide by the expenditure limits under the Citizens' Election Program by timely filing an affidavit ([SEEC Form CEP 11](#)) stating that they will not abide by the Program expenditure limits. Candidates claiming an exemption from forming a candidate committee (1B filers) are deemed nonparticipating candidates and are not required to file an affidavit of intent not to participate ([SEEC Form CEP 11](#)). Participating candidates who file an Affidavit of Withdrawal ([SEEC Form CEP 13](#)) and who the Commission's deems withdrawn from the Program are also nonparticipating. General Statutes § 9-703.

Non-Qualifying Contributions: Contributions that are from impermissible sources or that exceed the \$340 contribution limit are non-qualifying contributions and must be returned or refunded to the contributor. Anonymous or otherwise impermissible contributions that cannot be returned must be forwarded to the State. General Statutes §§ 9-606(b), 9-704(a) and (c), 9-706(b)(4).

Organization Expenditure: Certain expenditures made by legislative caucus, legislative leadership or party committees for the benefit of candidates. Organization expenditures may only be made for limited purposes. Eligible committees making organization expenditures must be extremely cautious to ensure that their activity constitutes an actual organization expenditure, otherwise the committee may cause a participating candidate to violate Program requirements. The committee making an organization expenditure must disclose it on its financial disclosure statement and must notify the candidate who benefits from the expenditure. The Program sets limits on the amount of organization expenditures for General Assembly candidates. General Statutes §§ 9-601(25), 9-608(c)(5) and (6), 9-718.

Participating Candidate: Upon notifying the Commission of their intent to voluntarily abide by the expenditure limits under the Citizens' Election Program by filing an Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Citizens' Election Program Requirements, candidates shall be referred to as "participating candidates," meaning they are participating in the Program and subject to the limitations, reporting



requirements, and all other Program provisions applicable to participants. General Statutes § 9-703(a) and (b).

Permissible Sources, Permissible Donors: Only contributions made by individual human beings or sole proprietorships will count as “qualifying contributions” to a participating candidate’s campaign and assist the candidate in satisfying the necessary minimum contribution requirements from qualifying contributors to meet the Program thresholds. General Statutes § 9-704; [Declaratory Ruling 2007-03](#). See also **Impermissible Donors, Impermissible Sources** for more detailed information.

Person: An individual, committee, firm, partnership, organization, association, syndicate, company trust, corporation, limited liability company or any other legal entity of any kind but does not mean the state or any political or administrative subdivision of the state. General Statutes § 9-601(10).

Personal Funds: Participating candidates may provide a limited amount of personal funds to their candidate committees. Personal funds can only be provided before a participating candidate applies for a grant. Candidates for Governor may provide up to \$20,000 in personal funds, other statewide office candidates up to \$10,000, state senate candidates may provide up to \$2,000, and candidates for state representative up to \$1,000. Any personal funds that a candidate provides will reduce that candidate’s Program grant by a corresponding amount. General Statutes § 9-710; see also [Declaratory Ruling 2007-01](#).

Petitioning Candidate: A candidate who becomes eligible to be on a ballot by virtue of obtaining the necessary amount of signatures of qualified electors on forms prescribed by the Secretary of the State in accordance with General Statutes §§ 9-453a *et seq.*

Post-Election Review: This is an audit conducted by the Commission pursuant to General Statutes § 9-7a. All statewide committees will be subject to review as will 20 percent of General Assembly committees that will be selected through a random weighted lottery.

Primary Campaign: Beginning on the day following the close of (A) a convention held pursuant to General Statutes § 9-382 for the purpose of endorsing a candidate for nomination to General Assembly or statewide office, or (B) a caucus, convention or town committee meeting held pursuant to General Statutes § 9-390 for the purpose of endorsing a candidate for the municipal office of state senator or state representative, whichever is applicable. The primary campaign period ends on the day of a primary held for the purpose of nominating a candidate for such office. General Statutes § 9-700(11). See also **General Campaign**.

Prohibited Donors, Prohibited Sources: Participating candidates may not receive contributions from principals of state contractors and prospective state contractors (which includes their immediate family members), anonymous contributions,



contributions from individuals who are not United States citizens or green card holders, or contributions from individuals who are less than twelve years of age. Moreover, contributions from entities or other committees are not allowed. There are additional prohibited sources and prohibited donors for candidates for State Treasurer. General Statutes §§ 9-612(e), 9-704(c).

Program: See **Citizens' Election Program**.

Principal of a State Contractor or Prospective State Contractor: An impermissible source for qualifying contributions under the Program. For purposes of the contribution and solicitation provisions, such individuals are identified as follows:

For Business Entities (including all types of businesses, regardless of its form of organization): (1) directors; (2) owners of at least 5% of business; (3) president, treasurer, executive vice president; (4) employees with managerial or discretionary responsibility with respect to the state contract, meaning those employees who have direct, extensive, and substantive responsibilities with respect to the negotiation of the state contract rather than peripheral, clerical, or ministerial responsibilities; (5) the spouse and dependent children eighteen years or older of all of the above individuals; (6) any political committee established or controlled by the business entity or by any of the above individuals.

For Non-Profit Organizations (all types of non-profits, regardless of tax exempt status): (1) chief executive officer or, if none, officer with comparable duties; (2) employees with managerial or discretionary responsibility with respect to the state contract, meaning those employees who have direct, extensive, and substantive responsibilities with respect to the negotiation of the state contract rather than peripheral, clerical, or ministerial responsibilities; (3) the spouse and dependent children eighteen years or older of all of the above individuals; (4) any political committee established or controlled by the nonprofit organization or by any of the above individuals.

Note that the same definition of the term principal applies to subcontractors for purposes of the subcontractor solicitation ban. General Statutes § 9-612(f)(1)(F).

Prospective State Contractors: An impermissible source for qualifying contributions under the Program, prospective state contractors include any person, business entity, or nonprofit organization that submits a bid or proposal on a state contract or request or that holds a prequalification certificate issued by the Commissioner of Administrative Services. General Statutes § 9-612(f)(1)(E). The Commission maintains lists of prospective state contractors on its website, <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>. Please note, these lists are not exhaustive and there may be additional prospective contractors that are not listed.

Qualified Candidate Committee: A candidate committee established to aid or promote the success of any candidate for nomination or election to statewide office or General Assembly, and approved by the Commission to receive a grant from the

Citizens' Election Fund under the parameters of General Statutes § 9-706. General Statutes § 9-700(12).

Qualifying Contributions: A monetary contribution between \$5 and \$290 from an individual human being or sole proprietorship who is an otherwise permissible contributor. General Assembly candidates must receive a minimum amount of qualifying contributions from "in-district" contributors, i.e. individual human beings or sole proprietorships "residing in" municipalities located in whole or in part in the district where the candidate seeks office. Note that contributions from principals of state contractors or prospective state contractors or minors under the age of twelve are not considered qualifying contributions. Note also that "in-kind" contributions do not constitute qualifying contributions and are not permitted under the Program. General Statutes § 9-704.

Solicitor: A solicitor is any individual who is appointed by the campaign treasurer to receive funds or resources on behalf of the committee. There are no limitations on the number of solicitors that the treasurer may appoint on behalf of the committee. A candidate may serve as solicitor for their own campaign. Certain individuals are restricted from soliciting donations on behalf of a candidate or committee. See the "Solicitors" section in this Guide. General Statutes §§ 9-601(14), 9-606(c), 9-622(11).

State Contract: An agreement or contract with the state, any state agency or quasi-public agency, obtained through a procurement process or otherwise valued at \$50,000 or more for a single contract, or \$100,000 or more for a series of contracts in a calendar year. The contract must be for (1) the rendition of services; (2) the furnishing of any goods, material, supplies, equipment or any item of any kind; (3) the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building or public work; (4) the acquisition, sale or lease of any land or building; (5) a licensing arrangement; or (6) a grant, loan, or loan guarantee. "State contract" does not include any agreement or contract with the state, any state agency or any quasi-public agency that is exclusively federally funded, an education loan, a loan to an individual for other than commercial purposes or any agreement or contract between the state or any state agency and the United States Department of the Navy or the United States Department of Defense. General Statutes § 9-612(f)(1)(C).

State Contractors: An impermissible source for qualifying contributions under the Program, state contractors include any person, business entity, or nonprofit organization that enters into a state contract, as described above. "State contractor" does not include a municipality or any other political subdivision of the state, including any entities or associations duly created by the municipality or political subdivision exclusively amongst themselves to further any purpose authorized by statute or charter, or an employee in the executive or legislative branch of state government or a quasi-public agency, whether in the classified or unclassified service and full or part-time, and only in such person's capacity as a state or quasi-public agency employee. General Statutes § 9-612(f)(1)(D).

The Commission maintains lists of state contractors on its website, <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>. Please note, these lists are not exhaustive and there may be additional contractors that are not listed. General Statutes § 9-612(g)(1).

Subcontractor: Any person, business entity or nonprofit organization that contracts to perform part or all of the obligations of a state contractor's state contract. Such person, business entity or nonprofit organization is deemed to be a subcontractor until December 31st of the year in which the subcontract terminates. "Subcontractor" does not include (i) a municipality or any other political subdivision of the state, including any entities or associations duly created by the municipality or political subdivision exclusively amongst themselves to further any purpose authorized by statute or charter, or (ii) an employee in the executive or legislative branch of state government or a quasi-public agency, whether in the classified or unclassified service or full or part-time, and only in such person's capacity as a state or quasi-public agency employee. See General Statutes § 9-612(f)(1)(K).

Supplemental Campaign Finance Disclosure Statements Candidates in a race with at least one participating candidate must file weekly supplemental statements with the Commission beginning a few weeks before primary day (if applicable) and/or the date of the general election. Such weekly supplemental statements replace the 90% filing system. Committees that file the weekly filings are not required to file the 7th day preceding primary (if applicable) and 7th day preceding election filings. See [Chapter VIII](#) for more information. General Statutes § 9-712(a)(1)-(2).

Supplemental (post-election) Grants (minor party/petitioning candidate campaign deficits): If a minor party or petitioning candidate receives a greater percentage of votes in the general election than the percentage of votes the candidate used to qualify for a grant and that candidate's campaign reports a deficit after the general election, the participating minor party or petitioning candidate may receive a supplemental grant from the Program. General Statutes § 9-705(g)(3).

Treasurer: The individual appointed by a candidate to receive and disburse funds on behalf of the candidate or committee and to comply with all campaign finance reporting and recordkeeping provisions. The treasurer must be a registered voter in the State of Connecticut. General Statutes § 9-601(12).

Appendix A – Request for Documentation and Internal Records Committee Treasurer required to maintain for compliance with SEEC Post-Election Review

Note: Candidate committee treasurers are strongly encouraged to assemble and organize the committee's financial documentation at the time contributions and expenditures are made. This will ease the burden on selected treasurer during the audit process and reduce the risk that essential documentation will be lost.

To assist you in preparing for the review of your committee, we have created this list of materials and an organizational structure of how to submit your materials. The important steps that need to be taken are as follows:

Step One – Collect your Documents.

Step Two – Organize your Documents.

Step Three – Provide all documents from the inception of the committee through termination.

Step Four – Distribute committee's surplus by June 30, 2027, and terminate it no later than July 7, 2027.

Please Note: You are required to terminate within seven days of surplus distribution and may terminate earlier than the deadline.

Step Five – Make sure we have up-to-date contact information for you.

You may also wish to review our Post-Election and Termination Fact Sheet for information on permissible post-election expenditures, surplus distribution, and filing deadlines.

If you have any questions after reading this document, you may contact your Elections Officer at (860) 256-2985 or public.finance@ct.gov.

STEP ONE – COLLECT DOCUMENTS FOR THE COMMISSION

- Obtain copies of all bank records, including bank statements, deposit slips and front images of checks written by the committee, as soon as possible. Make certain to get those documents before you close the committee's account. After the account is closed, those documents may be harder to obtain, especially if the committee opted out of getting paper statements.
- If your committee used an online contribution platform, obtain all credit card transaction reports detailing all transactions that went through your online



account. Also obtain a ledger reflecting all activity, including refunds or returns as well as contributions.

- Review Step Two below and, if you haven't already done so, collect and copy the documents listed.
- The treasurer or candidate must keep the originals of all documents for at least four years following the close of this review. Do not submit originals to the Commission unless specifically directed to do so during the review.
- If you had an exploratory committee, documentation from both the exploratory committee and the candidate committee must be obtained and submitted. Please submit the exploratory and candidate committee documents as two separate packages.
- If you applied for a Citizens' Election Program grant, the documentation that you have already provided related to contributions should not be resubmitted to us unless we specifically requested those documents.

STEP TWO – ORGANIZE DOCUMENTS

Organize the documents in the following categories, and within each category in chronological order.

BANK RECORDS (from the beginning of the committee through the final record)

- Bank statements (electronic or paper). PLEASE provide in chronological order from earliest to latest. **This means that the documentation should show the bank account both starting and ending with a \$0 balance.** Statewide committees providing documents through December 31 with their January 10 filing who do not elect to terminate must provide a supplemental submission of documents within seven days of terminating including all bank statements not yet provided, with the last statement demonstrating that the bank account has been zeroed out.
- Electronic copies or photocopies of canceled committee checks (checks written by the committee which have cleared through the committee depository). PLEASE provide in check number sequence, regardless of when the item cleared the account or when the check was actually issued.
- Deposit slips or tickets. PLEASE provide them in chronological order.
- Wire transfer documentation for each transfer made.
- Voided check documentation for each occurrence.



COMMITTEE EXPENDITURES

- Invoices, bills, cash register receipts for committee purchases or orders. When applicable, please indicate in these documents the check number of the committee check used to pay the bills.
- For payments over \$100 for services, including those to hire campaign workers or consultants written documentation showing that the treasurer approved, before work began, type of work, the amount of work and the cost to be charged. Ideally, the documentation should include signatures, an execution/effective date, amount to be paid and scope of work. If there are addendums such as price lists or additional items are items or amounts are worked out later and reflected in supplemental emails or other documentation, these elements of the written approval should be provided as well.
- Time sheets, invoices or other written proof containing information to allow the treasurer to verify that the type of work that was done in connection with the particular payment, the amount of work was done and amount of money that is charged matches the work approved in the written service agreements.
- Itemized schedule of payments to any secondary payee for subcontracted work on behalf of the campaign that may have been paid directly by a campaign consultant (as was reported in Section R of the committee's financial disclosure statements).
- Invoices/billing information from all entities who published social media or online advertisements on behalf of the campaign reflecting placement, duration, and charges for advertisements, if applicable. This documentation should reflect that the advertisements were actually run and published. If a consultant was used to place or design the ads, any related documentation from the consultant showing design costs and ad purchase in addition to the documentation from social media or online entity that posted the advertisement, e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Google. For example, if a consultant invoiced your campaign for designing and placing an ad with Facebook, save the invoice and the receipt from Facebook showing the details about when the ad was run, the impressions, etc.
- Payroll records/reports from third-party providers, such as ADP or Paychex.
- Lease or rental agreements for real property or equipment, which must include description of the property or equipment, lease or rental amount, signature of all parties, duration of agreement, and date of signing.
- Committee debit card receipts and statements with details of each committee purchase.
- Receipts, such as cash register slips, to support a candidate, consultant, or committee worker's request for reimbursement, detailing the items purchased,

amount, date, vendor and the method of payment. Note the committee check number used to reimburse the requestor (as reported in Section N).

- Agreements detailing any joint expenditure or cost sharing arrangements such as organization expenditures between this committee and other committees, such as the cost of sharing headquarter space. These documents should clearly show the date the cost sharing or organization expenditure was arranged and how the committees shared or paid for the costs of the joint expenditures or the organization expenditure.
- All petty cash documentation, including disbursements to committee workers showing worker's name, items purchased, vendor, amount and date, and receipts reconciling the purchases made with the petty cash.
- Mailings or other printed advertising (including social media advertisements) paid for by the committee including advertisements for events. You should indicate the invoice numbers on each advertisement.
- Committee's fundraising event tickets, invitations, programs and advertising.
- Invitations to charitable events, when necessary to document the candidate's attendance fee for a charity or community event.
- Travel itineraries/mileage logs for permissible campaign travel for which candidate, campaign worker or volunteer sought reimbursement.
- CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER FUNDS RECEIVED BY COMMITTEE
- Lists of "prior assets" (campaign items purchased by the candidate's prior committee) used again in the current election year and documentation to support their original valuation.
- Loan agreements and loan guarantor agreements.
- Receipts for sale of surplus equipment, and documentation reflecting how fair market value was determined, such as listing of sales prices for similar items on eBay or Craigslist.
- Names and addresses of all individuals appointed as solicitors.
- Lists created by solicitors containing contributor information for all contributions collected or promised.
- Backup documentation for all security deposits and refunds received.

CEP Committees – you do NOT need to resubmit the contribution information provided at the time of grant application.



NON-CEP Committees – please also provide:

- Contribution checks, money orders, cashiers or bank checks.
- Completed contribution certification forms signed by contributors who made contributions via cash, check or money order.
- Credit card contribution documentation from the merchant account provider or payment gateway that processed credit card or online contributions, including:
- Details of each credit card transaction including name and address of contributor and amount of contribution.
- Detailed spreadsheet from the merchant provider containing name, address, contribution date, gross contribution amount, merchant fee, employer.
- Documentation demonstrating that each contributor provided required certifications (such as, is the contributor a principal of a state contractor, etc.).

Treasurers are required to maintain contemporaneous documentation of the permissible purpose of all expenditures. If upon compiling documentation in response to the request, a treasurer finds they have missing adequate documentation, they may provide other proof. If a receipt is missing or does not reflect adequate detail, they may contact the vendor for additional information. Such supplemental documentation should be accurately dated. Committees should also include any other supporting documents or records in the committee's possession which the committee may want considered during the post-election review to demonstrate that expenditures were permissible and documentation complete. For example, if you had difficulty obtaining secondary payee information from a consultant, please provide all written documentation reflecting efforts to obtain the required information.

STEP THREE – PROVIDE DOCUMENT COPIES

Email attachments will not be accepted. Documents can be submitted either in electronic format or as hard copies, and may be delivered by mail or by hand to:

State Elections Enforcement Commission
55 Farmington Avenue, 8th Floor
Hartford, CT 06105

We prefer that documents be submitted in electronic format saved to a USB thumb/flash drive; the drive should be clearly labeled with your committee's name. Alternatively, you may submit one hard copy of the documents. A drop box is located in the lobby of our building. If your documents are too large to fit in the drop box, please inform the security desk, and someone from our office will retrieve the documents from you.



STEP FOUR – TERMINATE

- All transactions, including your surplus distribution, must be completed no later than the deadline.
- Termination filing is due within seven days of the surplus distribution, but no later than deadline, OR
- If your nonparticipating committee is in deficit as of surplus distribution's deadline, you must instead submit a deficit Report.
- With your termination filing, provide the documents covering the timeframe from inception of your committee through your termination.

PLEASE NOTE – The committee is required to terminate within seven days of surplus distribution and may terminate earlier than the deadline.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE – For both participating and nonparticipating candidates – if selected for a SEEC post-election review, the examination cannot be completed until the bank account has been closed and the committee has terminated.

STEP FIVE – BE AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNICATION

SEEC staff will need to communicate with you throughout the review process, so please ensure your contact information with the Commission is up to date. If you have provided campaign email addresses, please check them regularly for updates. If you no longer have access to these email accounts, or if your contact information has changed, please immediately amend your SEEC Form 1 with current contact information.

Questions? Need an extension? Contact us at (860) 256-2985 or by email to public.finance@ct.gov.

Thank you for your hard work and we appreciate your anticipated assistance through this post-election review process to ensure a smooth and trouble-free wrap-up to the campaign!

Appendix B – CEP Overview

CITIZENS' ELECTION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

2026 Statewide Office and General Assembly Primary and General Elections

Chapter 157 of the Connecticut General Statutes establishes the Citizens' Election Program (the "Program"), a voluntary program which provides clean elections financing to qualified candidates for statewide offices and the General Assembly. The Program is financed by the Citizens' Election Fund, which receives funds primarily from the proceeds of the sale of abandoned property in the State of Connecticut's custody, as well as voluntary donations.

Candidates running for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, State Senator, or State Representative in 2026 may join the Program.

Although participation in the Program is voluntary, certain requirements apply to all candidate committees of candidates for statewide office or the General Assembly. For example, candidate committees are required to file forms indicating whether or not they will participate and will likely need to file mandatory supplemental campaign finance disclosure reports.

The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the "Commission") is the filing repository for all campaign forms and disclosure statements filed for statewide office and General Assembly candidates. The Commission is also responsible for administering the Program and monitoring compliance with Program requirements.

Program Goals

The voluntary public financing Program is designed to improve the electoral process in the following ways:

1. Allowing candidates to compete without reliance on special interest money;
2. Allowing statewide officers and legislators the ability to make decisions free of the influence of, or the appearance that they have been influenced by, donations from special interests;
3. Restoring public confidence in the electoral and legislative processes;
4. Increasing meaningful citizen participation; and
5. Providing the public with useful and timely disclosure of campaign finances.

To participate, candidates must agree to abide by certain requirements, including strict contribution and expenditure limits and mandatory financial disclosures.



Affidavit of Intent to Abide or Affidavit of Intent Not to Abide

All statewide office and General Assembly candidates are required to file an affidavit with the Commission, with the exception of candidates who have filed a 1B exemption from forming a candidate committee – they are presumed to be nonparticipating and are not required to file either form. Candidates who elect to participate in the Program (“participating candidates”) must complete the Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Program Requirements (SEEC Form CEP 10). Candidates who elect not to participate in the Program (“nonparticipating candidates”) must complete the Affidavit of Intent Not to Abide by Expenditure Limits (SEEC Form CEP 11).

Important Note: A candidate who changes his or her party status after filing an Affidavit of Intent to Abide by Expenditure Limits and Other Program Requirements (SEEC Form CEP 10) because they achieve ballot access by becoming a candidate for a different party than that listed on the original SEEC Form CEP 10 or by petitioning onto the general election ballot will **not** be eligible to apply for a Program grant. It is therefore **strongly recommended** that candidates file the SEEC Form CEP 10 **AFTER** they have achieved ballot status.

The deadline to opt in or out of the Program depends on whether or not a candidate is in a primary. A candidate in a primary who does not join the Program by the primary deadline cannot later join the Program for the general election.

Election Cycle	Filing Deadline for Affidavit
Primary	July 17, 2026 4:00 PM
General Election	September 24, 2026 4:00 PM

Qualifying Threshold – Demonstrating Public Support

To qualify for clean elections financing, candidates must demonstrate they have adequate support from the public. Candidates accomplish this by meeting a three-part “threshold”:



1. Candidates must raise an *aggregate amount* of small-dollar monetary contributions from individuals (“qualifying contributions”) between \$5 and \$340. The threshold amount varies based on the office sought, as set forth in the next chart;
2. Candidates must receive such contributions from a certain number of individuals residing in the district (“in-district contributions”) where the candidate seeks nomination or election for General Assembly or residing in the state where the candidate seeks nomination or election for statewide office. The threshold number of such individual contributors varies based on the office sought, as set forth in the next chart; **and**
3. Candidates applying for a primary or general election grant must obtain access to the ballot, as discussed below. The method of ballot access is part of the process to measure public support and therefore determines the grant amount of a qualified candidate committee. **This requirement does not apply to major party gubernatorial candidates that apply for a convention campaign grant; however, they must obtain ballot access before they receive any further funds.**

Qualifying contributions are small-dollar monetary contributions from individuals. In-kind contributions, personal funds and loans do not count as qualifying contributions. All qualifying contributions must be fully disclosed and adequately documented. Principals of current and prospective state contractors, as well as minors under the age of 12, may **not** make qualifying contributions. Coordinating expenditures with committees or people who are not permissible donors may disqualify a committee from participation in the Program or cause a grant to need to be returned.

Qualification Thresholds for Statewide Offices			
Office Sought	Aggregate Contribution Requirement—Individuals Only	Minimum Amount of In-State Contributions	Contribution Limits
Governor*	\$335,500	\$302,000	\$5 to \$340
Lieutenant Governor	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340
Secretary of the State	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340
State Comptroller	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340



State Treasurer	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340
Attorney General	\$100,700	\$90,600	\$5 to \$340

*For gubernatorial committees that apply for a convention grant before the CPI adjustment for the 2026 cycle, these amounts are the base amounts contained in statute of \$250,000 and \$250.

Qualification Thresholds for General Assembly Offices			
Office Sought	Aggregate Contribution Requirement—Individuals Only	Minimum Individual Resident Contributions	Contribution Limits
State Senator	\$20,100	300 residents of municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district	\$5 to \$340
State Representative	\$6,700	150 residents of municipalities included, in whole or in part, in the district	\$5 to \$340

Important Note: The thresholds listed above are the bare minimum with which committees may apply. All committees are strongly urged to apply only with an adequate buffer amount to ensure that they are not subject to multiple continuances before grant monies can be released.



Candidate's Personal Funds

The Program permits participating candidates to provide a limited amount of personal funds to their campaigns. Candidates may only provide such personal funds to their campaigns **before applying for an initial grant**. The grant will be reduced by the amount of any *allowable personal funds provided*. Personal funds do *not* constitute qualifying contributions.

Office Sought	Maximum Allowable Personal Funds
Governor	\$20,000
Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, and Attorney General	\$10,000
State Senator	\$2,000
State Representative	\$1,000

Loans to the Candidate Committee

The Program expressly limits the aggregate amount and permissible sources of any loans provided to the candidate committees of candidates intending to participate in the Program. Only financial institutions may provide loans, valued up to an aggregate of \$1,000. The \$1,000 loan limit applies to candidate committees of candidates seeking any office covered by the Program. Program requirements further provide that any such borrowed funds do *not* constitute qualifying contributions. The candidate committee of a participating candidate must repay all outstanding loans *before* applying for a grant from the Citizens' Election Fund.

No person, political committee, or party committee can endorse or guarantee a loan or aggregate loans exceeding \$500, except the candidate. In a general election, a state central committee may endorse or guarantee a loan or aggregate loans from financial institutions up to \$1,000.

Ballot Requirement

As noted earlier, in addition to raising the required amount of qualifying contributions, candidates must also qualify for the ballot to be eligible to receive public funds. This ballot requirement applies in any primary, election, or special election. The Office of the Secretary of the State administers the ballot qualification process. For more information, contact the Secretary of the State, Legislative and Election Administration Division at 860-509-6100 (or toll-free at 800-540-3764).

Important Note: Ballot access is not required for major party gubernatorial candidates applying for a convention campaign grant. Proof of ballot access is necessary for the release of the remaining primary grant funds should the candidate progress to the major party primary.

Grant Application Package

The grant application package contains at least five parts:

1. A completed and signed grant application form (SEEC Form CEP 15);
2. A completed and electronically submitted campaign finance disclosure statement (SEEC Form 30) that itemizes all financial activity since the last filed disclosure statement, completed no more than three days before the date of submission;

Important Note: All monies included in a grant application must be collected by midnight of the day before the SEEC Form 30 is submitted.

3. Copies of documentation of qualifying contributions provided to the candidate committee (Qualifying Contribution Certification Forms and other required documentation);
4. If online contributions were collected, merchant account processor (MAP) letters, transactional receipts and excel spreadsheets, and any other documentation pertaining to the contributions; and
5. A committee check made out to "Citizens' Election Fund" or "CEF" for the amount of any excess qualifying contributions (i.e., the "buffer").

If not already provided, SEEC Forms 1 & 1A, CEP 10 and CEP 12 must also be submitted, as well as proof of ballot access. The 2026 Grant Application Calendar of weekly deadlines will be published on the Commission's website, portal.ct.gov/seec.

A grant application checklist will be provided to committees and must be filled out and placed on top of the application package. Committees should make an appointment with their Elections Officer when they are ready to submit their application.

Candidates are encouraged to apply for a grant as soon as they have obtained ballot access and raised qualifying contributions to the qualifying thresholds plus an adequate buffer. Candidates may apply as early as the third week in May. The **final application deadline** for a **primary grant is by 5:00 p.m. on July 17, 2026**. The **final application deadline** for a **general election grant is by 5:00 p.m. on October 9, 2026**. **Pursuant to General Statutes § 9-705, grant amounts will be reduced if an application is made after August 24, 2026.**

Grant Amounts

A candidate's eligibility for a public grant hinges on demonstrating significant public support. Grant amounts are based on the level of support as demonstrated by how

each candidate qualifies for the ballot, and, in some instances, by a show of support based on the number of nominating petition signatures a candidate obtains (as set forth below). Certain candidates may utilize the nominating petition process to qualify for a grant, or, if already eligible for a partial grant, to increase the amount of the grant if the candidate receives enough nominating petition signatures to meet required thresholds demonstrating significant public support. In addition, and as further explained below, the general election grant amount may also be impacted by the date of the campaign's grant submission.

Convention Campaign Grant

Major party gubernatorial candidates who are eligible may apply for and receive a convention campaign grant before their party's nominating convention.

Convention campaign is defined as the period beginning the day a candidate files an Affidavit of Intent to abide by the CEP expenditure limits (CEP Form 10) and ending at the close of the state convention held pursuant to §9-382 by a major party for the purpose of endorsing a candidate for nomination to the office of Governor.

Nomination Sought	Convention Grant Amount
Governor	\$937,588.75

Important Note: Candidates apply for a grant only once. The qualified committee of a candidate who receives a convention grant and makes the primary ballot, may receive funds for the primary by providing proof of ballot access and filing a campaign finance disclosure statement after the convention.

Primary Grants

Eligible candidates who qualify for the ballot in a primary may apply for a primary grant. After the party conventions, caucuses, or town committee meetings are held to endorse a party candidate, the Secretary of the State certifies which candidates will face primary contests. In order to be eligible for a primary grant, the candidate must qualify for a place on the primary ballot pursuant to state election laws and the primary must be scheduled.

The following chart sets forth the primary grant amounts for eligible candidate committees. The amount of the primary grant is reduced by the allowable amount of personal funds, if any, provided by the candidate during the qualifying period.

Nomination Sought	Primary Grant Amount
Governor	\$3,750,355.00 (for candidates that did not receive a convention campaign grant)
	----- \$2,812,766.25 (for candidates that received a convention campaign grant)
Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, and Attorney General	\$562,875.00
State Senator	\$54,005.00
State Representative	\$15,430.00

General Assembly Candidates in “Party-Dominant” Districts

General Assembly candidates in “party-dominant” districts are eligible for larger grants in primary campaigns.

A “party-dominant” district is one in which the percentage of active electors (registered voters) in the district who are enrolled in a major party exceeds the percentage of active electors in the district who are enrolled in the other major party by at least twenty percentage points. A list of the party-dominant districts will be provided on the Commission’s website, portal.ct.gov/seec.

“Party-Dominant” Districts	“Party-Dominant” Grant Amount
State Senator	\$115,725.00
State Representative	\$38,575.00

Important Note: The qualified committee of a candidate who receives a primary grant, and then wins the party nomination through a primary election, does *not* have to reapply for a grant for the general election. However, any unspent primary grant funds that remain in the candidate's account will be subtracted from the general election grant. Any such candidate who wins the primary is required to submit a campaign finance disclosure statement after the primary in order to determine the amount of the

general election grant.

General Election Grants

Grant Reduction Schedule

General Statutes § 9-705 provides for a grant reduction schedule. The later a campaign applies for a general election grant, the smaller the grant it may be eligible to receive. The specific dates for 2026 and the corresponding grant amounts will be outlined in the next sections.

Major Party Candidates

A major party is defined as a political party or organization whose candidate for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election received *at least* 20% of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for Governor while running as a member of that party, or a political party having a number of enrolled members on the active registry list equal to *at least* 20% of the total number of enrolled members of all political parties on the active registry list in the state at the time of the last gubernatorial election.

A candidate who has obtained the nomination of a major party is eligible for a full general election grant base amount. However, if the candidate faces only a minor party or petitioning opponent who has not raised an amount equal to the qualifying threshold level for that office ("limited opposition"), the grant would be reduced to 60%, and if he is unopposed in the general election, the grant would be reduced to 30%. In addition, the grant may now be reduced depending on when the campaign applies.

The specific grant amounts, based on application date and opposition, are as follows:

2026 Governor General Election – Major Party Candidates

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$18,001,704.00	\$10,801,022.40	\$5,400,511.20
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept.,7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$13,501,278.00	\$8,100,766.80	\$4,050,383.40
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$11,701,107.60	\$7,020,664.56	\$3,510,332.28

If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$9,900,937.20	\$5,940,562.32	\$2,970,281.16
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$7,200,681.60	\$4,320,408.96	\$2,160,204.48

2026 Other Statewide Office General Election – Major Party Candidates

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$1,125,750.00	\$675,450.00	\$337,725.00
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept., 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$844,312.50	\$506,587.50	\$253,293.75
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$731,737.50	\$439,042.50	\$219,521.25
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$619,162.50	\$371,497.50	\$185,748.75

If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$450,300.00	\$270,180.00	\$135,090.00
---	--------------	--------------	--------------

2026 Senate General Election – Major Party Candidates

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$131,155.00	\$78,693.00	\$39,346.50
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, September 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$98,366.25	\$59,019.75	\$29,509.88
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$85,250.75	\$51,150.45	\$25,575.23
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$72,135.25	\$43,281.15	\$21,640.58
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$52,462.00	\$31,477.20	\$15,738.60

2026 State Representative General Election – Major Party Candidates

Date of Grant Application	Full Opposition (full grant)	Limited Opposition (60% grant)	Unopposed (30% grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$38,575.00	\$23,145.00	\$11,572.50
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, September 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$28,931.25	\$17,358.75	\$8,679.38
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$25,073.75	\$15,044.25	\$7,522.13

5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)			
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$21,216.25	\$12,729.75	\$6,364.88
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$15,430.00	\$9,258.00	\$4,629.00

Grant amounts are also reduced by any personal funds provided by the candidate, certain amounts of lawn signs provided to the committee, and any grant monies left over from a primary.

Minor Party and Petitioning Candidates

A minor party is defined as a political party that is not a major party and whose candidate for the office in question received at the last-preceding regular election for such office, under the designation of that political party or organization, at least 1% of the whole number of votes cast for all candidates for such office at such election.

A petitioning candidate is one who utilizes the nominating petition procedure to obtain ballot access.

A minor party candidate is eligible for a **full general election grant** if he has obtained the nomination of a minor party whose candidate seeking election for the same office in the same district at the last-preceding regular election received at least 20% of the votes cast for that office. A petitioning candidate is eligible for a full general election grant if he has obtained ballot access *and* petition signatures by electors equaling at least 20% of the votes cast for that office in the prior general election.

A minor party candidate is eligible for **two thirds** of a full general election grant if he has obtained the nomination of a minor party whose candidate seeking election for the same office in the same district at the last-preceding regular election received at least 15% of the votes cast for that office. A petitioning candidate is eligible for a full general election grant if he has obtained ballot access *and* petition signatures by electors equaling at least 15% of the votes cast for that office in the prior general election.

A minor party candidate is eligible for **one third** of a full general election grant if he has obtained the nomination of a minor party whose candidate seeking election for the same office in the same district at the last-preceding regular election received at least 10% of the votes cast for that office. A petitioning candidate is eligible for a full general election grant if he has obtained ballot access *and* petition signatures by electors equaling at least 10% of the votes cast for that office in the prior general election.

In addition, the grant amount may be reduced depending on when the candidate applies during the election cycle, as previously discussed. The specific grant amounts, based on application date and percentage of signatures / vote obtained by the minor party in previous regular election cycle, are summarized in the charts below:

Committees of Candidates Who Receive One-Third or Two-Thirds of the Full Grant



Amount May Raise “Differential Contributions”

Minor party or petitioning candidates who receive less than the full grant amount may continue to raise and spend additional contributions, known as “differential contributions,” which must meet the criteria for qualifying contributions, up to the amount of the full applicable grant for the general election for that office.

Committees of Candidates Who Receive One-Third or Two-Thirds of the Full Grant Amount May Be Eligible For Post-Election Grant

Minor party or petitioning candidates who receive a one-third or two-thirds grant amount and report a deficit in post-election disclosure statements may also be eligible to receive supplemental grant money.

2026 Governor General Election – Minor Party & Petitioning

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$18,001,704.00	\$12,001,136.00	\$6,000,568.00
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept.,7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$13,501,278.00	\$9,000,852.00	\$4,500,426.00
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$11,701,107.60	\$7,800,738.40	\$3,900,369.20
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$9,900,937.20	\$6,600,624.80	\$3,300,312.40
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$7,200,681.60	\$4,800,454.40	\$2,400,227.20

2026 Other Statewide Office General Election – Minor Party & Petitioning

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)



If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$1,125,750.00	\$750,500.00	\$375,250.00
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday Sept., 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$844,312.50	\$562,875.00	\$281,437.50
If you apply between Tues., Sept 8, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$731,737.50	\$487,825.00	\$243,912.50
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$619,162.50	\$412,775.00	\$206,387.50
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026 through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$450,300.00	\$300,200.00	\$150,100.00

2026 Senate General Election – Minor Party & Petitioning

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$131,155.00	\$87,436.67	\$43,718.33
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, September 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$98,366.25	\$65,577.50	\$32,788.75
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$85,250.75	\$56,833.83	\$28,416.92
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$72,135.25	\$48,090.17	\$24,045.08

If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$52,462.00	\$34,974.67	\$17,487.33
--	-------------	-------------	-------------

2026 State Representative General Election – Minor Party & Petitioning

Date of Grant Application	20% last vote / signatures (full grant)	15% last vote / signatures (2/3 grant)	10% last vote / signatures (1/3 grant)
If you apply on or before 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026 (full grant)	\$38,575.00	\$25,716.67	\$12,858.33
If you apply between Tues., August 25, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Sept. 4, 2026 [Monday, September 7 is a state holiday] (75%)	\$28,931.25	\$19,287.50	\$9,643.75
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 8, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Sept. 21, 2026 (65%)	\$25,073.75	\$16,715.83	\$8,357.92
If you apply between Tues., Sept. 22, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 5, 2026 (55%)	\$21,216.25	\$14,144.17	\$7,072.08
If you apply between Tues., Oct. 6, 2026, through 5:00 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 9, 2026 (40%)	\$15,430.00	\$10,286.67	\$5,143.33

Grant amounts may also be reduced by the amount of any unspent primary funds (if the candidate's committee received a primary grant), certain amounts of lawn signs provided to the committee, and by any personal funds provided by the candidate.

Expenditure Limits

- For major party gubernatorial candidates, that receive a convention campaign grant, expenditures made during the **convention campaign period** are limited to the required amount of qualifying contributions, any allowable personal funds and the amount of the convention campaign grant. The convention campaign period begins when a participating candidate files SEEC Form CEP 10 and ends at the close of the candidate's party state nominating convention.
- Expenditures made or incurred during the period before a primary campaign or general election campaign (the "**pre-primary/pre-general election period**") are limited to the required amount of qualifying contributions, plus any allowable

personal funds the candidate provides to the candidate committee. This period ends with the commencement of the primary campaign period or the general election campaign period, as discussed below.

- For candidates for the district office of State Senator or State Representative, the **primary campaign period** begins the day after the close of the state or district convention held to endorse such candidate. For candidates for the municipal office of State Senator or State Representative, the primary campaign period begins the day after the close of the caucus, convention, or town committee meeting held to endorse such candidate. The primary campaign period ends on the day of the primary election.
 - The **primary campaign period** limit is calculated by adding the amount of the primary grant, and any unspent qualifying contributions or unspent personal funds provided by the candidate.
- If a primary is held, the **general election campaign period** for the candidate nominated at the primary begins the day after the primary. If there is no primary, the general election campaign period begins the day after the candidate is nominated. The general election campaign period ends the day the campaign treasurer files the final required campaign finance disclosure statement.
 - The **general election campaign period** limit is calculated by adding the amount of the general election grant, and any unspent qualifying contributions or unspent personal funds provided by the candidate.

Expenditure Limits During "Pre-Primary/Pre -General Election Period"			
Office Sought	Qualifying Amount	Maximum Allowable Amount of Candidate's Personal Funds	Maximum Expenditures During Period
Governor	\$335,500	\$20,000	\$335,500 - \$355,500 (for candidates that did not receive a convention campaign grant)*
Lieutenant Governor	\$100,700	\$10,000	\$100,700 - \$110,700
Secretary of the State	\$100,700	\$10,000	\$100,700 - \$110,700

State Comptroller	\$100,700	\$10,000	\$100,700 - \$110,700
State Treasurer	\$100,700	\$10,000	\$100,700 - \$110,700
Attorney General	\$100,700	\$10,000	\$100,700 - \$110,700
State Senator	\$20,100	\$2,000	\$20,100 - \$22,100
State Representative	\$6,700	\$1,000	\$6,700 - \$7,700

*For candidates that receive a convention campaign grant they can spend up to \$1,273,088.75

Permissible Expenditures

- Clean elections funds may be used only for campaign-related expenditures made to advance the participating candidate's campaign.
- Campaigns must maintain detailed documentation indicating that campaign expenditures were made to directly further the participating candidate's race. Such documentation should be created at the time of the transaction.
- Campaign records are subject to comprehensive examinations to ensure compliance with Program requirements.

Expenditures without adequate supporting documentation may be considered impermissible under the Program regulations.

Permissible Expenditures for participating candidates include, but are not limited, to:

- **Political campaign advertising expenses**, such as adequately documented advertisements in any communication medium; production or postage costs related to customary campaign items, such as flyers, signs, stickers, t-shirts, hats, and buttons;
- **Campaign promotional events**, including expenditures for food, space rental, staff and entertainment at such events;

- **Polling or get-out-the-vote activities** in furtherance of the participating candidate's campaign;
- **Food and beverages for campaign workers** not to exceed \$20 per person for breakfast, \$25 per person for lunch, or \$35 per person for dinner;
- **Salaries for campaign staff or consultants**, provided a written agreement is signed *before* the performance of any work or services, and contemporaneous detailed records are kept documenting the work performed or services rendered (for example, timesheets, work logs, invoices, etc.);
- **Campaign office expenses**, including office rent (with a written lease) and office supplies, equipment, and furniture;
- **Limited post-election expenses**, such as costs of photocopies associated with compliance with the Commission's post-election review of the participating candidate's campaign.

Examples of Impermissible Expenditures include:

- Spending for the personal use of any candidate or individual;
- Payments to the candidate or candidate's family members or the businesses of the participating candidate or any of the candidate's family members;
- Contributions, loans or expenditures to other candidates or committees;
- Payments above fair market value for goods or services received; and
- Expenditures lacking sufficient contemporaneous documentation.

For additional guidance, please see the Commission's Citizens' Election Program Regulations, which can be found on the Commission's website (portal.ct.gov/seec).

Supplemental Reporting

Candidates in Campaigns with any Participating Candidates

- Every candidate committee in a primary or general election campaign in which there is at least one participating candidate must file weekly supplemental campaign finance statements with the Commission according to schedules available on the Commission's website (portal.ct.gov/seec).
- If you are in a **primary race** with at least one participating candidate, you are required to file an initial supplemental statement on the second Thursday following the July 10th statement and a subsequent supplemental statement is due every Thursday until the date of the primary.



- If you are in a **general election** race with at least one participating candidate, you are required to file an initial supplemental statement on the second Thursday following the October 10th statement and a subsequent supplemental statement is due every Thursday until the date of the general election. If you are participating and unopposed in the general election, you need only file the final supplemental statement.

For more information on the deadlines for these filings, please visit the Commission's website at portal.ct.gov/seec.

Excess Expenditure Reporting within 24 to 48 Hours

- Excess expenditures are expenditures made, or obligated to be made, by a participating candidate that in the aggregate exceed the applicable expenditure limit for a participating candidate. For the purposes of triggering a supplemental reporting requirement, a participating candidate's applicable expenditure limit is the sum of the amount of required qualifying contributions plus the amount of the full grant for the applicable primary or general election period.
- Nonparticipating candidates are not required to follow the Program's expenditure limits; however, participating candidates are required to follow the Program's expenditure limits. Accordingly, participating candidates should *not* make excess expenditures. A participating candidate and treasurer of a candidate committee which has received public funds are subject to various penalties if the committee receives excess funds or makes or incurs an obligation to make an excess expenditure.
- If a participating candidate's committee makes or incurs an expenditure exceeding the participating candidate's applicable expenditure limit **more than 20 days before a primary or election**, the treasurer must file a declaration of excess expenditures **within 48 hours** of making or incurring the expenditure.
- If a participating candidate committee makes or incurs an expenditure exceeding the participating candidate's applicable expenditure limit **20 days or less before a primary or election**, the treasurer must file a declaration of excess expenditures **within 24 hours** of making or incurring the expenditure.

Purpose of Overview Materials

The purpose of this overview is to provide general information about the various rules and requirements of the Program. This document however, is not a substitute for the law, which can be found on the Commission's website, portal.ct.gov/seec. If you have specific questions you may contact the Commission's Candidate Services Unit at 860-256-2985.

Appendix C – 2026 Party-Dominant Districts

(From data made available by the Office of the Secretary of the State)

SENATE

Party	District	Registration by Party	% Total Registration	Disparity	Dominance
Democratic	001	26193	49.90%	39.39%	Democrat
Democratic	002	34709	57.25%	49.57%	Democrat
Democratic	003	23892	37.26%	20.24%	Democrat
Democratic	005	28606	43.03%	25.61%	Democrat
Democratic	010	25707	60.90%	54.10%	Democrat
Democratic	011	27497	57.69%	48.85%	Democrat
Democratic	022	21999	41.29%	22.85%	Democrat
Democratic	023	22583	61.22%	54.02%	Democrat
Democratic	027	23628	42.09%	23.76%	Democrat

HOUSE

Party	District	Registration by Party	% Total Registration	Disparity	Dominance
Democratic	001	7148	59.23%	53.85%	Democrat
Democratic	003	6332	56.68%	50.61%	Democrat
Democratic	004	6794	52.85%	45.58%	Democrat
Democratic	005	8449	54.31%	46.37%	Democrat
Democratic	006	6682	54.26%	47.03%	Democrat
Democratic	007	7384	62.94%	59.06%	Democrat
Democratic	009	6117	41.88%	27.08%	Democrat
Democratic	010	6552	43.96%	32.47%	Democrat
Democratic	011	5549	44.20%	32.54%	Democrat
Democratic	012	5515	41.42%	25.86%	Democrat
Democratic	013	5649	38.19%	20.08%	Democrat
Democratic	015	9748	59.26%	50.80%	Democrat
Democratic	018	8095	52.46%	40.71%	Democrat
Democratic	019	8091	46.29%	29.22%	Democrat
Democratic	020	6684	40.81%	23.56%	Democrat
Democratic	024	4699	43.32%	27.49%	Democrat
Democratic	025	3842	43.90%	31.42%	Democrat
Democratic	026	4076	41.19%	24.54%	Democrat
Democratic	033	5429	41.44%	24.38%	Democrat
Democratic	039	5496	45.48%	36.03%	Democrat
Democratic	054	3619	45.42%	32.39%	Democrat
Democratic	060	7179	38.98%	21.44%	Democrat
Democratic	072	4289	41.74%	29.06%	Democrat
Democratic	073	4896	38.46%	21.35%	Democrat
Democratic	074	4638	37.52%	21.46%	Democrat
Democratic	075	3754	41.60%	28.07%	Democrat
Democratic	084	3283	36.52%	21.47%	Democrat
Democratic	088	6674	51.52%	38.34%	Democrat
Democratic	091	8198	55.91%	46.36%	Democrat
Democratic	092	8082	64.55%	59.54%	Democrat
Democratic	093	6388	65.67%	61.14%	Democrat
Democratic	094	7118	64.09%	59.45%	Democrat
Democratic	095	4587	55.11%	47.66%	Democrat

Party	District	Registration By Party	% Total Registration	Disparity	Dominance
Democratic	096	8632	65.53%	60.66%	Democrat
Democratic	097	6102	52.11%	41.35%	Democrat
Democratic	100	6060	42.77%	25.39%	Democrat
Democratic	110	2742	37.68%	20.59%	Democrat
Democratic	115	5293	49.37%	33.42%	Democrat
Democratic	116	4551	53.85%	42.66%	Democrat
Democratic	121	6309	42.59%	27.49%	Democrat
Democratic	124	6036	64.60%	58.13%	Democrat
Democratic	126	7168	62.41%	54.77%	Democrat
Democratic	127	4956	53.93%	42.25%	Democrat
Democratic	128	4047	62.23%	55.57%	Democrat
Democratic	129	5428	55.37%	44.68%	Democrat
Democratic	130	4962	61.84%	55.20%	Democrat
Democratic	133	6288	40.28%	21.55%	Democrat
Democratic	136	6913	41.83%	24.30%	Democrat
Democratic	137	5116	41.24%	24.94%	Democrat
Democratic	140	4593	45.55%	34.80%	Democrat
Democratic	144	5962	42.66%	24.54%	Democrat
Democratic	145	4743	48.75%	36.89%	Democrat
Democratic	146	5758	43.77%	26.14%	Democrat
Democratic	148	4948	43.30%	27.77%	Democrat

Appendix D – In-District Cities, Towns, Villages & Neighborhoods

Participating candidates for General Assembly must receive a minimum number of monetary contributions between \$5 and \$290 from individuals (including sole proprietorships) who reside within municipalities located, in whole or in part, in the district for which the candidate seeks legislative office. This means that even if only a small section of a particular city or town is in the district, candidates may still obtain “in-district” qualifying contributions from an individual residing anywhere in that city or town. Listed below are the cities, towns, and villages and neighborhoods in each district.

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R001	Hartford	<i>Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza</i>
R002	Bethel, Danbury	<i>Bethel, Grassy Plain, Danbury, Germantown, Mill Plain</i>
R003	Hartford	<i>Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza</i>
R004	Hartford	<i>Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza</i>
R005	Hartford, South Windsor, Windsor	<i>Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza, South Windsor, Bissell, East Windsor Hill, Wapping, Windsor, Deerfield, Hayden's, Poquonock, Rainbow, Wilson</i>
R006	Hartford, West Hartford	<i>Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza, West Hartford, Elmwood</i>
R007	Hartford	<i>Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza</i>
R008	Bolton, Columbia, Coventry, Lebanon, Tolland	<i>Bolton, Bolton Notch, Quarryville, Columbia, Chestnut Hill, Hop River, Coventry, Lebanon, Exeter, Goshen Hill, Leonard Bridge, Liberty Hill, Tolland</i>
R009	East Hartford, Manchester	<i>East Hartford, Burnside, Hillstown, Hockanum, Silver Lane, Manchester, Buckland, Highland Park, Manchester Green</i>
R010	East Hartford	<i>East Hartford, Burnside, Hillstown, Hockanum, Silver Lane</i>
R011	East Hartford, Manchester	<i>East Hartford, Burnside, Hillstown, Hockanum, Silver Lane, Manchester, Buckland, Highland Park, Manchester Green</i>

R012	Manchester	<i>Manchester, Buckland, Highland Park, Manchester Green</i>
R013	Manchester, Glastonbury	<i>Manchester, Buckland, Highland Park, Manchester Green, Glastonbury, Addison, Buckingham, East Glastonbury, Hopewell, South Glastonbury</i>

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R014	South Windsor	<i>South Windsor, Bissell, East Windsor Hill, Wapping</i>
R015	Bloomfield, West Hartford	<i>Bloomfield, Blue Hills, North Bloomfield, West Hartford, Elmwood</i>
R016	Simsbury	<i>Simsbury, Tariffville, Weatogue, West Simsbury</i>
R017	Avon, Canton	<i>Avon, West Avon, Canton, Canton Center, Cherry Brook, Collinsville, North Canton</i>
R018	West Hartford	<i>West Hartford, Elmwood</i>
R019	Avon, West Hartford	<i>Avon, West Avon, West Hartford, Elmwood</i>
R020	Newington, West Hartford	<i>Newington, West Hartford, Elmwood</i>
R021	Farmington	<i>Farmington, Unionville</i>
R022	Farmington, Plainville, Southington	<i>Farmington, Unionville, Plainville, Southington, Marion, Milldale, Plantsville</i>
R023	Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Westbrook	<i>Lyme, Bill Hill, Hadlyme, Hamburg, North Lyme, Old Lyme, Black Hall, Laysville, Sound View, South Lyme, Old Saybrook, Cornfield Point, Fenwick, Knollwood, Saybrook Manor, Saybrook Point, Westbrook, Grove Beach, Pond Meadow</i>
R024	New Britain	<i>New Britain</i>
R025	New Britain	<i>New Britain</i>
R026	New Britain	<i>New Britain</i>
R027	Newington, New Britain	<i>Newington, New Britain</i>
R028	Wethersfield	<i>Wethersfield, Griswoldville</i>
R029	Rocky Hill, Wethersfield	<i>Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, Griswoldville</i>

R030	Berlin, Southington	<i>Berlin, East Berlin, Kensington, Southington, Marion, Milldale, Plantsville</i>
R031	Glastonbury	<i>Glastonbury, Addison, Buckingham, East Glastonbury, Hopewell, South Glastonbury</i>
R032	Cromwell, Portland	<i>Cromwell, North Cromwell, Portland, Gildersleeve</i>
R033	Middletown	<i>Middletown, Highland, Newfield, Wesleyan, Westfield</i>

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R034	East Haddam, East Hampton, Salem	<i>East Haddam, Bashan, Leesville, Little Haddam, Millington, Moodus, North Plain, East Hampton, Cobalt, Haddam Neck, Middle Haddam, Salem, Salem Four Corners</i>
R035	Clinton, Killingworth, Westbrook	<i>Clinton, Killingworth, Nineveh Falls, Westbrook, Grove Beach, Pond Meadow</i>
R036	Chester, Deep River, Essex, Haddam	<i>Chester, Deep River, Winthrop, Essex, Centerbrook, Ivoryton, Haddam, Higganum, Ponset, Shailerville, Tylerville</i>
R037	East Lyme, Montville, Salem	<i>East Lyme, Black Point, Crescent Beach, Flanders Village, Niantic, Montville, Chesterfield, Kitemaug, Massapeag, Mohegan, Oakdale, Palmertown, Uncasville, Salem, Salem Four Corners</i>
R038	Montville, Waterford	<i>Montville, Chesterfield, Kitemaug, Massapeag, Mohegan, Oakdale, Palmertown, Uncasville, Waterford, Graniteville, Jordan Village, Millstone, Morningside Park, Quaker Hill</i>
R039	New London	<i>New London, Connecticut College, Coast Guard Academy, Ocean Beach, Pleasure Beach</i>
R040	Groton, New London	<i>Groton, Burnett Corners, Center Groton, Fort Hill, Groton Heights, Groton Long Point, Mystic, Noank, Poquonock Bridge, Submarine Base, West Mystic, New London, Connecticut College, Coast Guard Academy, Ocean Beach</i>
R041	Groton, Stonington	<i>Groton, Burnett Corners, Center Groton, Fort Hill, Groton Heights, Groton Long Point, Mystic, Noank,</i>

		Poquonock Bridge, Submarine Base, West Mystic, <i>Stonington</i> , Lords Point, Mystic, Old Mystic, Pawcatuck, Wequetequock
R042	New Canaan, Ridgefield, Wilton	<i>New Canaan, Ridgefield</i> , Ridgebury, Titicus, <i>Wilton</i> , Cannondale, Georgetown, North Wilton, South Wilton
R043	Ledyard, North Stonington, Stonington	<i>Ledyard</i> , Gales Ferry, <i>North Stonington</i> , Clarks Falls, Laurel Glen, <i>Stonington</i> , Lords Point, Mystic, Old Mystic, Pawcatuck, Wequetequock
R044	Killingly, Plainfield, Sterling	<i>Killingly</i> , Attawaugan, Ballouville, Chestnut Hill, Danielson, Dayville, East Killingly, Elmville, Goodyear, Killingly Center, Rogers, South Killingly, <i>Plainfield</i> , Almyville, Central Village, Moosup, Wauregan, <i>Sterling</i> , Ekonk, North Sterling, Oneco, Sterling Hill

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R045	Griswold, Ledyard, Lisbon, Preston, Voluntown	<i>Griswold</i> , Doaneville, Glasgo, Hopeville, Jewitt City, Pachaug, <i>Ledyard</i> , Gales Ferry, <i>Lisbon</i> , Newent, <i>Preston</i> , Long Society, Poquetanuck, Preston City, <i>Voluntown</i> , Campbell's Mills
R046	Norwich	<i>Norwich</i> , Greeneville, Laurel Hill, Norwichtown, Occum, Taftville, Thamesville, Yantic
R047	Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Lisbon, Norwich, Plainfield, Scotland, Sprague	<i>Brooklyn</i> , East Brooklyn, <i>Canterbury</i> , Packerville, Westminster, <i>Chaplin</i> , South Chaplin, <i>Lisbon</i> , Newent, <i>Norwich</i> , Greeneville, Laurel Hill, Norwichtown, Occum, Taftville, Thamesville, Yantic, <i>Plainfield</i> , Almyville, Central Village, Moosup, Wauregan, <i>Scotland, Sprague</i> , Baltic, Hanover, Versailles
R048	Bozrah, Colchester, Franklin, Lebanon	<i>Bozrah</i> , Fitchville, Gardner Lake, Gilman, <i>Colchester</i> , Comstock Bridge, North Westchester, Westchester, <i>Franklin</i> , North Franklin, <i>Lebanon</i> , Exeter, Goshen Hill, Leonard Bridge, Liberty Hill
R049	Windham	<i>Windham</i> , North Windham, South Windham, Willimantic

R050	Ashford, Brooklyn, Eastford, Hampton, Mansfield, Pomfret, Woodstock	<i>Ashford</i> , Warrensville, West Ashford, Westford, <i>Brooklyn</i> , East Brooklyn, <i>Eastford</i> , North Ashford, Phoenixville, <i>Hampton</i> , <i>Mansfield</i> , Atwoodville, Chaffeeville, Chestnut Hill, Eagleville, Gurleyville, Hanks Hill, Mansfield Center, Mansfield Depot, Mansfield Four Corners, Mansfield Hollow, Merrow, Mount Hope, Perkins Corner, Spring Hill, Storrs, <i>Pomfret</i> , Abington, Elliott, Pomfret Center, Pomfret Landing, Rogers, <i>Woodstock</i> , East Woodstock, Harrisville, Kenyonville, North Woodstock, South Woodstock, West Woodstock, Woodstock Valley
R051	Killingly, Putnam, Thompson	<i>Killingly</i> , Attawaugan, Ballouville, Chestnut Hill, Danielson, Dayville, East Killingly, Elmville, Goodyear, Killingly Center, Rogers, South Killingly, <i>Putnam</i> , East Putnam, Putnam Heights, <i>Thompson</i> , East Thompson, Fabyan, Grosvenordale, Mechanicsville, North Grosvenordale, Quaddick, Quinebaug, West Thompson, Wilsonville

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R052	Somers, Stafford, Union, Woodstock	<i>Somers</i> , North Somers, Somersville, <i>Stafford</i> , Ellithorpe, Hydeville, Orcuttville, Stafford Springs, Staffordville, Village Hill, West Stafford, <i>Union</i> , Mashapaug, <i>Woodstock</i> , East Woodstock, Harrisville, Kenyonville, North Woodstock, South Woodstock, West Woodstock, Woodstock Valley
R053	Tolland, Vernon, Willington	<i>Tolland</i> , <i>Vernon</i> , Dobsonville, Talcottville, Turnpike, Rockville, Vernon Center, <i>Willington</i> , East Hallville, East Willington, Hallville, Moose Meadow, South Willington, West Willington
R054	Mansfield	<i>Mansfield</i> , Atwoodville, Chaffeeville, Chestnut Hill, Eagleville, Gurleyville, Hanks Hill, Mansfield Center, Mansfield Depot, Mansfield Four Corners, Mansfield Hollow, Merrow, Mount Hope, Perkins Corner, Spring Hill, Storrs

R055	Andover, Bolton, Glastonbury, Hebron, Marlborough	<i>Andover, Bolton, Bolton Notch, Quarryville, Glastonbury, Addison, Buckingham, East Glastonbury, Hopewell, South Glastonbury, Hebron, Amston, Gilead, Marlborough</i>
R056	Vernon	<i>Vernon, Dobsonville, Talcottville, Turnpike, Rockville, Vernon Center</i>
R057	East Windsor, Ellington, Vernon	<i>East Windsor, Broad Brook, Melrose, Sadds Hill, Scantic, Warehouse Point, Windsorville, Ellington, Crystal Lake, Windemere Village, Vernon, Dobsonville, Talcottville, Turnpike, Rockville, Vernon Center</i>
R058	Enfield	<i>Enfield, Hazardville, North Thompsonville, Scitico, Thompsonville</i>
R059	Enfield, East Windsor	<i>Enfield, Hazardville, North Thompsonville, Scitico, Thompsonville, East Windsor, Broad Brook, Melrose, Sadds Hill, Scantic, Warehouse Point, Windsorville</i>
R060	Windsor, Windsor Locks	<i>Windsor, Deerfield, Hayden's, Poquonock, Rainbow, Wilson, Windsor Locks</i>
R061	East Granby, Suffield, Windsor Locks	<i>East Granby, Suffield, West Suffield, Windsor Locks</i>
R062	Barkhamsted, Granby, Hartland, New Hartford	<i>Barkhamsted, Centerhill, Pleasant Valley, Riverton, Granby, Mechanicsville, North Granby, West Granby, Hartland, East Hartland, West Hartland, New Hartford, Bakersville, Pine Meadow</i>
R063	Colebrook, Torrington, Winchester	<i>Colebrook, North Colebrook, Robertsville, Torrington, Burrville, Drakeville, Newfield, Torrington, West Torrington, Wrightville, Winchester, Winchester Center, Winsted</i>

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R064	Canaan, Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Washington	<i>Canaan</i> , Canaan Valley, Falls Village, Huntsville, Lower City, South Canaan, <i>Cornwall</i> , Cornwall Bridge, Cornwall Center, Cornwall Hollow, East Cornwall, West Cornwall, <i>Goshen</i> , West Goshen, <i>Kent</i> , Bulls Bridge, Flanders, Kent Furnace, Macedonia, North Kent, South Kent, <i>Norfolk</i> , North Norfolk, South Norfolk, West Norfolk, <i>North Canaan</i> , East Canaan, Sodom, <i>Salisbury</i> , Amesville, Joyceville, Lakeville, Lime Rock, Ore Hill, Taconic, Twin Lakes, <i>Sharon</i> , Amenia Union, Ellsworth, <i>Washington</i> , Marble Dale, New Preston, Romford, Washington Depot, Washington Green, Woodville
R065	Torrington	<i>Torrington</i> , Burrville, Drakeville, Newfield, Torrington, West Torrington, Wrightville
R066	Bethlehem, Litchfield, Morris, Warren, Woodbury	<i>Bethlehem</i> , <i>Litchfield</i> , Bantam, Milton, Northfield, <i>Morris</i> , Lakeside, <i>Warren</i> , <i>Woodbury</i> , Hotchkissville, Minortown, North Woodbury, Pomperaug
R067	New Milford	<i>New Milford</i> , Boardman Bridge, Gaylordsville, Lower Merryall, Merwinsville, Northville, Park Lane, Still River, Upper Merryall, Wellsville
R068	Waterbury, Watertown	<i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville, <i>Watertown</i> , Oakville
R069	Bridgewater, New Milford, Roxbury, Southbury	<i>Bridgewater</i> , <i>New Milford</i> , Boardman Bridge, Gaylordsville, Lower Merryall, Merwinsville, Northville, Park Lane, Still River, Upper Merryall, Wellsville, <i>Roxbury</i> , Judd's Bridge, Roxbury Falls, Roxbury Station, <i>Southbury</i> , South Britain, Southford, White Oaks
R070	Naugatuck	<i>Naugatuck</i> , Millville, Straitsville, Union City
R071	Middlebury, Waterbury	<i>Middlebury</i> , Bradleyville, Oronoke, <i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville
R072	Waterbury	<i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville
R073	Waterbury	<i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville
R074	Waterbury	<i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville
R075	Waterbury	<i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R076	Burlington, Harwinton, Litchfield, Thomaston	<i>Burlington</i> , Whigville, <i>Harwinton</i> , Campville, <i>Litchfield</i> , Bantam, Milton, Northfield, <i>Thomaston</i> , Reynolds Bridge
R077	Bristol	<i>Bristol</i> , Edgewood, Forestville
R078	Bristol, Plymouth	<i>Bristol</i> , Edgewood, Forestville, <i>Plymouth</i> , Allentown, East Plymouth, Greystone, Hancock, Pequabuck, Terryville, Tolles
R079	Bristol	<i>Bristol</i> , Edgewood, Forestville
R080	Southington, Wolcott	<i>Southington</i> , Marion, Milldale, Plantsville, <i>Wolcott</i>
R081	Southington	<i>Southington</i> , Marion, Milldale, Plantsville
R082	Meriden	<i>Meriden</i> , Centennial Plaza, South Meriden
R083	Berlin, Cheshire, Meriden	<i>Berlin</i> , East Berlin, Kensington, <i>Cheshire</i> , Brooksvale, Mixville, <i>Meriden</i> , Centennial Plaza, South Meriden
R084	Meriden	<i>Meriden</i> , Centennial Plaza, South Meriden
R085	Wallingford	<i>Wallingford</i> , East Wallingford, Tracy, Yalesville
R086	Durham, East Haven, Guilford, North Branford	<i>Durham</i> , Durham Center, Reeds Gap, <i>East Haven</i> , Foxon, Momauguin, <i>Guilford</i> , Leete's Island, North Guilford, Nut Plains, Sachem Head, <i>North Branford</i> , Northford, Totoket
R087	North Haven	<i>North Haven</i> , Clintonville, Montowese, Quinnipiac
R088	Hamden	<i>Hamden</i> , Augerville, Centerville, Highwood, Mount Carmel, Spring Glen, Whitneyville
R089	Bethany, Cheshire, Prospect, Waterbury	<i>Bethany</i> , <i>Cheshire</i> , Brooksvale, Mixville, <i>Prospect</i> , <i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville
R090	Middlefield, Wallingford	<i>Middlefield</i> , Baileyville, Middlefield Center, Rockfall, <i>Wallingford</i> , East Wallingford, Tracy, Yalesville
R091	Hamden	<i>Hamden</i> , Augerville, Centerville, Highwood, Mount Carmel, Spring Glen, Whitneyville

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R092	New Haven	<i>New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale</i>
R093	New Haven	<i>New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale</i>
R094	Hamden, New Haven	<i>Hamden, Augerville, Centerville, Highwood, Mount Carmel, Spring Glen, Whitneyville, New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale</i>
R095	New Haven	<i>New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale</i>
R096	New Haven	<i>New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale</i>
R097	New Haven	<i>New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale</i>
R098	Branford, Guilford	<i>Branford, Indian Neck, Pine Orchard, Short Beach, Stony Creek, Guilford, Leete's Island, North Guilford, Nut Plains, Sachem Head</i>
R099	East Haven	<i>East Haven, Foxon, Momauguin</i>
R100	Middletown	<i>Middletown, Highland, Newfield, Wesleyan, Westfield</i>
R101	Durham, Madison	<i>Durham, Durham Center, Reeds Gap, Madison, East River, Hammonasset Point, North Madison, Rockland</i>
R102	Branford	<i>Branford, Indian Neck, Pine Orchard, Short Beach, Stony Creek</i>
R103	Cheshire, Hamden, Wallingford	<i>Cheshire, Brooksvale, Mixville, Hamden, Augerville, Centerville, Highwood, Mount Carmel, Spring Glen, Whitneyville, Wallingford, East Wallingford, Tracy, Yalesville</i>
R104	Ansonia, Derby	<i>Ansonia, Derby</i>
R105	Beacon Falls, Derby, Seymour	<i>Beacon Falls, Pines Bridge, Derby, Seymour</i>
R106	Newtown	<i>Newtown, Berkshire, Botsford, Dodingtown, Hattertown, Hawleyville, Rocky Glen, Sandy Hook</i>
R107	Bethel, Brookfield, Newtown	<i>Bethel, Grassy Plain, Brookfield, Brookfield Center, Newtown, Berkshire, Botsford, Dodingtown, Hattertown, Hawleyville, Rocky Glen, Sandy Hook</i>

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R108	Danbury, New Fairfield, New Milford, Sherman	<i>Danbury, Germantown, Mill Plain, New Fairfield, Ball Pond, Candlewood Isle, Candlewood Shores, Knollcrest, New Milford, Boardman Bridge, Gaylordsville, Lower Merryall, Merwinsville, Northville, Park Lane, Still River, Upper Merryall, Wellsville, Sherman</i>
R109	Danbury	<i>Danbury, Germantown, Mill Plain</i>
R110	Danbury	<i>Danbury, Germantown, Mill Plain</i>
R111	Ridgefield	<i>Ridgefield, Ridgebury, Titicus</i>
R112	Easton, Monroe, Trumbull	<i>Easton, Aspetuck, Monroe, East Village, Stepney, Stevenson, Upper Stepney, Trumbull, Long Hill, Nichols</i>
R113	Shelton	<i>Shelton, Huntington</i>
R114	Derby, Hamden, Orange, Woodbridge	<i>Derby, Hamden, Augerville, Centerville, Highwood, Mount Carmel, Spring Glen, Whitneyville, Orange, Tyler City, Woodbridge</i>
R115	West Haven	<i>West Haven, Allingtown, Savin Rock</i>
R116	West Haven	<i>West Haven, Allingtown, Savin Rock</i>
R117	Milford, Orange, West Haven	<i>Milford, Devon, Morningside, Rivercliff, Walnut Beach, Wildermere Beach, Woodmont, Orange, Tyler City, West Haven, Allingtown, Savin Rock</i>
R118	Milford	<i>Milford, Devon, Morningside, Rivercliff, Walnut Beach, Wildermere Beach, Woodmont</i>
R119	Milford, Orange	<i>Milford, Devon, Morningside, Rivercliff, Walnut Beach, Wildermere Beach, Woodmont, Orange, Tyler City</i>
R120	Stratford	<i>Stratford, Lordship, Oronoque</i>
R121	Stratford	<i>Stratford, Lordship, Oronoque</i>
R122	Shelton, Stratford, Trumbull	<i>Shelton, Huntington, Stratford, Lordship, Oronoque, Trumbull, Long Hill, Nichols</i>
R123	Trumbull	<i>Trumbull, Long Hill, Nichols</i>

R124	Bridgeport	<i>Bridgeport</i> , Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble
R125	Darien, New Canaan, Stamford	<i>Darien</i> , Long Neck, Noroton, Noroton Heights, Tokeneke, <i>New Canaan</i> , <i>Stamford</i> , Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River

House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R126	Bridgeport	<i>Bridgeport</i> , Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble
R127	Bridgeport	<i>Bridgeport</i> , Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble
R128	Bridgeport	<i>Bridgeport</i> , Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble
R129	Bridgeport	<i>Bridgeport</i> , Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble
R130	Bridgeport	<i>Bridgeport</i> , Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble
R131	Naugatuck, Oxford, Southbury	<i>Naugatuck</i> , Millville, Straitsville, Union City, <i>Oxford</i> , Quaker Farms, Riverside, Towantic, Zoar Bridge, <i>Southbury</i> , South Britain, Southford, White Oaks
R132	Fairfield	<i>Fairfield</i> , Grasmere Station, Greenfield, Greenfield Hill, Samp Mortar, Southport
R133	Bridgeport, Fairfield	<i>Bridgeport</i> , Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble, <i>Fairfield</i> , Grasmere Station, Greenfield, Greenfield Hill, Samp Mortar, Southport
R134	Fairfield, Trumbull	<i>Fairfield</i> , Grasmere Station, Greenfield, Greenfield Hill, Samp Mortar, Southport, <i>Trumbull</i> , Long Hill, Nichols
R135	Easton, Redding, Weston	<i>Easton</i> , Aspetuck, <i>Redding</i> , Branchville, Georgetown, Redding Center, Redding Ridge, Topstone, West Redding, <i>Weston</i> , Georgetown, Lyons Plains
R136	Westport	<i>Westport</i> , Greens Farms, Saugatuck

R137	Norwalk	<i>Norwalk, Belden, Cranbury, East Norwalk, Roton Point, Rowayton, Silvermine, South Norwalk, West Norwalk, Wilson's Point, Winnipauk</i>
R138	Danbury	<i>Danbury, Germantown, Mill Plain</i>
R139	Montville, Norwich, Ledyard	<i>Ledyard, Gales Ferry, Montville, Chesterfield, Kittermaug, Massapeag, Mohegan, Oakdale, Palmertown, Uncasville, Norwich, Greeneville, Laurel Hill, Norwichtown, Occum, Taftville, Thamesville, Yantic</i>
R140	Norwalk	<i>Norwalk, Belden, Cranbury, East Norwalk, Roton Point, Rowayton, Silvermine, South Norwalk, West Norwalk, Wilson's Point, Winnipauk</i>
House District No.	House District Municipalities	Community Names in House District
R141	Darien, Norwalk	<i>Darien, Long Neck, Noroton, Noroton Heights, Tokeneke, Norwalk, Belden, Cranbury, East Norwalk, Roton Point, Rowayton, Silvermine, South Norwalk, West Norwalk, Wilson's Point, Winnipauk</i>
R142	New Canaan, Norwalk	<i>New Canaan, Norwalk, Belden, Cranbury, East Norwalk, Roton Point, Rowayton, Silvermine, South Norwalk, West Norwalk, Wilson's Point, Winnipauk</i>
R143	Norwalk, Westport	<i>Norwalk, Belden, Cranbury, East Norwalk, Roton Point, Rowayton, Silvermine, South Norwalk, West Norwalk, Wilson's Point, Winnipauk, Westport, Greens Farms, Saugatuck</i>
R144	Stamford	<i>Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River</i>
R145	Stamford	<i>Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River</i>
R146	Stamford	<i>Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River</i>
R147	Stamford	<i>Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River</i>

R148	Stamford	<i>Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River</i>
R149	Greenwich, Stamford	<i>Greenwich, Banksville, Byram, Cos Cob, Glenville, Mianus, Old Greenwich, Riverside, Round Hill, Sound Beach, Stanwich, Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River</i>
R150	Greenwich	<i>Greenwich, Banksville, Byram, Cos Cob, Glenville, Mianus, Old Greenwich, Riverside, Round Hill, Sound Beach, Stanwich</i>
R151	Greenwich	<i>Greenwich, Banksville, Byram, Cos Cob, Glenville, Mianus, Old Greenwich, Riverside, Round Hill, Sound Beach, Stanwich</i>

Senate District No.	Senate District Municipalities	Communities in Senate District
S001	Hartford, Wethersfield	<i>Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza, Wethersfield, Griswoldville</i>
S002	Bloomfield, Hartford, Windsor	<i>Bloomfield, Blue Hills, North Bloomfield, Hartford, Barry Square, Blue Hills, Unity Plaza, Windsor, Deerfield, Hayden's, Poquonock, Rainbow, Wilson</i>
S003	East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, South Windsor	<i>East Hartford, Burnside, Hillstown, Hockanum, Silver Lane, East Windsor, Broad Brook, Melrose, Sadds Hill, Scantic, Warehouse Point, Windsorville, Ellington, Crystal Lake, Windemere Village, South Windsor, Bissell, East Windsor Hill, Wapping</i>
S004	Andover, Bolton, Glastonbury, Manchester	<i>Andover, Bozrah, Fitchville, Gardner Lake, Gilman, Bolton, Bolton Notch, Quarryville, Glastonbury, Addison, Buckingham, East Glastonbury, Hopewell, South Glastonbury, Manchester, Buckland, Highland Park, Manchester Green</i>
S005	Bloomfield, Burlington, Farmington, West Hartford	<i>Bloomfield, Blue Hills, North Bloomfield, Burlington, Whigville, Farmington, Unionville, West Hartford, Elmwood</i>

S006	Berlin, Farmington, New Britain	<i>Berlin, East Berlin, Kensington, Farmington, Unionville, New Britain</i>
S007	East Granby, Ellington, Enfield, Granby, Somers, Suffield, Windsor Locks, Windsor	<i>East Granby, Ellington, Crystal Lake, Windemere Village, Enfield, Hazardville, North Thompsonville, Scitico, Thompsonville, Granby, Mechanicsville, North Granby, West Granby, Somers, North Somers, Somersville, Suffield, West Suffield, Windsor Locks, Windsor, Deerfield, Hayden's, Poquonock, Rainbow, Wilson</i>
S008	Avon, Barkhamsted, Canton, Colebrook, Granby, Hartland, Harwinton, New Hartford, Norfolk, Simsbury, Torrington	<i>Avon, West Avon, Barkhamsted, Centerhill, Pleasant Valley, Riverton, Canton, Canton Center, Cherry Brook, Collinsville, North Canton, Colebrook, North Colebrook, Robertsville, Granby, Mechanicsville, North Granby, West Granby, Hartland, East Hartland, West Hartland, Hartwinton, Campville, New Hartford, Bakersville, Pine Meadow, Norfolk, North Norfolk, South Norfolk, West Norfolk, Simsbury, Tariffville, Weatogue, West Simsbury, Torrington, Burrville, Drakeville, Newfield, Torrington, West Torrington, Wrightville</i>

Senate District No.	Senate District Municipalities	Communities in Senate District
S009	Cromwell, Middletown, Newington, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield	<i>Cromwell, North Cromwell, Middletown, Highland, Newfield, Wesleyan, Westfield, Newington, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, Griswoldville</i>
S010	New Haven, West Haven	<i>New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale, West Haven, Allingtown, Savin Rock</i>
S011	Hamden, New Haven	<i>Hamden, Augerville, Centerville, Highwood, Mount Carmel, Spring Glen, Whitneyville, New Haven, Amity, Baybrook, Fair Haven, Kilby, Westville, Whitneyville, Yale</i>

S012	Branford, Durham, East Haven, Guilford, Killingworth, Madison, Middlefield, North Branford	<i>Branford</i> , Indian Neck, Pine Orchard, Short Beach, Stony Creek, <i>Durham</i> , Durham Center, Reeds Gap, <i>East Haven</i> , <i>Guilford</i> , Leete's Island, North Guilford, Nut Plains, Sachem Head, <i>Killingworth</i> , Nineveh Falls, <i>Madison</i> , East River, Hammonasset Point, <i>Middlefield</i> , Baileyville, Middlefield Center, Rockfall, North Madison, Rockland, <i>North Branford</i> , Northford, Totoket
S013	Cheshire, Meriden, Middlefield, Middletown	<i>Cheshire</i> , Brooksvale, Mixville, <i>Meriden</i> , Centennial Plaza, South Meriden, <i>Middlefield</i> , Baileyville, Middlefield Center, Rockfall, <i>Middletown</i> , Highland, Newfield, Wesleyan, Westfield
S014	Milford, Orange, West Haven, Woodbridge	<i>Milford</i> , Devon, Morningside, Rivercliff, Walnut Beach, Wildermere Beach, Woodmont, <i>Orange</i> , Tyler City, <i>West Haven</i> , Allingtown, Savin Rock, <i>Woodbridge</i>
S015	Middlebury, Naugatuck, Waterbury	<i>Middlebury</i> , Bradleyville, Oronoke, <i>Naugatuck</i> , Millville, Straitsville, Union City, <i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville
S016	Cheshire, Prospect, Southington, Waterbury, Wolcott	<i>Cheshire</i> , Brooksvale, Mixville, <i>Prospect</i> , <i>Southington</i> , Marion, Milldale, Plantsville, <i>Waterbury</i> , East End, Hopeville, Plaza, Waterville, <i>Wolcott</i>
S017	Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Hamden, Naugatuck, Woodbridge	<i>Ansonia</i> , <i>Beacon Falls</i> , Pines Bridge, <i>Bethany</i> , <i>Derby</i> , <i>Hamden</i> , Augerville, Centerville, Highwood, Mount Carmel, Spring Glen, Whitneyville, <i>Naugatuck</i> , Millville, Straitsville, Union City, <i>Woodbridge</i>

Senate District No.	Senate District Municipalities	Communities in Senate District
S018	Griswold, Groton, North Stonington, Plainfield, Preston, Sterling, Stonington, Voluntown	<p><i>Griswold</i>, Doaneville, Glasgo, Hopeville, Jewitt City, Pachaug, <i>Groton</i>, Burnett Corners, Center Groton, Fort Hill, Groton Heights, Groton Long Point, Mystic, Noank, Poquonock Bridge, Submarine Base, West Mystic, <i>North Stonington</i>, Clarks Falls, Laurel Glen, <i>Plainfield</i>, Almyville, Central Village, Moosup, Wauregan, <i>Preston</i>, Long Society, Poquetanuck, Preston City, <i>Sterling</i>, Ekonk, North Sterling, Oneco, Sterling Hill, <i>Stonington</i>, Lords Point, Mystic, Old Mystic, Pawcatuck, Wequetequock, <i>Voluntown</i>, Campbell's Mills</p>
S019	Columbia, Franklin, Hebron, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Marlborough, Montville, Norwich, Sprague	<p><i>Columbia</i>, Chestnut Hill, Hop River, <i>Franklin</i>, North Franklin, <i>Hebron</i>, Amston, Gilead, <i>Lebanon</i>, Exeter, Goshen Hill, Leonard Bridge, Liberty Hill, <i>Ledyard</i>, Gales Ferry, <i>Lisbon</i>, Newent, <i>Marlborough</i>, <i>Montville</i>, Chesterfield, Kitemaug, Massapeag, Mohegan, Oakdale, Palmertown, Uncasville, <i>Norwich</i>, Greenville, Laurel Hill, Norwichtown, Occum, Taftville, Thamesville, Yantic, <i>Sprague</i>, Baltic, Hanover, Versailles</p>
S020	Bozrah, East Lyme, Montville, New London, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem, Waterford	<p><i>Bozrah</i>, Fitchville, Gardner Lake, Gilman, <i>East Lyme</i>, Black Point, Crescent Beach, Flanders Village, Niantic, <i>Montville</i>, Chesterfield, Kitemaug, Massapeag, Mohegan, Oakdale, Palmertown, Uncasville, <i>New London</i>, Connecticut College, Coast Guard Academy, Ocean Beach, Pleasure Beach, <i>Old Lyme</i>, Black Hall, Laysville, Sound View, South Lyme, <i>Old Saybrook</i>, Cornfield Point, Fenwick, Knollwood, Saybrook Manor, Saybrook Point, <i>Salem</i>, Salem Four Corners, <i>Waterford</i>, Graniteville, Jordan Village, Millstone, Morningside Park, Quaker Hill</p>

S021	Monroe, Seymour, Shelton, Stratford	<i>Monroe, East Village, Stepney, Stevenson, Upper Stepney, Seymour, Shelton, Huntington, Stratford, Lordship, Oronoque</i>
S022	Bridgeport, Monroe, Trumbull	<i>Bridgeport, Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble, Monroe, East Village, Stepney, Stevenson, Upper Stepney, Trumbull, Long Hill, Nichols</i>
S023	Bridgeport, Stratford	<i>Bridgeport, Barnum, Beardsley, Blackrock, Hillside, Newfield, Noble, Stratford, Lordship, Oronoque</i>

Senate District No.	Senate District Municipalities	Communities in Senate District
S024	Danbury, New Fairfield, Ridgefield	<i>Danbury, Germantown, Mill Plain, New Fairfield, Ball Pond, Candlewood Isle, Candlewood Shores, Knollcrest, Ridgefield, Ridgebury, Titicus</i>
S025	Darien, Norwalk	<i>Darien, Long Neck, Noroton, Noroton Heights, Tokeneke, Norwalk, Belden, Cranbury, East Norwalk, Roton Point, Rowayton, Silvermine, South Norwalk, West Norwalk, Wilson's Point, Winnipauk</i>
S026	Darien, New Canaan, Redding, Ridgefield, Stamford, Weston, Westport, Wilton	<i>Darien, Long Neck, Noroton, Noroton Heights, Tokeneke, New Canaan, Redding, Branchville, Georgetown, Redding Center, Redding Ridge, Topstone, West Redding, Ridgefield, Ridgebury, Titicus, Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River, Weston, Georgetown, Lyons Plains, Westport, Greens Farms, Saugatuck, Wilton, Cannondale, Georgetown, North Wilton, South Wilton</i>
S027	Darien, Stamford	<i>Darien, Long Neck, Noroton, Noroton Heights, Tokeneke, Stamford, Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, River Bank, Springdale, Turn of River</i>

S028	Bethel, Easton, Fairfield, Newtown	<i>Bethel, Grassy Plain, Easton, Aspetuck, Fairfield, Grasmere Station, Greenfield, Greenfield Hill, Samp Mortar, Southport, Newtown, Berkshire, Botsford, Dodingtown, Hattertown, Hawleyville, Rocky Glen, Sandy Hook</i>
S029	Brooklyn, Canterbury, Killingly, Mansfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Thompson, Windham	<i>Brooklyn, East Brooklyn, Canterbury, Packerville, Westminster, Killingly, Attawaugan, Ballouville, Chestnut Hill, Danielson, Dayville, East Killingly, Elmville, Goodyear, Killingly Center, Rogers, South Killingly, Mansfield, Atwoodville, Chaffeeville, Chestnut Hill, Eagleville, Gurleyville, Hanks Hill, Mansfield Center, Mansfield Depot, Mansfield Four Corners, Mansfield Hollow, Merrow, Mount Hope, Perkins Corner, Spring Hill, Storrs, Pomfret, Abington, Elliott, Pomfret Center, Pomfret Landing, Rogers, Putnam, East Putnam, Putnam Heights, Scotland, Thompson, East Thompson, Fabyan, Grosvenordale, Mechanicsville, North Grosvenordale, Quaddick, Quinebaug, West Thompson, Wilsonville, Windham, North Windham, South Windham, Willimantic</i>
Senate District No.	Senate District Municipalities	Communities in Senate District
S030	Bethlehem, Brookfield, Canaan, Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Fairfield, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Sherman, Torrington, Warren, Washington, Winchester	<i>Bethlehem, Brookfield, Brookfield Center, Canaan, Canaan Valley, Falls Village, Huntsville, Lower City, South Canaan, Cornwall, Cornwall Bridge, Cornwall Center, Cornwall Hollow, East Cornwall, West Cornwall, Goshen, West Goshen, Kent, Bulls Bridge, Flanders, Kent Furnace, Macedonia, North Kent, South Kent, Litchfield, Bantam, Milton, Northfield, Morris, Lakeside, New Fairfield, Ball Pond, Candlewood Isle, Candlewood Shores, Knollcrest, New Milford, Boardman Bridge,</i>

		<p>Gaylordsville, Lower Merryall, Merwinsville, Northville, Park Lane, Still River, Upper Merryall, Wellsville, <i>North Canaan</i>, East Canaan, Sodom, <i>Salisbury</i>, Amesville, Joyceville, Lakeville, Lime Rock, Ore Hill, Taconic, Twin Lakes, <i>Sharon</i>, Amenia Union, Ellsworth, <i>Sherman</i>, <i>Torrington</i>, Burrville, Drakeville, Newfield, Torrington, West Torrington, Wrightville, <i>Warren</i>, Woodville, <i>Washington</i>, Marble Dale, New Preston, Romford, Washington Depot, Washington Green, <i>Winchester</i>, Winchester Center, Winsted</p>
S031	<p>Bristol, Harwinton, Plainville, Plymouth, Thomaston</p>	<p><i>Bristol</i>, Edgewood, Forestville, <i>Harwinton</i>, Campville, <i>Plainville</i>, <i>Plymouth</i>, Allentown, East Plymouth, Greystone, Hancock, Pequabuck, Terryville, Tolles, <i>Thomaston</i>, Reynolds Bridge</p>
S032	<p>Bethel, Bethlehem, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Middlebury, Oxford, Roxbury, Seymour, Southbury, Washington, Watertown, Woodbury</p>	<p><i>Bethel</i>, Grassy Plain, <i>Bethlehem</i>, <i>Bridgewater</i>, <i>Brookfield</i>, Brookfield Center, <i>Middlebury</i>, Bradleyville, Oronoke, <i>Oxford</i>, Quaker Farms, Riverside, Towantic, Zoar Bridge, <i>Roxbury</i>, Judd's Bridge, Roxbury Falls, Roxbury Station, <i>Seymour</i>, <i>Southbury</i>, South Britain, Southford, White Oaks, <i>Washington</i>, Marble Dale, New Preston, Romford, Washington Depot, Washington Green, <i>Watertown</i>, Oakville, <i>Woodbury</i>, Hotchkissville, Minortown, North Woodbury, Pomperaug</p>

Senate District No.	Senate District Municipalities	Communities in Senate District
S033	<p>Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Deep River, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, Westbrook</p>	<p><i>Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Comstock Bridge, North Westchester, Westchester, Deep River, Winthrop, East Haddam, Bashan, Leesville, Little Haddam, Millington, Moodus, North Plain, East Hampton, Cobalt, Haddam Neck, Middle Haddam, Essex, Centerbrook, Ivoryton, Haddam, Higganum, Ponset, Shailerville, Tylerville, Lyme, Bill Hill, Hadlyme, Hamburg, North Lyme, Old Saybrook, Cornfield Point, Fenwick, Knollwood, Saybrook Manor, Saybrook Point, Portland, Gildersleeve, Westbrook, Grove Beach, Pond Meadow</i></p>
S034	<p>Durham, East Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Wallingford</p>	<p><i>Durham, Durham Center, Reeds Gap, East Haven, Foxon, Momauguin, North Branford, Northford, Totoket, North Haven, Clintonville, Montowese, Quinnipiac, Wallingford, East Wallingford, Tracy, Yalesville</i></p>
S035	<p>Ashford, Chaplin, Coventry, Eastford, Ellington, Hampton, Stafford, Thompson, Tolland, Union, Vernon, Willington, Woodstock</p>	<p><i>Ashford, Warrensville, West Ashford, Westford, Chaplin, South Chaplin, Coventry, Eastford, North Ashford, Phoenixville, Ellington, Crystal Lake, Windemere Village, Hampton, Clarks Corner, Howard Valley, Stafford, Ellithorpe, Hydeville, Orcuttville, Stafford Springs, Staffordville, Village Hill, West Stafford, Thompson, East Thompson, Fabyan, Grosvenordale, Mechanicsville, North Grosvenordale, Quaddick, Quinebaug, West Thompson, Wilsonville, Tolland, Union, Mashapaug, Vernon, Dobsonville, Talcottville, Turnpike, Rockville, Vernon Center, Willington, East Hallville, East Willington, Hallville, Moose Meadow, South Willington, West Willington, Woodstock, East Woodstock, Harrisville, Kenyonville,</i></p>

		North Woodstock, South Woodstock, West Woodstock, Woodstock Valley
S036	Greenwich, New Canaan, Stamford	<i>Greenwich</i> , Banksville, Byram, Cos Cob, Glenville, Mianus, Old Greenwich, Riverside, Round Hill, Sound Beach, Stanwich, <i>New Canaan</i> , <i>Stamford</i> , Belltown, Glenbrook, High Ridge, Long Ridge, North Stamford, Ridgeway, Riverbank, Springdale, Turn of River

Appendix E – Sample Documentation

Example 1

∞ Meta

Receipt for:

Transaction ID:

Payment summary

Amount billed

Date range

Billing reason

Product type
Meta ads

Payment method

Reference number ⓘ

Campaign

Results

Amount

Page Likes

Impressions

New Endorsement campaign

Impressions

Campaign total

Total

[See full receipt](#)

[Manage your ads](#)

Example 2



Receipt for

Account ID: |

Invoice/Payment Date
Oct 22, 2024, 6:56 AM

Payment method

Paid

Reference Number:

\$

Transaction ID

Ads spend since Oct 20, 2024.

Product Type
Meta ads

Campaigns

Post:

From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM

Post	Impressions
Post:	
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$
Post:	Impressions
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$
Post: ""	
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$
Post: ""	
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$
Post:	Impressions
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$
Post:	Impressions
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$
Post:	Impressions
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$
Post:	Impressions
From Oct 20, 2024, 12:00 AM to Oct 21, 2024, 11:59 PM	\$

Example 3

Go^{gle} Statement

To

United States

Details

Account ID
Payments account ID
Payments profile ID
Statement issue date

Google Ads

Summary for Aug 1, 2024–Aug 31, 2024

Starting balance
Total new activity
Total payments received

Ending balance in USD

This is not a bill.

This is a summary of billing activity for the time period stated above.

Sample Penny Test Verification Document



December 31, 2025

To Whom This May Concern,

RE:

This letter is to provide proof of verification of the account for at Liberty Bank is the authorized signer on the account for . The routing number is and the IOLTA account number is . If you need any additional information please feel free to contact me.

Thank You,

Assistant Branch Manager

NMLS#

970 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06107

P:

E: