



STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

Important Notice Regarding Expenditure Limit and Reduced Grant Schedule for Statewide and General Assembly Candidates Intending to Apply for a General Election Grant

Public Act 17-2 implemented a grant reduction schedule so the later a campaign applies for a general election grant,¹ ***the smaller the grant it may be eligible to receive and the less it may spend.*** Specifically, the reduced grant schedule applies to campaigns that submit their grant applications ***on or after August 28, 2018***; such campaigns will receive the following percentage of the grant they are otherwise eligible to receive if they submit their application between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. according to the following schedule:

- Full grant otherwise eligible for: Applications received on or before 8/27/18
- 75% of eligible grant: Applications received between 8/28/18 and 9/10/18
- 65% of eligible grant: Applications received between 9/11/18 and 9/24/18
- 55% of eligible grant: Applications received between 9/25/18 and 10/5/18²
- 40% of eligible grant: Applications received between 10/9/18 and 10/12/18

Candidates who intend to apply for a general election grant but do not submit a complete good faith application prior to August 28, 2018 must be mindful that their expenditure limit is reduced, and continues to be reduced by increasing amounts the later they apply for a grant. During the general election campaign period, the amount a participating candidate committee may *spend or obligate to spend* is calculated by adding the amount of grant monies the committee is eligible to receive and the required amount of qualifying contributions for the office sought. Violations of the expenditure limit may disqualify a committee from receiving a grant. If you have questions, please contact your committee's candidate services liaison or call the general candidate services line at 860.256.2985.

Please see the attached [general election grant reduction schedule](#).

Important Note: If you are not sure when you will meet the required thresholds to apply for a grant, you should plan on your expenditures made or incurred to not exceed more than 40% of the applicable grant amount plus your qualifying thresholds. In addition, to qualify for a grant you are required to have funds in your account to write the "buffer" check, so you need to be careful not to spend the buffer amount you have raised.

¹ Candidates in a primary who applied for and received a primary campaign grant, and who succeed in the primary, do not need to submit another grant application for the general election and are not subject to the reduced general election grant schedule. Those candidates file a SEEC Form 30 following the primary and a Carry Forward Letter in order to facilitate the release of general election monies.

² Note that in 2018, the 28th day before the election is preceded by a holiday and therefore applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 5, 2018, to qualify for a 55% grant.