

The WV Supreme Court Public Campaign Financing Pilot Project Helping Restore Confidence in Our Courts

How Do Candidates Qualify?

File Declaration of Intent with Secretary of State's Office

Exploratory contributions:

- contributions from individuals up to \$1,000
- candidate may make a contribution of up to \$1,000 and loan themselves up to \$1,000
- no more than \$20,000 in the aggregate

Qualifying contributions:

- one per individual
- contributions between \$1 and \$100
- candidate must collect a minimum of \$35,000 but no more than \$50,000
- at least 500 contributions
- 10% must be from each Congressional district
- receipts with statements of understanding from contributor
- candidate and family members who are registered WV voters may each make one contribution

The State Election Commission shall determine candidate eligibility.

How Much Money Will Candidates Receive?

Primary election – initial grant: \$200,000, minus qualifying contributions; rescue funds up to \$400,000

General election – initial grant: \$350,000; rescue funds up to \$700,000

Uncontested primary - \$50,000

Uncontested general - \$35,000

Participating candidates can receive rescue funds if outspent by non-participating candidate or independent expenditures when either exceeds the initial grant by 20%.

Reporting Requirements

Participating Candidates: Monthly reports during exploratory and qualifying periods. As specified for regular campaign reporting in present code thereafter.

Non-Participating Candidates: As specified for regular campaign reporting in present code.

Additional reports required on specific dates for spending that would trigger rescue funds.

Independent Expenditures: Any independent expenditures in excess of \$1,000 must be reported within 48 hours, or 24 hours during the last 15 days before an election.

How Will the Program Be Funded?

Excess exploratory or qualifying contributions

Money returned due to withdrawal of candidate

Unspent funds after election

Civil penalties for violations

Three increments of \$1 million from Purchasing Card Administration Fund (Auditor's Office)

Voluntary donations to fund

Interest income

Money appropriated for the fund