



DC's Fair Elections Program - Qualification Summary

The chart below illustrates, by office, the maximum contribution amount a candidate can accept from a single donor, the minimum number of eligible donors and the minimum total amount raised from eligible donors in order to qualify as a participating candidate, the total base amount payments a candidate will receive after qualifying as a participating candidate, and the maximum amount of public matching funds available for a candidate to receive once they qualify for the program and the ballot.

Office	Qualification Requirements			Voter Empowerment Support	
	Max. Contribution Amount per Donor	Minimum # of Eligible Donors	Minimum Amount Raised	Base Amount Payments	Max. matching funds for <u>2020</u> Election Cycle
Mayor	\$200	1,000	\$40,000	\$160,000	n/a
Attorney General	\$200	500	\$20,000	\$40,000	n/a
Council Chairman	\$200	300	\$15,000	\$40,000	n/a
At-large Councilmember	\$100	250	\$12,000	\$40,000	\$308,639
Ward Councilmember	\$50	150	\$5,000	\$40,000	\$241,055
At-large State Board of Education Member	\$50	150	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$21,877
Ward State Board of Education member	\$20	50	\$1,000	\$10,000	\$14,006

For example, a candidate for a Ward Councilmember contest could collect contributions up to \$50. Once they collected 150 qualified small dollar contributions (QSDC) adding up to \$5,000, they would qualify for the program and earn the \$40,000 base grant to allow them to hire staff and print materials. Once the candidate qualified for the ballot, every small contribution they receive would be matched 5 to 1. A candidate can only receive up to \$241,055 in public matching funds, but there is no limit on small donations, so a candidate may keep raising \$50 donations beyond the \$241,055.

The cap on matching funds will vary each election cycle. The cap is based on a look back at 110% of the average expenditures of all winning candidates for the covered office sought in the prior two (2) election cycles.

Candidates may accept small contributions from donors outside of the District, but these funds are not eligible to be matched and do not count toward the minimum number of donors or amount raised to qualify as a participating candidate.

DC Fair Elections is a broad and diverse coalition of residents and advocates from across the District. We are committed to empowering voters through creating a program that will strengthen local democracy and limit the influence of big money in politics through public financing of elections.

