

**LAUSD Candidates
2009 Election
Frequently Asked Questions**

In March 2007, Los Angeles voters approved Charter Amendment L, which governs the election of members of the Board of Education to the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Under this new law, and beginning with the 2009 election cycle, LAUSD candidates' campaigns are governed by Los Angeles City Charter Section 803. This FAQ is intended to give a brief overview of the new requirements that LAUSD candidates must follow.

What steps must a candidate for LAUSD take before fundraising in connection with the 2009 election?

1. File a Declaration of Intent to Solicit and Receive Contributions (DOI) with the City Ethics Commission (CEC). The DOI must be filed within the 18-month fundraising window for the election, which opens on September 3, 2007 for the primary election on March 3, 2009.
2. File a Statement of Understanding (SOU), certifying that the candidate has read and understood Los Angeles Charter Section 803, with the CEC. The SOU must be filed concurrently with the DOI.
3. File a Controlled Committee Bank Account Information form with the CEC for any controlled committees and their bank accounts. This form must be filed concurrently with the DOI and SOU.
4. Announce your intention to become a candidate for a specific LAUSD seat by filing a Candidate Intention Statement (California Form 501) with the CEC.
5. If forming a campaign committee, file a Statement of Organization (California Form 410) with the California Secretary of State (and a copy with the CEC).

What fundraising, contribution, and expenditure limits apply to LAUSD candidates?

1. Contributions to LAUSD campaign committees are limited to \$1000 per person per election.
2. Contributions solicited and accepted in connection with the candidacy specified on the candidate's DOI may only be expended in connection with that candidacy. Only the contributions received following the filing of the DOI may be expended in connection with that candidacy.

What new disclosure requirements apply to LAUSD candidates?

1. In addition to the campaign statements required to be filed under the Political Reform Act, LAUSD candidates must file the following additional campaign statements (please see the 2009 Election Filing Schedule for specific dates):
 - a. A third pre-election statement that covers all campaign activity through the Wednesday before the election, filed on the Friday before the election.
 - b. A third quarter filing in the year prior to the election covering July 1 through September 30, filed by October 10.
 - c. A fourth quarter filing in the year prior to the election covering October 1 through December 31, filed by January 10.
2. LAUSD candidate committees that receive contributions or make expenditures of \$25,000 or more must file all of their campaign statements electronically, using the CEC's Campaign Electronic Filing System (CEFS), in addition to filing paper statements. Please contact the CEC for more information about filing electronically.

What other new requirements affect LAUSD candidates?

1. LAUSD candidates and their treasurers must attend a training session conducted by the CEC prior to the election. Please contact the CEC for more information about attending a training session.
2. LAUSD candidates who distribute 200 or more substantially similar pieces of campaign literature must send a copy to the CEC at the time of its distribution.
3. LAUSD candidates may not solicit or accept contributions to their LAUSD campaign committees more than nine months after the date of the election. Contributions solicited or accepted after the date of the election may only be used for the purpose of retiring debt.