
LOS ANGELES CITY ETHICS COMMISSION
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ANNUAL CPI ADJUSTMENTS ANNOUNCED

The Los Angeles City Ethics Commission today announced the mandatory annual adjustments to limits and thresholds found in the City's campaign finance laws. The adjusted amounts apply to City elections for which the fundraising windows open after March 1 and will not affect any current City election. The adjusted amounts do not apply to elections for the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education.

The adjustments are calculated based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). City law requires the Ethics Commission to "annually adjust the limitation and disclosure thresholds in City law to reflect any increases or decreases in the Consumer Price Index." Los Angeles City Charter § 702(h).

The amounts that must be adjusted and the method for making the adjustments are specified by law. Los Angeles Municipal Code § 49.7.3. The adjustments must reflect the annual percent change in CPI for all urban consumers for the region that includes the Los Angeles metropolitan area, as published by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. The adjustments are calculated by multiplying the amounts subject to adjustment by the percent change in CPI from December 2011 to the December of the year prior to the adjustment. Los Angeles Municipal Code §49.7.3(B)(2).

The resulting numbers are rounded as required by City law. Los Angeles Municipal Code § 49.7.3(B)(3). And the adjusted and rounded amounts must be published by the Ethics Commission staff each year on or before March 1. Los Angeles Municipal Code § 49.7.3(B)(1).

The adjusted and rounded amounts in the table below reflect a 1.14-percent growth in CPI for the Los Angeles region between December 2012 and December 2013.

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2014 CPI Adjustment Table

The adjusted amounts below apply to City elections for which the primary election fundraising window opens after March 1, 2014. These limits do not apply to LAUSD elections.

Limit / Threshold	Current Amount	Adjusted Amount
Per-person Contribution Limit		
- Council	\$700	\$700
- Mayor / City Attorney / Controller	\$1,300	\$1,300
Aggregate Limit on Non-Individual Contributions		
- Council	\$206,200	\$208,600
- City Attorney / Controller	\$549,800	\$556,100
- Mayor	\$1,237,200	\$1,251,400
Miscellaneous Contribution Limits		
- Per-person Cash Contribution Limit	\$25	\$30
- Aggregate Limit on Anonymous Contributions	\$200	\$200
Limit on Matching Funds Candidate's Contributions to Self		
- Council	\$31,700	\$32,100
- Mayor / City Attorney / Controller	\$126,900	\$128,400
Expenditure Ceiling for Matching Funds Candidates (Primary)		
- Council	\$489,000	\$495,000
- Controller	\$1,141,000	\$1,154,000
- City Attorney	\$1,283,000	\$1,298,000
- Mayor	\$2,852,000	\$2,885,000
Expenditure Ceiling for Matching Funds Candidates(General)		
- Council	\$407,000	\$412,000
- Controller	\$856,000	\$866,000
- City Attorney	\$998,000	\$1,009,000
- Mayor	\$2,280,000	\$2,306,000
Independent Spending Per Race That Lifts Expenditure Ceiling		
- Council	\$78,000	\$79,000
- City Attorney / Controller	\$158,000	\$160,000
- Mayor	\$315,000	\$319,000

The City Ethics Commission was created by Los Angeles voters in 1990 to impartially administer and enforce the City's governmental ethics, campaign financing, and lobbying laws.