

MATCHING FUNDS FAQs

2020 Regular City Elections

What is the Matching Funds Program?

The matching funds program was enacted by the voters and provides limited public funding to help qualified City candidates run their campaigns for elected office. To receive funding, candidates must agree to participate in the program and meet the program's qualification requirements.

How do I agree to participate in the Matching Funds Program?

State that you agree to participate in the program when you file an "Acceptance or Rejection of Matching Funds" (Form 20) with the Ethics Commission. Your decision to accept or reject public funds is binding for both the primary election and the general election.

Is there a deadline to agree to participate?

You may file Form 20 any time after you file your fundraising paperwork with the Ethics Commission, but it must be filed no later than 12:00 p.m. on November 9, 2019.

What are the qualification requirements?

You must do *all* of the following to qualify to receive public funds:

- Qualify to appear on the ballot;
- Be opposed by a candidate who is also qualified to appear on the ballot;
- Participate in a debate or, if no opponent agrees to debate you, conduct a town hall meeting;
- Limit your personal spending (including personal loans) to \$34,800 per election.
- Limit your campaign spending to \$537,000 in the primary election and \$448,000 in the general election, unless you are notified by the Ethics Commission that the ceilings have been lifted;
- Receive \$11,400 in qualified contributions from individuals who reside in the City (up to \$114 per contributor may count toward this threshold);
- Receive qualified contributions of at least \$5 from 100 individuals who reside in your council district;
- Attend a training session conducted by the Ethics Commission; and
- File all required campaign statements.

How do I receive public funds?

Public funds are provided as a 6:1 match to qualified contributions that you receive from private individuals. Up to \$114 may be matched per contributor. With a 6:1 match rate, you will receive \$684 public dollars for a qualified \$114 contribution.

You must submit a "Matching Funds Request for Qualification or Claim for Payment" (Form 22) electronically to request qualification and the payment of public funds. You may submit a Form 22 any time after you submit your Form 20. You must provide supporting documentation (including but not limited to contributor certifications, contribution checks, and credit card transactions) and all of the required contributor information for every contribution in your Form 22s.

How much funding can I receive?

Up to \$151,000 in the primary election, and up to \$189,000 in the general election.

Please contact the Ethics Commission for help with qualification and certifications before fundraising!

[Campaign Masthead]

I would like to make a contribution of: \$800 \$500 \$250 \$100 Other: \$ _____

Type of contribution:

- Cash (\$30 maximum).
- Check made payable to [committee name].
- Credit card:

Name on Card: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Card Number: _____ Security Code: _____

Billing Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

***** The information and certifications below are required by law. *****

I am an individual, and this contribution is from my personal funds.

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street (no PO boxes) City State Zip Code

- This is my residence address (required for public matching funds).
- This is *not* my residence address.

Occupation: _____

I am: Self-employed, and the name of my business is:

Not self-employed, and my employer is:

I am a business or other entity, and this contribution is from my expense funds.

Name: _____

Address: _____
Street (no PO boxes) City State Zip Code

I certify the following:

- *This contribution is not being made under a false name, is not being made under another person's name, and has not been and will not be reimbursed.*
- *This contribution does not cause me to exceed my contribution limit of \$XXX. I understand that all contributions I make to this candidate or committee must be cumulated. I understand that a contribution from another individual or entity whose contribution activity I control, such as a business that I own or control, must be aggregated with this contribution, and both contributions will be treated as a single contribution from me.*
- *I am a United States citizen or a lawfully admitted permanent resident (i.e., green card holder).*
- *I am not a lobbyist or lobbying firm that is prohibited from contributing under Los Angeles City Charter § 470(c)(11).*
- *I am not a bidder, sub-contractor, principal, or underwriting firm that is prohibited from contributing under Los Angeles City Charter § 470(c)(12) or 609(e).*

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the City of Los Angeles and the state of California that all of the information above is true and correct.

Name

Date

Signature

Title (if signing for a business or other entity)