



Alaska Public Offices Commission

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Please read this document carefully for important information about starting your campaign.

This information is presented only as an overview of your disclosure requirements. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself and your campaign workers with the statutes and regulations to ensure you that you are in compliance with the law. Please visit the APOC homepage at www.doa.alaska.gov/apoc for further information, **training opportunities**, and to remain updated about your requirements and responsibilities as a candidate.

Unless they meet specific criteria found in [AS 15.13.040\(m\)\(1\)](#), **candidates must file all forms and reports electronically** through [myAlaska](#). Many Alaskans already have a myAlaska account to apply for their Permanent Fund Dividend. You may use this same account for APOC purposes. Candidates have the option to allow others to view their filings, but this access is specific to APOC services only.

FORMS TO GET STARTED

Letter of Intent: Must be filed with the APOC *before* any candidate engages in campaign activity. A Letter of Intent allows the candidate to begin accepting and spending contributions and may be filed 18 months prior to the date of the election. However, if a candidate files their Declaration of Candidacy first, they do not need to file a Letter of Intent.

The Declaration of Candidacy: Municipal candidates file their Declaration with their specific Municipal Clerk's Office. The Declaration of Candidacy is what gets a municipal candidate's name on the ballot. Check with your Municipal Clerk's Office to find out when your filing period opens and closes.

Public Official Financial Disclosure Statement: Must be filed with the Declaration of Candidacy at the Municipal Clerk's Office. Some municipalities have opted out of the requirement of filing a Public Official Financial Disclosure Statement. Check with your municipal clerk to be sure that you are complying with the requirements of your municipality.

Candidate Registration: Must be filed **within 7 days** after filing the Declaration of Candidacy with the Municipal Clerk's Office. The registration provides your campaign contact information, designates your campaign committee, and your campaign depository. Candidates may amend registrations as needed. **Until a candidate files their registration, designating a Treasurer or Deputy Treasurers, only the candidate may accept/expend campaign funds.**

Municipal Exemption Statement: May be filed by *municipal* candidates that do not intend to exceed \$5,000 in campaign activity, including any personal money that they may use. As long as they remain under the \$5,000 threshold, this is the only form they are required to file with APOC. Although exempt candidates do not file campaign disclosure reports, they are still subject to the laws that apply to candidates, including the requirement that ads, yard signs, and other campaign materials include "paid for by" identifiers as required under [AS 15.13.090](#) and [2 AAC 50.306](#) (see page 2).

Candidate Reimbursement Notification: If candidates loan personal funds to their campaign with the intent to repay themselves after the election, they **MUST** file a Candidate Reimbursement Form **within 5 days** of depositing personal funds into their campaign account. The maximum limit a municipal candidate can loan and recover is \$5,000. **HOWEVER**, if the candidate is able to reimburse their personal contributions from the campaign account **within 72 hours** they may do so, and they do **NOT** need to file the Reimbursement Form.

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORTS

Candidates, who are not exempt, are required to disclose financial information about their campaigns. The purpose of a campaign disclosure report is to provide a snapshot of a candidate's activity during a specific reporting period. The **reporting period** is the time period covered by a campaign disclosure report. A **due date** is the date when a report is due, and comes three days after the end of a reporting period. The three days allows a treasurer time to complete the report.

The number of reports filed by municipal candidates will vary depending on when the campaign begins. If a candidate filed a Letter of Intent on or before February 1, they will begin with a **Year Start Report**, due February 15. Otherwise the cycle will begin with a **30 Day Report** (due 30 days before the election), **7 Day Report** (due 7 days before the election) and a **105 Day Report** (which should be a final report and is due 105 days after the election). In addition, during the 9 days before an election, candidates must report the contributor name and the amount of all monetary and non-monetary contributions, from a single source, over \$250 (i.e. \$250.01) within 24 hours of receipt. Candidates may need to report each day during that period, or not at all.

OTHER START UP CONSIDERATIONS

Only the candidate, a registered treasurer or a registered deputy treasurer may spend money on behalf of the campaign. Any action by a treasurer or registered deputy treasurer is considered an action of the candidate.

If a registered treasurer or deputy treasurer uses personal funds to make a purchase on behalf of the campaign, it is a personal non-monetary contribution to the campaign (against their individual \$500 contribution limit) **unless** it is (1) \$500 or less **and** (2) it is reimbursed within the same reporting cycle.

PAID FOR BY IDENTIFIERS

Alaska Statute 15.13.090 and Regulation 2 AAC 50.306 require a paid for by identifier on all political communications. For candidate campaigns, print or video communications (i.e. newspaper ads, videos, Facebook pages, yard signs, etc.) must have the visible identifier:

“paid for by” followed by the name and address of the candidate

Audible communications (i.e. radio ads, videos with sound, robo calls, etc.) must have the audible identifier:

“This communication was paid for by (candidate’s name only)”

If the communication has both a print/video and audio component (i.e. commercials, YouTube videos, etc.) it must have both a visual and audible disclaimer. Fixing missing or incomplete paid for by disclaimers costs time and money for a campaign, and can result in civil penalties.

CIVIL PENALTIES

Civil penalties apply to candidates who violate campaign disclosure law. Violations include failure to file a campaign disclosure report on time or failure to file a complete and accurate campaign disclosure report. **Even if you are filing a report indicating that you have had no activity in that report period, you will be assessed a civil penalty if the report is late.** It is YOUR responsibility, as the filer, to familiarize yourself (and your campaign workers) with the campaign disclosure law requirements and reporting deadlines. Penalties range from \$50 to \$500 a day depending on the report.

Review the APOC website for further reporting requirements. This information is only meant to provide you with an initial overview of your requirements as you begin your campaign. Do not hesitate to call APOC staff if you have questions. Thank you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Anchorage Office	Juneau Office
2221 East Northern Lights Blvd., #128 Anchorage, AK 99508 Phone: (907) 276-4176 Toll Free: (800) 478-4176 Fax: (907) 276-7018	P.O. Box 110222 240 Main Street, #500 Juneau, AK 99811-0222 Phone: (907) 465-4864 Toll Free: (866) 465-4864 Fax: (907) 465-4832

Website: www.doa.alaska.gov/apoc
Information Email: apoc@alaska.gov
File Forms and Reports at: <https://my.alaska.gov/>

ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION

REPORTING DATES 2017 STATEWIDE MUNICIPAL ELECTION CANDIDATES

Tuesday, October 3, 2017 Statewide Municipal Elections

Report:	Covers:	Due:
Year Start Report	Start of campaign – February 1, 2017	Wednesday, February 15, 2017
30 Day Report	February 2 – September 1	Tuesday, September 5, 2017
7 Day Report	September 2 – September 23	Tuesday, September 26, 2017
24 Hour Reports**	September 24 – October 2	Daily As Needed**
105 Day Report	September 24 – January 1, 2018	Tuesday, January 16, 2018

* Due date falls on a holiday weekend. Reports will be considered timely, if filed on the next business day immediately following.

**During the 9 days before an election, you must report the contributor name and amount of all monetary and non-monetary contributions over \$250 to the APOC within 24 hours of the time you receive each contribution. You may need to report each day during that period, or not at all.

Other Relevant Dates for the 2017 Statewide Municipal Elections:

Friday, September 1, 2017. (Last day of 30 day reporting period for the October 3, 2017 Municipal Election)
The last day that a candidate may give or loan their campaign more than \$5000

Friday, November 17, 2017. (45 days after the date of the October 3, 2017 Municipal Election)
The last day a candidate may accept contributions

Monday, January 1, 2018. (90 days after the date of the October 3, 2017 Municipal Election)
The date by which candidates must disburse the amount held in their campaign account

Please visit the APOC website for updates, forms and more information.
You may also access information about the statutes, regulations, and reports filed by groups, lobbyists and candidates.

Contact Information

Website: doa.alaska.gov/apoc
Information Email: apoc@alaska.gov
File Reports at: <https://my.alaska.gov/>

Anchorage APOC – 2221 East Northern Lights Blvd., Room 128, Anchorage, Alaska 99508
General Information: (907) 276-4176 / (800) 478-4176 / FAX (907) 276-7018

Juneau APOC – PO Box 110222/ 240 Main Street, Room 201, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0222
General Information: (907) 465-4864 / (866) 465-4864 / FAX (907) 465-4832

Alaska Campaign Annual Contribution Limits – AS 15.13

FROM	TO CANDIDATE	TO GROUP & NON-GROUP ENTITY	TO POLITICAL PARTY	TO BALLOT GROUP
Authority	AS 15.13.070	AS 15.13.070	AS 15.13.070	AS 15.13.065(c)
Individual (AK resident)	\$500	\$500	\$5,000	Unlimited
Individual (non-resident)	\$500 if candidate has not exceeded aggregate limit below: Municipal/House \$3,000 Senate \$5,000 Gov./Lt. Gov. \$20,000	\$500 if group has not exceeded aggregate limit of 10% of its total contributions.	\$5,000 if party has not exceeded aggregate limit of 10% of its total contributions.	Unlimited
Corporations, Business Organizations, Unions	Prohibited AS 15.13.074(f)	Prohibited AS 15.13.074(f)	Prohibited AS 15.13.074(f)	Unlimited
Group (based in Alaska)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	Unlimited
Group (based outside Alaska)	Prohibited	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC; 90% of its contributions must be from Alaska residents, and must otherwise comply with AS 15.13. See AS 15.13.072(f).	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC; 90% of its contributions must be from Alaska residents, and must otherwise comply with AS 15.13. See AS 15.13.072(f).	Unlimited
Nongroup Entity (based in Alaska)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	Unlimited
Nongroup Entity (based outside Alaska)	Prohibited	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC; 90% of its contributions must be from Alaska residents, and must otherwise comply with AS 15.13. See AS 15.13.072(h).	\$1,000 Must first register with APOC; 90% of its contributions must be from Alaska residents, and must otherwise comply with AS 15.13. See AS 15.13.072(h).	Unlimited
Political Party	Municipal \$5,000 House \$10,000 Senate \$15,000 Lt. Gov./Gov. \$100,000	\$1,000	Unlimited	Unlimited
Foreign Nationals	Prohibited Foreign nationals are prohibited from making expenditures or contributions in Alaska elections only to the extent prohibited or permitted by Federal law. AS 15.13.068.			

Individuals, Persons, and Groups may be required to fill out Form 15-5 Statements of Contribution and/or Form 15-6 Statements of Independent Expenditure where applicable. Please see our Forms page.

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ALASKA PUBLIC OFFICES COMMISSION



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JUNEAU
 240 Main St. #500
 PO Box 110222
 Juneau, AK 99811
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MUNICIPAL EXEMPTION STATEMENT

Municipal candidates that do not intend to raise/spend more than \$5,000, including their personal funds, may file a Municipal Exemption Form. Exempt candidates are not required to file campaign disclosure reports during their campaign. If an exempt candidate exceeds \$5,000 in financial activity they must immediately file a Candidate Registration and file each report due after the change in status, disclosing all activity from the beginning of the campaign on their first report.

AS 15.13.040(g); 2 AAC 50.286.

Please note that unless a candidate meets the specific criteria found in AS 15.13.040(m)(1), they are required to file all forms and reports electronically, through the APOC Forms Online Filing System (<https://my.alaska.gov/>).

A candidate's use of corporate, state, or municipal resources (i.e., office phone/address, equipment, staff time, etc.) for campaign purposes is prohibited. AS 15.13.074(f); AS 15.13.145

CANDIDATE NAME: _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: _____

CAMPAIGN PHONE: _____ CAMPAIGN EMAIL: _____

Election Month and Year:	Office / Race: (Optional)
Municipality / Borough:	District / Seat: (Optional)

Certification: I certify that the information contained in the foregoing document is true, complete, and correct.

I do not intend to raise/spend more than \$5,000 (including personal money) during my entire campaign for municipal office.	Signature	Date
	Printed name	

NOTICE: Candidates who loan personal funds to their campaign with the intent to repay themselves after the election may only do so if they file a Candidate Reimbursement Form within 5 days of putting personal funds into their campaign. If the campaign is able to repay the candidate's personal funds within 72 hours they may do so, and they do not need to file the Reimbursement Form. AS 15.13.078(b); AS 15.13.116(a)(4); 2 AAC 50.990(7)(c)(x)