



Building Confidence in the Political Process

Public Disclosure Commission

Campaign Finance Data media kit

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media contact: Lori Anderson
(360) 664-2737
e-mail: lori.anderson@pdc.wa.gov

www.pdc.wa.gov

Recent Changes to Campaign Disclosure Law

Contribution Limits

County office candidates, mayoral candidates, and city council candidates are subject to contribution limits. No one other than the candidate, a bona fide political party, or a caucus campaign committee, can contribute more than \$800 per election to any of these candidates after June 9, 2010. The limit for a bona fide party committee or caucus campaign committee is determined by the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction where the candidate seeks office. A candidate can contribute unlimited personal funds.

Prohibition on Public Service Announcements

Effective March 25, 2010, no state-elected official or municipal officer may speak or appear in a public service announcement that is broadcast, shown, or distributed in any form whatsoever during the period beginning January 1 and continuing through the general election if that official or officer is a candidate.

County Filing Requirement Is Eliminated

Until June 10, 2010, copies of campaign reports not electronically filed with the Public Disclosure Commission were also filed with the county elections administrator. The county filing requirement was eliminated effective June 10.

Filing Requirements for Candidates in Small Jurisdictions

Up until 2006, candidate filing requirements hinged on the number of registered voters in a jurisdiction. Candidates running for office in a jurisdiction with less than 5,000 that did not encompass an entire county did not disclose campaign data. ESSB 6323 requires candidates who raise or expect to raise at least \$5,000, including personal funds, to register a campaign and disclose contributions and expenditures.

Key Dates

- Mondays** Campaigns report deposits made in the last week. Contributions must be deposited within five business days of receipt.
- July 5** Last day a candidate who chose mini reporting option can change to full reporting before the primary election.
- July 26** (3 weeks until primary election) Campaigns file summary (C-4 report) showing money raised, money spent, debt, in-kind contributions, and pledges as of July 25.
- August 8** Campaign books must be available for public inspection until the primary election (weekends excluded).
- August 9** (1 week until primary election) Campaigns file summary (C-4 report) showing money raised, money spent, debt, in-kind contributions, and pledges as of August 8.
- Special reports due for contributions of \$1,000 between Aug 10 and the primary election. PACs, lobbyists, and lobbyists employers report within 24 hours of giving contribution. Recipient reports within 48 hours of receiving contribution.
- Aug 16** **PRIMARY ELECTION**
- Sept 12** Campaigns file summary (C-4 report) showing money raised, money spent, debt, in-kind contributions, and pledges as of August 31.
- Sept 27** Last day a candidate who chose mini reporting option can change to full reporting before the general election.
- Oct 18** (3 weeks until general election) Campaigns file summary (C-4 report) showing money raised, money spent, debt, in-kind contributions, and pledges as of October 17.
- Special reports due for contributions of \$1,000 or more between now and the general election. PACs, lobbyists, and lobbyists employers report within 24 hours of giving contribution. Recipient reports within 48 hours of receiving contribution.
- Oct 31** Campaign books must be available for public inspection until the general election (weekends excluded).
- Nov 1** (1 week until general election) Campaigns file summary (C-4 report) showing money raised, money spent, debt, in-kind contributions, and pledges as of October 31.
- Nov 8** **GENERAL ELECTION**
- Dec 12** Campaigns file summary (C-4 report) showing money raised, money spent, debt, in-kind contributions, and pledges as of Nov 30.



CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

(Effective June 10, 2010)

CONTRIBUTORS

	<i>State Party</i>	<i>County and LD Party Committees</i>	<i>Caucus Political Committee (House or Senate)</i>	<i>Candidate Committees</i>	<i>Pacs, Unions, Corps and other entities</i>		<i>Individuals</i>
State Party	Not Applicable	No Limit	No Limit	Only from Surplus Funds No Limit	\$4,000 per calendar year (non-exempt)	No Limit (exempt)	No Limit
County or LD Party Committee	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	Only from Surplus Funds No Limit	\$4,000 per calendar year (non-exempt)	No Limit (exempt)	No Limit
Caucus Political Committee	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	Only from Surplus Funds No Limit	\$800 per calendar year		No Limit
Statewide Executive Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$1,600 per election		\$1,600 per election
Legislative Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$800 per election		\$800 per election
Judicial Candidate	\$1,600 per election	\$1,600 per election	\$1,600 per election	Prohibited	\$1,600 per election		\$1,600 per election
County Office Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$800 per election		\$800 per election
City Council or Mayor Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$800 per election		\$800 per election
Port of Seattle or Port of Tacoma Commissioner Candidate	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	\$0.40 per Reg. Voter per cycle (Joint Limit)	\$0.80 per Reg. Voter per cycle	Prohibited	\$1,600 per election		\$1,600 per election
PACS	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	Prohibited	No Limit		No Limit

RECIPIENTS

Limits apply only to candidates running in port districts with more than 200,000 registered voters.

- **Per cycle** means aggregate during the period from January 1 after the date of the previous general election for the office through December 31 after the upcoming general election for the office.
- **Per election** means per each primary, general, or special election for that office.
- **Per calendar year** means aggregate during the period from January 1 through December 31 each year.
- Contributions designated for the exempt account of a bona fide political party are NOT subject to limit, except **during the 21 days before the general election** when the \$5,000 maximum applies. See next column.

- **During the 21 days before the general election**, no contributor may donate over \$50,000 in the aggregate to a candidate for statewide office, or over \$5,000 in the aggregate to a candidate for any other office or to a political committee. This includes contributions to a party committee, as well as a candidate's personal contributions to his/her own campaign. It does not apply to contributions from the state committee of the WA State Democratic, Republican or Libertarian Party or from a minor party.

Contribution Limits to Candidates Subject to Limits

A candidate subject to limits is prohibited from accepting aggregate contributions exceeding the following amounts:

Source of Contribution	To State Executive or Port Commissioner* Candidates	To Legislative, County Office, Mayor, or City Council Candidates
Individual	\$1,600 ¹	\$800 ¹
Union or Business	1,600 ¹	800 ¹
Political Action Committee	1,600 ¹	800 ¹
State Party Central Committee	.80/voter ²	.80/voter ²
County Party Central Committee	.40/voter ³	.40/voter ⁴
Legislative District Committee	.40/voter ³	.40/voter ⁴
Minor Party Committee	.80/voter ⁵	.80/voter ⁵
Legislative Caucus Committee	.80/voter ⁵	.80/voter ⁵

*only in jurisdictions with more than 200,000 registered voters as of the last General Election

Any judicial candidate is prohibited from accepting aggregate contributions exceeding \$1,600 per election from any source.

1 This is a per election limit; each primary, general and special election is considered a separate election. This limit does not apply to the candidate using personal funds to give to his or her own campaign. The limit does apply to the candidate's spouse.

Primary election contributions must be made on or before the date of the primary unless a candidate lost the primary and has debt to retire. Contributors may continue to make contributions to a candidate who loses the primary election and has insufficient funds to pay debts outstanding until the debt is retired or 30 days after the primary, whichever comes first.

General election contributions must be made no later than December 31 of the election year.

During the 21 days before the general election, no candidate for legislative office or local office may contribute to his or her own campaign more than \$5,000 in the aggregate, and no candidate for state executive office or supreme court justice may contribute to his or her own campaign more than \$50,000 in the aggregate.

2 The limit amount of \$.80 times the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction (as of the last general election) is for the entire election cycle. The election cycle is from January 1 after the last election for the office or the start of the candidate's campaign -- whichever is later -- through December 31 of the election year in which election is sought. Contributions must be made no later than December 31 of the election year.

3 During the election cycle (defined in #2 above), all county central committees and legislative district committees in the state share a combined limit to each candidate of \$.40 times the number of registered voters statewide as of the last general election. (However, during the 21 days before the general election, neither a county central committee nor a legislative district committee may give a state executive office candidate more than \$50,000 in the aggregate.) Contributions must be made on or before December 31 of the election year.

4 A county central and legislative district committee may only contribute to a candidate if voters residing in the city, county or legislative district are entitled to elect the candidate to the office sought. During the election cycle (defined in #2 above), a legislative district committee, in conjunction with all county central committees in that district, share a combined per candidate limit of \$.40 times the number of registered voters in the legislative district as of the last general election. (However, during the 21 days before the general, neither a county central committee nor a legislative district committee may give a city, county or legislative candidate more than \$5,000 in the aggregate.) Contributions must be made on or before December 31 of the election year.

5 The limit amount is for the entire election cycle. The election cycle is from January 1 after the last election for the office or the start of the candidate's campaign -- whichever is later -- through December 31 of the year in which election is sought. (However, during the 21 days before the general, a caucus political committee may not give a state executive candidate more than \$50,000 in the aggregate or a city, county or legislative candidate more than \$5,000 in the aggregate.) Contributions must be made on or before December 31 of the election year.

Recent Ballot Measures - Statistics

		Money raised as of:				
		June 31	July 31	August 31	3 weeks before election	1 week before election
2010	Citizens for Responsible Spending (F:1053)	\$208,655.00	\$318,600.00	\$333,700.00	\$585,889.89	\$610,614.89
	Voters Want More Choices - Save the 2/3rds Vote for Tax Increases (F:1053)	\$638,151.71	\$701,995.32	\$689,416.40	\$717,922.76	\$720,067.76
	No on I-1053 Committee	X	X	\$5,096.19	\$132,542.32	\$1,625,133.63
	Committee for Workers Compensation Reform (F:1082)	X	X	X	\$144,000.00	\$144,000.00
	Save Our Jobs Washington (F:1082)	\$919,529.52	\$984,215.33	\$1,131,767.33	\$2,794,890.95	\$3,261,437.85
	No on I-1082 Committee (A:1082)	\$151,415.88	\$445,076.05	\$807,228.15	\$2,461,904.38	\$4,036,893.86
	Stop Insurance Industry Takeover (A:1082)	\$383,785.70	\$639,035.70	\$813,155.70	\$1,893,265.70	\$1,989,535.70
	Eastern Washington for 1098 (F:1098)	X	X	X	\$3,751.00	\$4,051.00
	Washingtonians for Education Health & Tax Relief (F:1098)	\$871,744.19	\$1,691,722.26	\$3,053,904.75	\$5,984,124.99	\$6,383,437.08
	Washingtonians Against Income Tax (A:1098)	\$5,500.00	X	X	X	X
	Modernize Washington (F:1100)	\$1,114,373.93	\$1,172,635.75	\$1,732,710.33	\$6,171,284.51	\$6,176,284.51
	People for Responsible Liquor Laws (A:1098)	X	X	X	\$250,000.00	\$256,000.00
	Protect Our Communities (A:1100)	\$55,022.21	\$226,140.47	\$4,792,826.63	\$8,542,187.27	\$8,850,681.52
	Washington Citizens for Liquor Reform (F:1105)	\$1,929,000.00	\$2,244,000.00	\$2,244,000.00	\$2,244,000.00	\$2,744,000.00
	Stop the Food & Beverage Tax Hikes (F:1107)	\$2,705,869.68	\$3,238,763.61	\$14,448,077.83	\$16,770,187.29	\$16,790,773.88
	Citizens to Protect Our Economic Future (A:1107)	\$196,382.23	\$267,885.57	\$305,856.92	\$399,984.89	\$425,204.89
	2009	Human Rights Campaign (F:71)	X	X	X	\$78,706.00
WA Families Standing Together (F:71)		\$21,141.50	\$70,450.95	\$244,405.35	\$1,571,885.07	\$1,962,760.77
Vote Reject on R-71		X	X	X	\$200,040.53	\$205,040.53
Voters Want More Choices (F:1033)		\$665,889.35	\$670,159.35	\$670,169.01	\$670,171.15	\$670,171.15
No on I-1033		\$49,776.98	\$110,544.64	\$494,656.80	\$2,897,541.87	\$3,463,280.94
2008	ReduceCongestion.org (F:985)	\$612,600.93	\$619,902.44	\$642,906.58	\$642,907.52	\$642,957.52
	No! on I-985	X	X	\$2,121.16	\$148,234.84	\$202,685.28
	Yes on I-1000	\$1,307,247.65	\$1,472,913.41	\$1,856,252.37	\$3,541,652.67	\$4,856,732.56
	Compassion & Choices WA (F:1000)	X	\$42,000.00	\$42,000.00	\$627,500.00	\$627,625.00
	Coalition Against Assisted Suicide (A:1000)	\$92,528.02	\$173,168.01	\$423,629.02	\$1,386,632.39	\$1,519,442.60
	Community Care Coalition of WA (A:1029)	\$22,285.68	\$48,338.38	\$85,008.28	\$138,898.61	\$174,957.07
2007	Approve 67	\$175,008.58	\$326,199.45	\$738,514.81	\$1,941,289.50	\$3,535,040.74
	Consumers Against Higher Insurance Rates (A:67)	\$1,669,047.70	\$1,928,712.30	\$7,782,363.80	\$10,040,044.53	\$11,493,651.27
	Voters Want More Choices (F:960)	\$653,152.45	\$669,977.18	\$680,125.63	\$680,290.41	\$710,290.41
	No on I-960	\$5,000.00	\$22,595.17	\$188,003.55	\$881,619.58	\$1,175,934.60
	People for Our Public Schools (F:4204)	\$142,950.17	\$200,224.83	\$669,412.84	\$2,361,036.08	\$3,209,952.34
	Cit Committee for Arlington Schools (F:4204)	X	X	X	\$4,087.91	\$4,648.91
	Yes to a Rainy Day Fund (F:8206)	X	\$10,239.23	\$10,239.23	\$21,239.23	\$219,239.23

Washington State Public Disclosure Commission's "Most Money" Journal

Campaign Spending Highlights from 1976 through 2010

GOVERNOR

MOST money raised and spent by a SINGLE CANDIDATE:

1.	\$13,661,703 \$13,661,703	Chrstine Gregoire – 2008
2.	\$11,637,032 \$11,616,027	Dino Rossi – 2008
3.	\$ 6,364,684 \$ 6,364,684	Christine Gregoire – 2004
4.	\$ 6,254,036 \$ 6,254,036	Dino Rossi – 2004
5.	\$ 3,791,293 \$ 3,791,293	Gary Locke – 2000

MOST money spent by ALL CANDIDATES:

1.	\$25,290,698 – 2004	(Aiken, Badgley, Baker, Gregoire, Hoepfner, Joubert, Lopez, Meyer, Oviedo, Rossi, Rousso, Said, Tudor, White)
2.	\$13,937,531 – 2004	(Aiken, Bennett, Buculei, Gregoire, Hansler, Mike the Mover, Rossi, Sims)
3.	\$8,883,283 – 1996	(Brazier, Craswell, Englerius Foreman, Hanson, Inslee, Locke, Rice, Roach, Maleng, Said, Tharp, Waldo, Zetlen)
4.	\$6,994,269 – 1992	(Eikenberry, King, Lowry, McDonald, McQuown, Morrison, Tharp)
5.	\$6,558,306 – 2000	(Carlson, Heller, Hochstatter, Locke, LePage)

OTHER STATEWIDE OFFICES

MOST money spent by a SINGLE CANDIDATE:

1.	\$1,882,960	Rob McKenna, Attorney General – 2008
2.	\$1,084,477	Peter Goldmark, Commissioner of Public Lands – 2008
3.	\$1,254,320	Rob McKenna, Attorney General – 2004
4.	\$1,186,474	Deborah Senn, Attorney General – 2004
5.	\$804,941	Ann Anderson, Commissioner of Public Lands – 1992

MOST money spent by ALL CANDIDATES for a single position:

1.	\$3,378,641	Attorney General – 2004	(McKenna, Richmond, Senn, Sidran, Vaska)
2.	\$2,473,177	Attorney General – 2008	(Ladenburg, McKenna)
3.	\$1,765,169	Commissioner of Public Lands – 2008	(Goldmark, Sutherland)
4.	\$1,488,960	Attorney General – 1992	(Brand, Gregoire, Ladenburg, Maleng)
5.	\$1,422,439	Superintendent of Public Instruction – 1996	(Bergeson, Brown, de la Rosa, Fuller, Hidden-Dodson, Johannessen, La Berge, Leahy, Lovern, Taber, Vance)

INITIATIVES

MOST money spent FOR a statewide ballot measure:

1.	\$16,042,629	Initiative 1107 – End sales tax on candy & soda, 2010
2.	\$9,513,197	Initiative 330 – Healthcare liability reform, 2005
3.	\$6,259,692	Referendum Bill 48 – Sports stadium/Exhibition center, 1997
4.	\$5,537,866	Initiative 1000 – Assisted Suicide
5.	\$4,573,100	Referendum Bill 51 – Gasoline Tax, 2002

MOST money spent OPPOSING a statewide ballot measure:

1.	\$11,567,117	Referendum 67 – Insurance Reform, 2007
2.	\$6,612,582	Initiative 892 – Expanding non-tribal gambling, 2004
3.	\$6,465,664	Initiative 330 – Healthcare liability reform, 2005
4.	\$6,423,302	Initiative 1098 – Establishing a state income tax, 2010
5.	\$3,851,654	Initiative 933 – Property Fairness Act, 2006

MOST money spent in a statewide ballot measure campaign by BOTH sides:

1.	\$16,469,457	Initiative 1107 – End sales tax on candy & soda, 2010
2.	\$15,978,861	Initiative 330 – Healthcare liability reform, 2005
3.	\$15,405,472	Referendum 67 – Insurance Reform, 2007
4.	\$15,233,175	Initiative 1100 – Privatize liquor sales & distribution, 2010
5.	\$12,778,645	Initiative 1098 – Establishing a state income tax, 2010

LEAST money spent in a WINNNG statewide ballot measure campaign:

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| 1. | \$14,006 | Initiative 316 – Mandatory death penalty, 1975 |
| 2. | \$20,865 | Initiative 345 – Eliminating sales tax on food, 1977 |
| 3. | \$46,433 | Initiative 601 – Limit tax increases, 1993 |

STATE SENATE

MOST money spent by a SINGLE CANDIDATE:

- | | | |
|----|-----------|---|
| 1. | \$579,055 | Gregg Bennett, 2010 – 48 th District |
| 2. | \$560,081 | Christopher Marr, 2006 – 6 th District |
| 3. | \$556,942 | Christopher Marr, 2010 – 6 th District |
| 4. | \$438,352 | Michael J. Baumgartner, 2010 – 6 th District |
| 5. | \$425,249 | Derek Kilmer, 2006 – 26 th District |

MOST money spent in a SINGLE RACE:

- | | | |
|----|-----------|--|
| 1. | \$995,293 | 6 th District, 2010 (Marr, Baumgartner) |
| 2. | \$864,240 | 48 th District, 2010 (Tom, Bennett) |
| 3. | \$816,901 | 6 th District, 2006 (Benson, Marr) |
| 4. | \$735,717 | 6 th District, 2002 (Dolan, West) |
| 5. | \$692,622 | 45 th District, 2010 (Hill, Oemig) |

MOST money spent to DEFEAT an incumbent:

- | | | |
|------|-----------|---|
| 2010 | \$438,352 | Baumgartner over Marr, 6 th District |
| 2008 | \$184,779 | Becker over Rasmussen, 2 nd District |
| 2006 | \$560,081 | Marr over Benson, 6 th District |
| 2004 | \$367,016 | Weinstein over Horn, 41 st District |
| 2002 | \$196,116 | Brandland over Gardner, 42 nd District |
| 2000 | \$183,837 | Hewitt over Loveland, 8 th District |
| 1998 | \$219,344 | Shin over Wood, 21 st District |

MOST money spent to WIN an open seat:

2010	\$173,828	Doug Ericksen, 42 nd District
2008	\$195,300	Kevin Ranker, 40 th District
2006	\$425,249	Derek Kilmer, 26 th District
2004	\$174,334	Michael Carrell, 28 th District
2002	\$144,076	David Schmidt, 44 th District
2000	\$181,310	James Kastama, 25 th District
1998	\$148,621	Georgia Gardner, 42 nd District
1996	156,176	Val Stevens, 39 th District

LEAST money spent by winner in a CONTESTED POSITION:

2010	\$26,649	Adam Kline, 37 th District
2008	\$63,259	Debbie Regala, 27 th District
2006	\$39,755	Robert Morton, 7 th District
2004	\$46,446	Debbie Regala, 27 th District
2002	\$45,125	Patricia Thibaudeau, 43 rd District
2000	\$52,890	James Hargrove, 24 th District
1998	\$26,794	Harold Hochstatter, 13 th District
1996	\$52,923	Karen Fraser, 22 nd District

STATE HOUSE

MOST money spent by a SINGLE CANDIDATE:

1.	\$330,634	Troy Kelley, 2010, 28 th District
2.	\$323,576	Elizabeth Loomis, 2008, 44 th District
3.	\$316,237	Reuven Carlyle, 2008, 36 th District
4.	\$298,371	Stephen Litzow, 2008, 41 st District
5.	\$293,667	Geoffrey Simpson, 2008, 47 th District

MOST money spent in a SINGLE RACE:

1.	\$627,794	43 rd District, 2006 (Dodson, Kelley, Knighton, Pederson, Pure, Street, Sherman)
2.	\$591,110	36 th District, 2008 (Bloss, Burbank, Carlyle)
3.	\$509,136	41 st District, 2008 (Litzow, Maxwell)
4.	\$506,423	28 th District, 2010 (Kelley, O'Ban)
5.	\$490,372	6 th District, 2008 (Barlow, Lindauer, Parker, Ruiz)

MOST money spent to DEFEAT an incumbent:

2010	\$199,277	Wilcox over Campbell, 2 nd District, Pos 2
2008	\$213,924	Probst over Dunn, 17 th District, Pos 1
2006	\$232,868	Hurst over Shabro, 31 st District, Pos 2
2004	\$263,527	Kilmer over McMahan, 26 th District, Pos 2
2002	\$162,511	Wallace over Dunn, 17 th District, Pos 2
2000	\$166,534	Simpson over Fortunato, 47 th District, Pos 1
1998	\$181,678	Ruderman over Backlund, 45 th District, Pos 2
1996	\$101,148	Lantz over McMahan, 26 th District, Pos 1


MOST money spent to WIN an open seat:

2010	\$201,180	Laurie Jenkins, 27 th District, Pos 1
2008	\$316,237	Reuven Carlyle, 36 th District, Pos 1
2006	\$244,435	Troy Kelley, 28 th District, Pos 1
2004	\$193,608	Sherry Appleton, 23 rd District, Pos 1
2002	\$231,148	Ross Hunter, 48 th District, Pos 1
2000	\$183,905	Brock Jackley, 26 th District, Pos 1
1998	\$91,204	Tom Campbell, 2 nd District, Pos 2
1996	\$96,162	Linda Evans Parlette, 12 th District, Pos 2

LEAST money spent by winner in a CONTESTED POSITION:

2010	\$23,089	Jeanne Darneille, 27 th District, Pos 2
2008	\$18,436	Mary Helen Roberts, 21 st District, Pos 1
2006	\$20,464	James Dunn, 17 th District, Pos 1
2004	\$10,088	Donald Cox, 9 th District, Pos 1
2002	\$21,130	Robert Sump, 7 th District, Pos 1
2000	\$21,286	Alex Wood, 3 rd District Pos 1
1998	\$17,377	Mike Stensen, 31 st District, Pos 1
1996	\$12,815	Alex Wood, 3 rd District, Pos 1

Accessing Campaign Finance Data & Reports

The Public Disclosure Commission makes campaign finance data available through two online applications: *Search the Database* and *View Actual Reports*. The chart below explains the benefits of these applications and will help you determine which application to use for a particular search. Each application has a built-in Help file that explains how to search for reports and navigate through the results. Access the application's Help file by clicking the  icon.

<u>User Feature</u>	<u>Search the Database</u>	<u>View Actual Reports</u>
Lists candidates running for a particular office.	X	X
Shows contribution & expenditure totals for all campaigns.	X	
Allows side-by-side comparison of opponents for most campaigns.	X	
Detailed contribution & expenditure data for all state-level campaigns can be exported to Excel.	X	
Data available from present back to:	2000	mid-1996
Search for a particular contributor	X	
Print copies of campaign reports.	X	X

Summary of Campaign Forms

Form Name	What it Contains	When it's Due*
F-1 Financial Affairs Statement	Sources of income, real estate transactions, bank accounts, stocks, debts owed, business holdings and business customers.	Within 2 weeks of becoming a candidate if the individual has not filed one earlier in the calendar year. Most elected officials file annually by April 15.
C-1 Candidate Registration	Office sought, reporting option, committee officers, treasurer's name, time and place for public inspection of records.	Within 2 weeks of becoming a candidate. (For PDC purposes, someone may become a candidate well before a formal declaration is filed with elections officials.)
C-3 Cash Receipts, Monetary Contributions	Names of contributors, amounts, addresses, occupation, employer.	Bank deposits must be made at least weekly. Complete a C-3 for each deposit and file the C-3 reports as follows: For primary and general elections --Between June and general election day, file weekly on Mondays. For special elections --During last 4 months before election, file weekly on Mondays. Other Periods --File on 10 th of the month after deposit is made.
Schedule L (Part 1)	Name and address of contributor (lender), amount of loan, interest rate, repayment schedule.	
Attachment Au	Names and addresses of contributors donating and purchasing auction items.	
C-4 Receipts and Expenditure Summary	Total contributions and expenditures for campaign.	-Same day as C-1 if contributions were received or expenditures made before registering; -10th of each month to cover preceding calendar month (or period since last C-4) if over \$200 in contributions or expenditures; -21 days before primary and general elections; -7 days before primary and general; and -10th of first month after election.
Schedule A	Itemized expenses, contribution totals for period.	
Schedule B	In-kind contributions, pledges, orders placed.	
Schedule C Schedule L (Parts 2-4)	Corrections, adjustments. Details regarding loan payments and loans forgiven and outstanding.	

Other Reports

- C-5** This form is used by Out-of-State PACs, including committees that are registered with the Federal Elections Commission, to report contributions of over \$50 they make to in-state candidates and political committees. This report must be filed by the out-of-state committee no later than the 10th day of the month following any month in which a contribution or other expenditure is made.
- C-6** This form is used by persons making:
- independent expenditures of \$100 or more that are not made to, or in conjunction with, a candidate or political committee;
 - independent expenditures for advertising of \$1,000 or more presented to the public within 21 days of an election; and
 - expenditures for an advertisement that clearly identifies at least one candidate for state, local, or judicial office; appears within 60 days of an election in the candidate's jurisdiction; is distributed through radio, television, postal mailing, billboard, newspaper or periodical; and, either alone, or in combination with other communications by the sponsor identifying the same candidate has a fair market value of \$5,000 or more.

Summary of Lobbyist & Lobbyist Employer Forms

PDC Form	Due	Explanation
L-1 Lobbyist Registration	Within 30 days of employment as lobbyist or before lobbying, whichever occurs first.	Identifies lobbyist and employer. Indicates employment status and financial arrangements. Shows general subject areas of expected lobbying activities.
L-2 Lobbyist Expenses	Monthly by the 15 th . Covers preceding calendar month.	Shows lobbyist's expenses and compensation. Includes employer's expenditures on behalf of lobbyist to assist in the lobbying effort.
L-2 Memo	With L-2 (optional)	Reports and provides notice to recipients of contributions and other items of value. Used in lieu of giving recipients copy of L-2 report.
L-3* Employer's Report	By last day of February. Covers preceding calendar year.	Shows the total expenditures of the employer for lobbying. Includes information not required of the lobbyist.
L-3c* Employer's Contribution report	Within 15 days of the end of any month during which reportable contributions were made.	Identifies recipients and amounts of contributions exceeding \$100 made by employers of lobbyists.
L-5 State & Local Government Agencies	Quarterly, by the end of the month following the end of the quarter.	Identifies employees who lobby on behalf of state or local governmental agencies. Includes general description of activities and information on salary, travel, printing and consultant expenses for lobbying.
*L-6 Grass Roots Lobbying	Within 30 days of sponsorship and monthly during campaign by 10 th of the following month.	Lists expenses of sponsors of lobbying campaigns designed to gain public support for their positions. Includes list of contributors to these campaigns.
*L-7 Employment of Legislators and State Officials	Within 15 days of employment.	Shows new employment relationship between lobbyist or lobbyist employer and state officials or employees who might be lobbied.
*Last Minute Contribution (LMC) Report	The 7 days preceding the primary election; the 21 days preceding the general election.	Shows contributions of \$1,000 or more given to state & local candidates, political committees, ballot measure committees, and political party committees.
*C-6 Independent Expenditure Ads and Electioneering Communications	<p>Within 24 hours of when an electioneering communication or certain independent expenditure ads are first published, mailed, or otherwise presented to the public.</p> <p>Reports of electioneering communications expenditures must be filed electronically.</p>	<p>Shows expenditures made for electioneering communications (an ad that clearly identifies at least one candidate for state, local or judicial office; appears within 60 days of an election in the candidate's jurisdiction; is distributed through radio, television, postal mailing, billboard, newspaper, or periodical; and either alone, or in combination with other communications by the sponsor identifying the candidate, has a fair market value of \$5,000 or more.)</p> <p>Shows independent expenditures made for ads that support or oppose a candidate or ballot measure, are valued at \$1,000 or more, and are presented to the public within 21 days of a primary, general, or special election.</p>

*Reports filed by employers of lobbyists. The L-3 is always required; the other reports are required if the lobbyist employer undertakes activity that triggers special reporting.

The Commission

Initiative 276 created a five-member, bi-partisan citizen commission to ensure that the provisions of the disclosure law are fully met. Commission members are appointed by the Governor for one five-year term and are confirmed by the state senate.

Recognizing that the members would be serving in highly visible and sensitive positions, the drafters of the initiative put additional constraints on the commissioners, including prohibitions against:

- holding or campaigning for elective office;
- being an officer of any political party or political committee;
- supporting or opposing any candidate or ballot proposition;
- participating in any way in any election campaign inside or outside of Washington State; or
- lobbying, employing or assisting a lobbyist, except on Commission matters.

The Commission members wear many hats. They are the “board of directors” of the agency. They set over-all policy, adopt administrative rules and interpret the law. The members hear and decide reporting modifications requested by those who believe they should be exempted from a portion of the law. And, in their most visible role, they judge enforcement cases brought before them for hearing and possible imposition of a penalty.

Commissioners are not full-time state employees. They meet, usually in Olympia, on the fourth Thursday of every month, except during November and December, when meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday. The public is invited and encouraged to attend these meetings. Time is always reserved for public comment.

The Agency & Staff

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) is one of the few state agencies created directly by a vote of the people. This fact is not lost on those who serve on the Commission or hold an agency staff position. Providing quality public service is the agency’s primary reason for being and its first priority.

The agency’s budget is \$2 million per year. Annually, some 6,600 public officials, 2,800 candidates, 800 political committees, 900 lobbyists, and 1,050 lobbyist employers file over 85,000 reports with the PDC. These reports are available on the Internet within hours of when they are received. More than 100,000 people visit the PDC’s website each year.

The PDC is budgeted for 22 full-time employees. The staff’s main responsibilities are to receive, organize, record, copy, examine, and file the reports supplied by those subject to the law. In addition, staff members provide information and training, monitor compliance, conduct investigations and develop computer programs for easy public access to information.

The executive director is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the agency. The director is also the Commission’s primary spokesperson and liaison with the legislature, other governmental agencies, and the citizens of the state.

Legal services are typically provided by the Office of the Attorney General and the Commission’s in-house counsel.

The PDC has no regional offices, by county election administrators distribute PDC materials to candidates.

Public Services

The Public Disclosure Commission was not designed simply to serve as a repository for data. The whole idea is that information about the financing of campaigns and lobbying and the financial affairs of public officials and candidates be readily available to the public. Most information disclosed to the PDC is available on the agency’s website, www.pdc.wa.gov. A variety of other data showing the amount of money spent to influence the political process is also available on-line.

Anyone interested in learning more about public disclosure in Washington can access the law and administrative rules at www.pdc.wa.gov. Manuals, forms, and brochures are also available on-line and PDC staff will provide these materials to anyone without Internet access. A small fee is charged for copies of the law and administrative rules. The PDC staff willingly accepts speaking engagements.

Computers are available in the PDC’s office lobby to allow the public access to data about federal, state, or local candidates and political committees. The public may contact the PDC staff and receive the information they are seeking over the telephone. For a nominal charge, the PDC staff will make copies of reports filed with the agency. Some information is available in electronic format.

The PDC staff accepts speaking engagements. For additional information, contact PDC staff:

phone: (360) 753-1111
1-877-601-2828 toll free in WA State
fax: (360) 753-1112
e-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov

Public Disclosure in Washington State



“The public’s right to know of the financing of political campaigns and lobbying and the financial affairs of elected officials and candidates far outweighs any right that these matters remain secret and private.”

This quotation from the policy provisions of the Open Government Act, better known as the Public Disclosure Law, aptly summarizes both the impetus for and the purpose of the statute.

Breaking Ground

The origin of Washington’s disclosure law can be traced to the efforts of concerned citizens who came together in 1970 believing that the public had the right to know about the financing of political activity in this state.

Following an unsuccessful attempt in 1971 to generate legislative action and only minimal success in 1972, these concerned citizens – calling themselves the Coalition for Open Government (COG) – turned to the people.

COG gathered nearly 163,000 signatures in record-breaking time in order to place Initiative 276 on the November 1972 General Election ballot. Initiative 276 became law on January 1, 1973 after being approved by 72% of the voters.

In 1992, reform-minded voters again passed a comprehensive campaign finance ballot measure – Initiative 134 – that imposed sweeping changes on the manner in which campaigns are conducted in Washington State. Over 72% of the voters again supported reform. This time around, however, it was contribution limits and other campaign restrictions that the voters approved.

The Act

The Public Disclosure Law contains five main areas of jurisdiction: 1) campaign finance disclosure, 2) contribution limits, 3) personal financial affairs of candidates, elected officials, and high level appointments in state government, 4) political advertising, and 5) lobbyist reporting. Together they constitute one of the most exhaustive disclosure laws in the country. For the last three years, Washington’s disclosure program was ranked first in the nation by the Campaign Disclosure Project (a research study undertaken by the UCLA School of Law, the Center for Governmental Studies and the California Voter Project supported by The Pew Charitable Trusts).

Personal Financial Affairs: Anyone holding or seeking a state or county-wide elected office, or holding a high-level state appointed position, is required to file a statement disclosing their personal financial affairs. Most local elected officials and candidates must also disclose personal financial information.

The information reported includes sources of income and gifts, real estate holdings, investments, creditors, businesses owned, and the major customers of those businesses.

Campaign Finance: Candidates running for a state or county-wide office as well as candidates for local offices in jurisdictions having 5,000 or more registered voters must register and report their campaign transactions. Candidates running for office in smaller local jurisdictions who expect to receive contributions totaling more than \$5,000 also file disclosure reports.

In addition, the campaign disclosure provisions apply to political parties and other political committees, including clubs, neighborhood groups, and others who raise and spend funds to influence candidate elections and ballot propositions. Candidates

and political committees raising and spending less than \$5,000 have minimal reporting. Those who raise or spend more than \$5,000 must file frequent reports showing the names, addresses, occupations and employers of their contributors, the total amount donated and how the funds were spent.

Contribution Limits: Most contributors – including individuals, PACs, unions and businesses – may not give a state-wide executive office candidate more than \$1,600 per election or a legislative candidate more than \$800 per election. These contribution limits were imposed by the people when they approved Initiative 134 in 1992 and the PDC adjusts these limits for inflation every other year.

Starting in 2006, all judicial candidates and port commissioner candidate in a port district with more than 200,000 registered voters were subject to the \$1,600 per election limit. An \$800 per election limit was imposed on contributions given to candidates running for a county office in a county with more than 200,000 registered voters. In 2010, the Legislature extended the \$800 limit to all county office candidates as well as all mayor and city council candidates.

During the three weeks before the general election, most donors may not give more than \$5,000 to a political committee or any local candidate not otherwise subject to limits.

Political Advertising: The political advertising provisions of the law apply through the state, regardless of the number of voters in a jurisdiction. Anyone, including individuals, corporations, unions and other organizations, paying for ads that solicit votes, funds or other support for state or local candidates, ballot measures, or political committees usually must, as part of the ad, clearly identify themselves as the sponsor of the advertisement. If these ads are undertaken independently of a campaign, additional

information regarding the sponsor must be published or broadcast as part of the ad.

Some advertising items are exempt from this ID requirement (e.g., yard signs, bumper stickers, campaign buttons, etc.). However, all radio and TV ads and the vast majority of written ads – including newspaper ads, flyers, brochures and the like – must comply with the ID requirement.

Political ads relating to candidates for partisan office always must identify the candidate’s party preference.

Lobbying: Anyone receiving compensation or making expenditures for the purpose of attempting to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation or rule by the state legislature or a state agency is required to register as a lobbyist. Once registered, a lobbyist files detailed monthly reports disclosing their employer(s), the amount of compensation, the identities of those entertained, provided gifts, and contributed to – including the dollar amounts involved. Lobbyist employers file a similar report annually.

The Public Disclosure Law relies both on the antiseptic qualities of “sunshine” and several prohibitions to assure the citizens of Washington that candidates, public officials, and government in general operates openly and honestly.

Washington’s public disclosure law allows citizens an in-depth look at who is financing a campaign or who has hired legislative lobbyists before deciding which candidates, ballot proposals or pending legislation deserve their support. The Public Disclosure Commission and its staff work to ensure compliance by those subject to the law. Persons subject to the law usually find themselves being monitored by concerned citizens, special interest groups, and the media as well.