



ELECtronic NEWSLETTER

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"Furthering the interest of an informed Citizenry"

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ELEC Announces New Initiative

At the April 8, 2025 Commission meeting, Chairman Thomas H. Prol announced a Compliance and Enforcement Initiative for the 2025 primary election.

"The primary goal of the Election Law Enforcement Commission is to encourage and facilitate compliance with the State's campaign finance rules to ensure the maximum amount of disclosure of campaign activity," Chairman Prol said. The goal of this new initiative is "to encourage candidates at all levels of government in the State to report their campaign activity in a timely and accurate manner."

ELEC's Compliance team will launch a robust education initiative, using a variety of learning tools, to assist all candidates and treasurers. The education initiative will aim to help candidates and treasurers understand the evolving state campaign finance landscape and comply with state laws and regulations. The trainings will be delivered through a blended format, including e-learning modules focused on common violations, an interactive compliance workshop and informational one-pagers.

In April 2023, the Elections Transparency Act overhauled campaign reporting for the first time in almost 20 years. Legal and Compliance staff have been working together to identify areas of non-compliance in recent elections with the goal of eliminating confusion surrounding reporting obligations. Mandatory training will address the areas of non-compliance identified during the information gathering process. The culmination of these efforts is the Compliance and Enforcement Initiative.

The final piece to the new initiative is ELEC's announcement of a random audit of 2025 primary election candidates. Following the 2025 primary election, a pool of randomly selected candidates' reports will be audited for possible enforcement action, including candidates in local, county and legislative races.

The review will focus on common violations, such as:

1. Excessive contributions;
2. LLC/LLP contributions;
3. Failure to file 72/24 hour notices;
4. Impermissible use of campaign funds; and,
5. Late filing of pre-election transactions in a post-election setting.

Please be advised that Monday, May 12, 2025 is the 29-day pre-election reporting date for 2025 primary election candidates.

As always, ELEC's Compliance staff is prepared to assist candidates, treasurers and campaign staff as the primary election approaches. ELEC encourages the regulated community to review the Campaign Act and Commission Regulations, access the Commissions website at: www.elec.nj.gov, and contact Compliance staff with any questions at (609)292-8700.



Public Funds Disbursed May 09 2025

The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) has approved \$689,209 in public matching funds for five major party candidates in the 2025 gubernatorial primary election.

It is the twelfth disbursement from the state's Gubernatorial Public

Financing Program. To date, \$35.5 million has been provided to eight candidates.

Four of the eight candidates have now qualified for the maximum public funding of \$5.5 million.

CANDIDATES	DISBURSEMENTS		% OF AVAILABLE MATCHING FUNDS (\$5,500,000)	PARTY
	CURRENT ROUND	CUMULATIVE		
Baraka, Ras	\$184,065	\$3,301,214	60%	Democrat
Bramnick, Jon	\$59,880	\$3,147,701	57%	Republican
Ciattarelli, Jack		\$5,500,000	100%	Republican
Fulop, Steven	\$80,323	\$5,500,000	100%	Democrat
Gottheimer, Josh		\$5,500,000	100%	Democrat
Sherrill, Mikie		\$5,500,000	100%	Democrat
Spadea, Bill	\$108,511	\$2,497,990	45%	Republican
Sweeney, Steve	\$256,430	\$4,559,497	83%	Democrat
Total This Round	\$689,209			
Grand Total to Date	\$35,506,402			

Qualified candidates may file additional submissions for public matching funds through November 5, 2025.

March 24, 2025 was the deadline for primary candidates to qualify for participation in the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program. For more information on the Gubernatorial Financing Program please visit:

www.elec.nj.gov/pdf/files/publicfinancedocs/gpf_manual.pdf.

Under the program, which began in 1974, candidates who raise \$580,000 or more can qualify for public matching funds. Primary candidates are eligible for up to \$5.5 million in public funds. In exchange, other than a few exceptions, they must limit their total primary spending to \$8.7 million.

More information on disbursements at:

www.elec.nj.gov/publicinformation/gub_man_Primary2025.htm

2025 LIMIT/THRESHOLD	AMOUNT
Contribution Limit	\$5,800
Qualification Threshold	\$580,000
Amount Not Matched	\$185,000
Primary Public Fund Cap	\$5,500,000
Primary Expenditure Limit	\$8,700,000
General Public Fund Cap	\$12,500,000
General Expenditure Limit	\$18,500,000

Take Our Kids to Work Day 2025



ELEC Executive Director Amanda S. Haines with eight children of agency employees at annual Take Our Kids to Work Day.

Details Set for Four Mandatory Gubernatorial Primary Debates

Co-sponsors: NJ PBS, NJ Spotlight News, WNYC (radio)

Republican Gubernatorial Candidates:

Time and Date: 7 pm to 8 pm Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Moderators: David Cruz, Michael Hill

Location: Agnes Varis Studios, 2 Gateway Center, Newark, NJ

Democratic Gubernatorial Candidates:

Time and Date: 7 pm to 8 pm Monday May 12, 2025

Moderators: Briana Vannozzi, Michael Hill

Location: Agnes Varis Studios, 2 Gateway Center, Newark, NJ

How to view both debates: NJ PBS, NJ Spotlight News, Chat Box w/ David Cruz, WNYC, CSPAN, live streaming on NJ Spotlight News YouTube channel.

Co-sponsors: NJ Globe, On New Jersey, Rider University, County of Essex, Save Jersey (GOP only):

Democratic Gubernatorial Candidates:

Time and Date: 7 pm to 9:30 pm Sunday, May 18, 2025

Moderators: Laura Jones with panelists Joey Fox, Micah Rasmussen, and David Wildstein.

Location: Auditorium at the Donald M. Payne Sr. School of Technology, Newark, NJ

Republican Gubernatorial Candidates:

Time and Date: 7 pm to 9:30 pm, Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Moderators: Laura Jones with panelists Joey Fox, Micah Rasmussen, David Wildstein and Matt Rooney.

Location: Auditorium at the Donald M. Payne Sr. School of Technology, Newark, NJ

How to view both debates: Live streaming On New Jersey at www.onnj.com, Roku, Fire TV, NewsOn, Samsung TV, and Apple TV. Also available on YouTube, Facebook, X, Instagram. Also airing live on www.newjerseyglobe.com along with social media platforms. Audio version to be available on podcast partners Apple, Spotify and iHeart. Republican debate also will air live on Save Jersey. Available on CSPAN.

Under New Jersey law, gubernatorial candidates who qualify for public funding are required to participate in two primary debates. In 2025, eight candidates- five Democrats and three Republicans- qualified for public funding and will participate in the debates. The primary election is on June 10.

Key Dates - 2025 Gubernatorial Primary Election

EVENT	DATE
First Date Candidates Can Seek Public Matching Funds (Twice Monthly Until March 31)	January 7, 2025
Quarterly Candidate Filings	January 15, 2025
Due Date for Debate Sponsor Applications	March 17, 2025
Deadline for Form G-1A Candidate Certification for Public Financing Debate Participation. Also, Due Date for Forms P-1 And/or P-2	March 24, 2025
Candidates Can Seek Public Matching Funds Every Tuesday Until Election	April 01, 2025
Due Date for Candidate Personal Financial Disclosure Forms	April 03, 2025
Earliest Date Debates Can Be Held	April 03, 2025
Deadline for Commission to Select Debate Sponsor.	April 14, 2025
29-Day Preelection Reports	May 12, 2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts	May 28, 2025
Latest Date Debate Can Be Held	May 30, 2025
11-Day Preelection Reports	May 30, 2025
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts	June 03, 2025
2025 Primary Election	June 10, 2025
20-Day Postelection Reports	June 30, 2025
Final Date Candidates Can Seek Public Matching Funds for Primary	November 05, 2025

2025 Contribution Limits for Non-Gubernatorial Candidates and Committees

ENTITIES MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS	CANDIDATE COMMITTEE	POLITICAL COMMITTEE	CONTINUING POLITICAL COMMITTEE	LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE	STATE POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEE	COUNTY POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEE	MUNICIPAL POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEE
Individual	\$5,500 per election	\$15,200 per election	\$15,200 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$15,200 per year
Corporation or Union	\$5,500 per election	\$15,200 per election	\$15,200 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$15,200 per year
Association or Group to:	\$5,500 per election	\$15,200 per election	\$15,200 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$15,200 per year
Candidate Committee	\$17,300 per election	\$15,200 per election	\$15,200 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$15,200 per year
Political Committee	\$17,300 per election	\$15,200 per election	\$15,200 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$15,200 per year
Continuing Political Committee	\$17,300 per election	\$15,200 per election	\$15,200 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$15,200 per year
Legislative Leadership Committee				No Limits			
State Political Party Committee				No Limits			
County Political Party	No limits, except those set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:25-11.7 for a County Political party Committee						
Municipal Political Party				No Limits			
National Political Party	\$17,300 per election	\$15,200 per election	\$15,200 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$152,000 per year	\$79,000 per year	\$15,200 per year
Housekeeping Accounts ⁵	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$39,500 per year	\$39,500 per year	N/A

⁵Housekeeping account limits are equal to half the amount implemented for state or county political party committees. See N.J.S.A. 19:44A-10.2.

2025 Reporting Dates

	INCLUSION DATES	REPORT DUE DATE
Fire Commissioner - February 15, 2025		
29-day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* - 01/14/2025	01/17/2025
11-day Preelection Reporting Date	01/15/2025 - 02/01/2025	02/04/2025
20-day Postelection Reporting Date	02/02/2025 - 03/04/2025	03/07/2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 02/02/2025 through 02/07/2025		
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 02/08/2025 through 02/15/2025		
April School Board - April 15, 2025		
29-day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* - 03/14/2025	03/17/2025
11-day Preelection Reporting Date	03/15/2025 - 04/01/2025	04/04/2025
20-day Postelection Reporting Date	04/02/2025 - 05/02/2025	05/05/2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 04/02/2025 through 04/07/2025		
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 04/08/2025 through 04/15/2025		
May Municipal - May 13, 2025		
29-day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* - 04/11/2025	04/14/2025
11-day Preelection Reporting Date	04/12/2025 - 04/29/2025	05/02/2025
20-day Postelection Reporting Date	04/30/2025 - 05/30/2025	06/02/2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 04/30/2025 through 05/05/2025		
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 05/06/2025 through 05/13/2025		
Runoff (June) ** - June 10, 2025		
29-day Preelection Reporting Date	No Report Required for this Period	
11-day Preelection Reporting Date	04/30/2025 - 05/27/2025	05/30/2025
20-day Postelection Reporting Date	05/28/2025 - 06/27/2025	06/30/2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 05/28/2025 through 06/02/2025		
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 06/03/2025 through 06/10/2025		
Primary (90-day start date: March 12, 2025)*** - June 10, 2025		
29-day Preelection Reporting Date	Inception of campaign* - 05/09/2025	05/12/2025
11-day Preelection Reporting Date	05/10/2025 - 05/27/2025	05/30/2025
20-day Postelection Reporting Date	05/28/2025 - 06/27/2025	06/30/2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 05/28/2025 through 06/02/2025		
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 06/03/2025 through 06/10/2025		
General (90-day start date: August 06, 2025)*** - November 04, 2025		
29-day Preelection Reporting Date	06/28/2025 - 10/03/2025	10/06/2025
11-day Preelection Reporting Date	10/04/2025 - 10/21/2025	10/24/2025
20-day Postelection Reporting Date	10/22/2025 - 11/21/2025	11/24/2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 10/22/2025 through 10/27/2025		
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 10/28/2025 through 11/04/2025		

2025 Reporting Dates (continued)

	INCLUSION DATES	REPORT DUE DATE
Runoff (December)** - December 02, 2025		
29-day Preelection Reporting Date	No Report Required for this Period	
11-day Preelection Reporting Date	10/22/2025 - 11/18/2025	11/21/2025
20-day Postelection Reporting Date	11/19/2025 - 12/19/2025	12/22/2025
72-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 11/19/2025 through 11/24/2025		
24-Hour Notice Reporting Starts on 11/25/2025 through 12/02/2025		
PACs, PCFRs & Campaign Quarterly Filers		
1 st Quarter	01/01/2025 - 03/31/2025	04/15/2025
2 nd Quarter	04/01/2025 - 6/30/2025	07/15/2025
3 rd Quarter	07/01/2025 - 09/30/2025	10/15/2025
4 th Quarter	10/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	01/15/2026
Governmental Affairs Agents (Q-4)		
1 st Quarter	01/01/2025 - 03/31/2025	04/10/2025
2 nd Quarter	04/01/2025 - 06/30/2025	07/10/2025
3 rd Quarter	07/01/2025 - 9/30/2025	10/10/2025
4 th Quarter	10/01/2025 - 12/31/2025	01/12/2026

*Inception Date of Campaign (first time filers) or from January 01, 2025 (Quarterly filers).

**A candidate committee or joint candidates committee that is filing in a 2025 Runoff election is not required to file a 20-day postelection report for the corresponding prior election (May Municipal or General).

***Form PFD-1 is due on April 03, 2025 for Primary Election Candidates and June 13, 2025 for Independent General Election Candidates.

Note: A fourth quarter 2024 filing is needed for Primary 2025 candidates if they started their campaign prior to December 12, 2024. A second quarter 2025 filing is needed by Independent/Non-Partisan General Election candidates if they started their campaign prior to May 06, 2025.