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State Public Financing Charts  
2007

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## Introduction

The following charts, prepared by the Center for Governmental Studies (CGS), provide detailed descriptions of state public financing programs in the United States. The charts show that:

- Twenty-three states have some form of public financing on the books;
- Six states (Arizona, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina and Maine) provide full public financing to qualified candidates running for some or all state offices;
- Eleven states (Florida, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin) provide partial public financing (or matching funds) to qualified candidates running for some state offices;
- Nine states (Arizona, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Utah) provide public financing to political parties in the state; and
- Six states (Arizona, Arkansas, Minnesota, Ohio, Oregon and Virginia) provide some kind of tax credit to individuals who make political contributions in their state.

In addition, CGS' *Mapping Public Financing in American Elections* shows that at least another eight states (California, Georgia, Illinois, Montana, New York, South Carolina, Washington, and West Virginia) have introduced public financing legislation in the past 12 months.

The state public financing charts describe the key features of various types of public financing programs, as follows:

**State Chart 1** - Population, Date Enacted, Tax Provision, Funding Mechanism, Public Funds Allocation

**State Chart 2** - Qualifying Threshold, Residency Restrictions, Spending Limits

**State Chart 3** - Contribution Limits, Candidate Personal Contributions, Maximum Public Funds Available

**State Chart 4** - High Spending Opponent Trigger, Independent Expenditure Trigger, Debate Requirement

The *Public Financing in American Elections* project is made possible by generous grants from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, JEHT Foundation and Rockefeller Brothers Fund. As part of this series, CGS published *Keeping It Clean: Public Financing in American Elections*, a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of state and local public campaign financing systems, *Investing in Democracy: Creating Public Financing Elections in Your Community*, and *Public Financing of Elections: Where to Get the Money?*, along with jurisdiction-specific studies. Copies of these and other CGS reports on campaign finance reform and public campaign financing are available on the CGS website, [www.cgs.org](http://www.cgs.org).

For more information about these charts or public financing programs, please contact Steve Levin, Political Reform Project Director, at [slevin@cgs.org](mailto:slevin@cgs.org) or (310) 470-6590, ext. 115.

# CGS - STATE PUBLIC FINANCING CHARTS 2007

## STATE CHART 1: POPULATION, DATE ENACTED, TAX PROVISIONS, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

This chart summarizes the laws of 23 states that have public financing programs.

STATE	POPULATION <sup>1</sup>	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE		
Arizona	6,166,318	1998	\$5 reduction in tax for \$5 Clean Elections checkoff; voluntary donation to fund, a tax credit not to exceed 20% of the tax amount on the return or \$500 per taxpayer, whichever is higher <sup>2</sup>	\$100 individual, \$200 joint  Money designated as surcharge is deductible	\$5 for Clean Elections fund	\$2, \$5, \$10, additional amounts may be donated <sup>3</sup>	Checkoff; Clean Elections fines; surcharge on civil and criminal penalties	To political party designated by taxpayer  Clean Elections funds to qualifying candidates for statewide and legislative office
Arkansas	2,810,872	1996	\$50 individual, \$100 joint for contributions to candidates, small donor PACs, approved PACs, and organized political parties	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	18,089,888	1986 <sup>4</sup>	—	—	—	— <sup>5</sup>	Direct appropriations; candidate filing fees; donated surplus funds; motor vehicle registration <sup>6</sup> ; drivers license application <sup>7</sup> ; boat registration <sup>8</sup> ; and annual reports for corporations <sup>9</sup>	To qualifying candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer, and Corporations Commissioner. Individual contributions are matched on a 2-to-1 basis for qualifying contributions and on a 1-to-1 basis for subsequent contributions of \$250 or less
Hawaii	1,285,498	1979	—	\$250 for contributions to central or county party committees, or \$1,000 for aggregate contributions to candidates who abide by limits, up to \$250 per candidate	\$2 individual, \$4 joint <sup>10</sup>	—	Checkoff; appropriated funds; other moneys	To qualifying candidates for statewide, legislative and local offices
Idaho	1,466,465	1975	—	—	\$1 individual	—	Checkoff	To political party designated by taxpayer

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STATE CHART 1: POPULATION, DATE ENACTED, TAX PROVISIONS, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

STATE	POPULATION <sup>1</sup>	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE		
Iowa	2,982,085	1987	–	–	\$1.50 individual, \$3 joint	–	Checkoff	To political party designated by taxpayer or divided among qualified parties as specified by taxpayer
Maine	1,321,574	1996	–	–	\$3 individual, \$6 joint	Any amount designated by taxpayer <sup>11</sup>	Checkoff; general fund; surplus candidate seed money; unspent candidate funds; voluntary donations; fines	Surcharge: To a political party designated by the taxpayer Clean Money: Distributed to candidates for Governor, state senate, and house of representatives in primary and general elections
Maryland	5,615,727		–	–	–	Add-on not to exceed \$500 per tax filer	Direct appropriations; fines; tax add-ons	To qualifying candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor only
Massachusetts	6,437,193	2003	–	–	\$1 individual, \$2 joint	–	Direct appropriations; checkoff; monies from former public campaign finance fund	To qualifying candidates for certain offices abiding by expenditure limits and raising specified qualifying contributions in statewide primary and general elections
Michigan	10,095,643	1976	–	–	\$3 individual, \$6 joint	–	Checkoff	To qualifying candidates for Governor in the primary election and to candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor in general election
Minnesota	5,167,101	1974	Refund up to \$50 for contributions to political parties and qualified candidates, \$100 joint	–	\$5 individual, \$10 joint	–	Direct appropriations; checkoff; anonymous contributions to candidates and committees <sup>12</sup>	To qualifying candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, other statewide offices, and state senator and state representative, after primary and general elections; to the state committee of a political party for multi-candidate expenditures; and to state general fund for administrative purposes
Nebraska	1,768,331	1992	–	–	–	Any amount not exceeding amount of income tax refund	Direct appropriations; taxpayer contribution of income tax refund; amounts repaid to campaign finance limitation cash fund by candidates; civil penalties; late filing fees	If highest estimated maximum expenditure of opponents not agreeing to abide by the statutory spending limitation for the office is greater than the spending limitation, the difference to otherwise qualified candidates for Governor, secretary of state, Attorney General, Auditor of Public Accounts, Legislature, Public Service Commission, Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, and State Board of Education who agree to abide by the statutory spending limitation
New Jersey	8,724,560	1974	–	–	\$1 individual, \$2 joint	–	Direct appropriations and checkoff	To qualifying candidates for Governor

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STATE CHART 1: POPULATION, DATE ENACTED, TAX PROVISIONS, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

STATE	POPULATION <sup>1</sup>	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE		
New Jersey Pilot Project		2004	–	–	–	–	Voluntary donations; earnings from the investment of fund money; fines and penalties; and direct appropriations	To qualifying candidates in selected Senate and General Assembly elections districts
New Mexico	1,954,599	2003	–	–	\$2 individual, \$4 joint	–	Qualifying contributions; unspent monies; direct appropriations; utility inspection and supervision fees; utility and carrier inspection fees; insurance premium tax	To political party designated by taxpayer To qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission
North Carolina	8,856,505	2002	–	\$25 for political contribution	\$3 individual, \$6 joint	Up to amount of income tax refund due	Judicial Elections: Money from the North Carolina Candidates Financing Fund; taxpayer designations; unspent Public Campaign Financing Fund revenues; returned monies, voluntary donations, money from surcharge on Attorney membership fees	Political parties fund divided among political parties according to registration  In non-general election years, not more than 50% in election campaign fund to state party and 50% to presidential election year candidates fund  In general election year, 100% in election campaign fund to state party (with 50% to special party committee). If presidential election year, 100% in presidential election year candidates fun to state party (with 50% to special party committee). Candidates fund divided among opposed candidates for Governor who agree to abide by the expenditure limit and raise matching funds equal to 5% of expenditure limit. Matching funds are provided on a one-to-one basis for general election campaign  Judicial Elections: To qualified candidates for election to the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court
Ohio	11,478,006	1987	\$50 individual, \$100 joint, for contributions to statewide and legislative candidates	–	\$1 individual, \$2 joint	–	Checkoff	Divided equally among major political parties each calendar quarter. Party allocation divided: 50% to state executive committees of party, and 50% to county executive committees of party according to proportion of income form tax return checkoffs in each county

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STATE CHART 1: POPULATION, DATE ENACTED, TAX PROVISIONS, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

STATE	POPULATION <sup>1</sup>	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE		
Oklahoma	3,579,212	1995	—	\$100	—	—	—	—
Oregon	3,700,758	1995	Lesser of (1) total contributions with a maximum of \$50 individual, \$100 joint or (2) the taxpayer's liability for contribution to a mayor or minor party, a candidate for any office, or registered political committee	—	—	—	—	—
Rhode Island	1,067,610	1988	—	—	\$5 individual, \$10 joint	—	Checkoff	First \$2 (\$4 for a joint return) of checkoff allocated to major political parties. Distributed to eligible political party designated by taxpayer. If a party is not designated, 5% of the amount is allocated to each party for each state officer elected, and the remainder to each party in proportion to the votes its candidate for Governor received in previous election. Maximum of \$200,000 allocated to all political parties. Remainder to qualifying candidates in general election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and General Treasurer as state matching funds <sup>13</sup>  Eligible statewide candidates are entitled to matching funds
Utah	2,550,063	1998	—	—	\$2	—	Checkoff	To political party designated by taxpayer: 50% to state central committee, and 50% to county central committee in proportion of the number of taxpayers designating the party in each county to the total number of taxpayers in the state who designate the party
Vermont	623,908	1997	—	—	—	Up to amount of income tax refund or overpayment	Surcharge; public funding penalties; unexpended campaign finance grants; portion of corporation annual reporting fees; gifts; and state appropriations	To qualifying candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Governor candidates: Non-incumbent-\$750,000 minus qualifying contribution for primary; \$225,000 for general election. Incumbent-\$63,750 minus qualifying contributions for primary and \$191,250 for general election. Lieutenant Governor candidates: Non-incumbent-\$25,000 minus qualifying contributions for primary; \$75,000 for general election. Incumbent-\$21,250 minus qualifying contributions for primary; \$63,750 for general election

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## STATE CHART 1: POPULATION, DATE ENACTED, TAX PROVISIONS, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

STATE	POPULATION <sup>1</sup>	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE		
Virginia	7,642,884	1999	\$25 individual, \$50 joint for contributions to candidates	-	-	\$25 individual, \$50 joint, of income tax refund	Surcharge	To designated political party
Wisconsin	5,556,506	1977	-	-	\$1 individual, \$2 joint	-	Checkoff	To qualifying candidates for state executive office, state legislative office and state supreme court candidates in a spring, general, or special election

1 Based on estimated 2006 census figures from the U.S. Census Bureau, which can be found at the American Factfinder website: <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

2 Arizona Revised Statutes § 16-954 (2007).

3 Arizona Revised Statutes § 43-612 (2007).

4 The Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund expired effective November 4, 1996, by operation of s. 19(f), Article III of the State Constitution. The courts determined that Florida's public campaign finance laws remained in force despite the elimination of the trust fund, funded through the general fund instead of the trust fund. *Secretary of State v. Milligan*, 704 So.2d 152 (Fla.App. 1 Dist. 1997).

5 Florida Statutes § 199.052(13) "The annual intangible tax return shall include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$5 per taxpayer, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust fund shall also be included." was deleted as of 2003. Florida's intangible personal property tax is an annual tax based on the current market value, as of January 1, of intangible personal property owned, managed, or controlled by Florida residents or persons doing business in Florida. <http://www.myflorida.com/dor/taxes/ippt.html>.

6 Florida Statutes § 320.02(13) "The application form for motor vehicle registration shall include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust fund shall also be included."

7 Florida Statutes § 322.08(6) (a) "a voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund."

8 Florida Statutes § 328.72(11) "The form shall include language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust fund shall also be included."

9 Florida Statutes § 607.1622(1) (g) "Language permitting a voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund. A statement providing an explanation of the purpose of the trust fund shall also be included."

10 Hawaii Revised Statutes § 235-102.5(a) ("the checkoff does not constitute an additional tax liability").

11 36 Me. Rev. Stat. Ann § 5283.

12 Minn. Stat. § 10A.15: "A political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit may not retain an anonymous contribution in excess of \$20, but must forward it to the board for deposit in the general account of the state elections campaign fund."

13 Actual distributions are far below these maximums. In 2002 Rhode Island's tax check-off raised only \$6,386 for Democrats and \$4,432 for Republicans.

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STATE CHART 2: QUALIFYING THRESHOLD, RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS, SPENDING LIMITS

STATE	QUALIFYING THRESHOLD	RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS ON MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTIONS	SPENDING LIMITS
Arizona	To become eligible for public financing, candidates must raise these amounts of \$5 qualifying contributions as follows: Governor: 4,200 Secretary of State and Attorney General: 2,625 Treasurer and Superintendent of Public Instruction: 1,575 Mine Inspector: 525 Legislature: 220 Corporation Commissioner: 1,650 <sup>1</sup>	Yes, for qualifying contributions	If a Clean Election Candidate, may only spend Clean Elections funds, otherwise unlimited Governor: \$453,849 (primary); \$680, 774 (general) Secretary of State: \$95,550 (primary); \$143,325 (general) Attorney General: \$95,550 (primary); \$143,325 (general) Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction: \$47,770 (primary); \$71,655 (general) Mine Inspector: \$23,890 (primary); \$35,835 (general) Member of Legislature: \$12,921 (primary); \$19,382 (general) Corporation Commissioner: \$82,680 (primary); \$124,020 (general) <sup>2</sup>
Arkansas	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida	Governor: \$150,000 Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture: \$100,000	Yes, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Spending limited for candidates participating in public financing program: Governor and Lieutenant Governor: \$2.00 per registered voter (approximately \$20 million) Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture: \$1.00 per registered voter (approximately \$10 million)
Hawaii	Governor: \$100,000 Lieutenant Governor: \$50,000 Senator: \$2,500 Representative: \$1,500 Mayor: \$5,000 to \$50,000 Prosecuting Attorneys: \$5,000 to \$30,000 County Council: \$1,500 to \$5,000 All others: \$500	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Figures are given for 2008 primary and general elections: Governor: \$2.50 per registered voter per election (approximately \$1.45 million) Lieutenant Governor: \$1.40 per registered voter per election (approximately \$812,000) Senator: \$2,500 Representative: \$1,500 Mayor: \$5,000 to \$50,000 Prosecuting Attorneys: \$5,000 to \$30,000 County Council: \$1,500 to \$5,000 All others: \$500
Idaho	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maine	To become eligible for public financing, candidates must raise \$5 qualifying contributions as follows: Governor: 2,500 Senator: 150 Representative: 50	Yes, for matching contributions	If a Clean Elections candidate, may only spend Clean Election funds, otherwise unlimited <sup>3</sup> Governor: \$200,000 (primary); \$400,000 (general) State Senator: \$7,746 (primary); \$20,082 (general) State Representative: \$1,504 (primary); \$4,362 (general)
Maryland	\$208,687 for 2006, which is 10% of the maximum expenditure limit	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	\$2,086,871 for 2006, which is .372 <sup>4</sup> times the population of Maryland, as determined annually by the state board <sup>5</sup>



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STATE CHART 2: QUALIFYING THRESHOLD, RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS, SPENDING LIMITS

STATE	QUALIFYING THRESHOLD	RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS ON MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTIONS	SPENDING LIMITS
Massachusetts <sup>6</sup>	Counting on contributions of \$250 or less: Governor: \$75,000 (primary); \$125,000 (general) Attorney General: \$37,500 (primary); \$62,500 (general) Lieutenant Governor, State Secretary, Treasurer, Receiver General, and Auditor: \$15,00 (primary); \$25,000 (general)	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Governor: \$1,500,000 Attorney General: \$625,000 State Secretary, Treasurer, Receiver General, and Auditor: \$375,000 <sup>7</sup>
Michigan	\$75,000 in qualifying contributions of \$100 or less	Yes, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Governor and Lieutenant Governor (running together): \$2,000,000 <sup>8</sup>
Minnesota	Major party political candidates who agree to expenditure limitations receive equal shares, state senators and representatives divide up money based on their party's share of votes at the county level <sup>9</sup>	N/A	Governor and Lieutenant Governor (running together): \$2,383,800 Attorney General: \$399,000 Secretary of State and State Auditor: \$199,500 State Senator: \$59,900 State Representative: \$30,100
Nebraska	Must face candidate who spends more than 25% of the spending limit	N/A	Governor: \$2,297,000 State Treasurer, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and Auditor of Public Accounts: \$209,000 Member of Legislature: \$89,000 Public Service Commission and State Board of Education: \$100,000 Board of Regents of University of Nebraska: \$70,000
New Jersey	\$300,000 in contributions of \$3,000 or less, the first \$96,000 of which is not matched <sup>10</sup>	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Governor: \$4,400,000 (primary); \$9,600,000 (general) <sup>11</sup>
New Jersey Pilot Project	400 contributions of \$10 to be eligible for half of public funds, 800 contributions of \$10 to be eligible for all public funds	Yes, for qualifying contributions	75% of the average expenditures made by candidates in the 2 preceding elections for that district, or \$100,000, whichever is lower <sup>12</sup>
New Mexico	\$5 contributions "from that number of registered voters that is equal to at least one quarter percent of the total vote"	Yes, for qualifying contributions <sup>13</sup>	Clean Money candidates for Public Regulation Commission are limited to public funds, and up to 10% additional funds from political party contributions. The public funds distributed are based on the average expenditures made in the previous four elections <sup>14</sup>
North Carolina	At least 350 contributions of \$410 to \$500 from registered voters, that total at least 30 times the filing fee for candidacy for the office <sup>15</sup>	Yes, for qualifying contributions	Court of Appeals: 125 times the filing fee (\$144,500) Supreme Court: 175 times the filing fee (\$211,050) Supreme Court (Chief Justice): 175 times the filing fee (\$216,650)
Ohio	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oklahoma	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oregon	N/A	N/A	N/A

# CGS - STATE PUBLIC FINANCING CHARTS 2007

## STATE CHART 2: QUALIFYING THRESHOLD, RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS, SPENDING LIMITS

STATE	QUALIFYING THRESHOLD	RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS ON MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTIONS	SPENDING LIMITS
Rhode Island	At least 250 contributions of at least \$25 each, as follows: Governor: totaling at least \$150,000 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and General Treasurer: totaling at least \$37,500	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Spending limited for candidates participating in a public financing program; otherwise unlimited: Governor: \$1,500,000 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and General Treasurer: \$375,000
Utah	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vermont	Governor: \$35,000 collected from no fewer than 1,500 qualified individual contributors making a contribution of no more than \$50 each Lieutenant Governor: \$17,500 collected from no fewer than 750 qualified individual contributors making a contribution of no more than \$50 each	Yes, contributors must be registered to vote in Vermont, and no more than 25 percent of the total number of qualified individual contributors may be residents of the same county	Governor: \$300,000 Lieutenant Governor: \$100,000 Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Accounts, and Attorney General: \$45,000 State Senator and County Office: \$4,000 State Representative: \$2,000 <sup>16</sup>
Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	A candidate must receive 6% of total primary votes cast, be opposed for the general election, and receive a percentage of the spending limit in contributions of \$100 or less <sup>17</sup>	Non-residents who contribute more than \$25 must designate a resident agent within the state	Governor: \$1,078,200 Lieutenant Governor: \$323,475 Attorney General: \$539,000 Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Superintendent, or Supreme Court Justice, \$215,625 State Senator: \$34,500 State Representative: \$17,250

1 Amounts for Legislative office and Corporation Commissioner are for 2008, all other amounts are for 2006.

2 Amounts for Legislative office and Corporation Commissioner are for 2008, all other amounts are for 2006.

3 The legislative Clan Elections distribution for a given year is the average amount of campaign expenditures made by each similarly situated candidate during the previous two elections. For 2006, the Clean Elections distributions were as follows. Primary Election: Contested candidates for State Representative –\$1,504 Uncontested Candidates for State Representative – \$512 Contested Candidates for State Senate –\$7,746 Uncontested Candidates for State Senate –\$1,927 General Election: Contested candidates for State Representative –\$4,362 Uncontested Candidates for State Representative –\$1,745 Contested Candidates for State Senate –\$20,082 Uncontested Candidates for State Senate –\$8,033.

4 The expenditure limit is .30 (adjusted annually with the CPI) times the population of Maryland. .30 adjusted for 2006 was equal to .372.

5 The Maryland State Board of Elections relies on data from the Division of Health Statistics of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, published in Maryland Vital Statistics, which is published annually. The most recent report (2005) estimated the Maryland population at 5,600,388.

6 Massachusetts Clean Elections Law, repealed as of July 1, 2003, (M.G.L.A. 55A) has been replaced by Massachusetts Limited Public Financing of Campaigns for Statewide Elective Office (M.G.L.A. 55C).

7 Amounts given are applied separately to the general election and the primary, so the combined limit is double the amounts given. (M.G.L.A. 55C § 1A).

8 M.C.L.A. 169.203 "For purposes of sections 61 to 71, "candidate" only means, in a primary election, a candidate for the office of Governor and, in a general election, a candidate for the office of Governor or Lieutenant Governor. However, the candidates for the office of Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the same political party in a general election shall be considered as 1 candidate."

9 Only opposed candidates receive shares.

10 The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission adjusts these amounts based on a price index, the given amounts are for 2005 (NJ ST 19:44A-7.1). [http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdffiles/Cost%20Index/CostIndex\\_2005.pdf](http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdffiles/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf)

11 The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission adjusts these amounts based on a price index, the given amounts are for 2005 (NJ ST 19:44A-7.1). [http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdffiles/Cost%20Index/CostIndex\\_2005.pdf](http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdffiles/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf)

12 Up to \$100,000 in additional funds is available to each certified candidate, up to \$50,000 if a nonparticipating candidate exceeds the Clean Money distribution, and up to \$50,000 if the opponent of a certified candidate benefits from independent expenditures.

13 Contributions are limited to registered voters who are eligible to vote for the office the candidate is seeking.

14 Candidates in former elections are only counted for the calculations if they received a high enough percentage of the vote: 10% for a contested primary, 30% for a contested general election, all candidates for uncontested primaries, and 30% for an uncontested general election. Candidates in uncontested races only receive half the average expenditure amount.

15 The minimum qualifying contribution sum is \$34,680 for the Court of Appeals, and \$36,180 for the North Carolina Supreme Court. Candidates may not raise more than 60 times the filing fee for candidacy for the office, \$69,360 for the Court of Appeals, and \$72,360 for the North Carolina Supreme Court. Finally, to remain eligible, candidates may not raise or expend more than \$10,000 since January 1<sup>st</sup> of the year before the election.

## CGS - STATE PUBLIC FINANCING CHARTS 2007

### STATE CHART 2: QUALIFYING THRESHOLD, RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS, SPENDING LIMITS

- 16 Incumbents may only spend 85% of the listed amount. For state senator, the limit is raised and additional \$2,500 for each additional seat in the senate district. For state representative, the limit is increased to \$3,000 for two-member districts. Expenditure limits apply to all candidates.
- 17 The candidates for the following offices must raise 5% of the spending limit for that office: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, State Superintendent, and Supreme Court Justice. The candidates for the following offices must receive 10% of the spending limit for that office: state senator, and state representative. The amounts are as follows: Governor \$53,910, Lieutenant Governor \$16,174, Secretary of State \$10,781, State Treasurer \$10,781, Attorney General \$26,950, State Superintendent \$10,781, Supreme Court Justice \$10,781, state senator \$3,450, and state representative \$1,725.

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STATE CHART 3: CONTRIBUTION LIMITS, CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS, MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE

STATE	CONTRIBUTION LIMITS	CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE
Arizona	Statewide Office: \$808 per election All other offices: \$390 per election  Aggregate limit of: \$2,820	\$1,230 per election statewide or \$610 legislative for clean elections candidates, otherwise unlimited	Annual program costs cannot exceed more than five dollars times the number of Arizona resident personal income tax returns filed during the previous calendar year
Arkansas	All candidates: \$2,000 per election	Unlimited	N/A
Florida	Candidates and committees: \$500 per election (individuals); \$100 per election (minors)	\$425,000 limit to qualify for public financing, otherwise unlimited	Matching funds eligibility is not expressly capped by statute, but is finite because of spending limits <sup>1</sup>
Hawaii	4 year statewide office: \$6,000 per election 4 year non-statewide office: \$4,000 per election 2 year office: \$2,000 per election Non-candidate committees: \$1,000 per election	Contributions from a candidate's immediate family limited to \$50,000	Based on expenditure limit: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Mayor: 10% of spending limit Senator, Representative, County Council Member, and Prosecuting Attorney: 15% of spending limit All others: \$100
Idaho	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Iowa	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Maine	Governor and Lieutenant Governor (running together): \$500 per election All other offices: \$250 per election  Aggregate limit of \$25,000 per calendar year	None allowed for certified clean election candidates, otherwise unlimited	Governor: \$200,000 (primary); \$400,00 (general) Legislative candidates receive the average expenditures made by legislative candidates in contested races in the previous two elections
Maryland	Candidates and committees: \$4,000 per election cycle  Aggregate limit of \$10,000 per election cycle	Unlimited	Limited to the money in the Fair Campaign Financing Fund
Massachusetts	Candidates: \$500 per calendar year Committees: \$5,000 per calendar year  Aggregate limit of \$12,500 per calendar year	Unlimited	Governor and Lieutenant Governor: \$750,000 Attorney General: \$312,500 State Secretary, Treasurer, Receiver General, and Auditor: \$182,500 <sup>2</sup>
Michigan	Statewide office: \$3,400 per election cycle State senate: \$1,000 per election cycle State representative: \$500 per election cycle Judicial candidates: \$100 for lawyers per election cycle	\$50,000 per gubernatorial campaign from the candidate and the candidate's family, regardless of public funding <sup>3</sup>	Governor and Lieutenant Governor: \$1,125,000

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STATE CHART 3: CONTRIBUTION LIMITS, CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS, MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE

STATE	CONTRIBUTION LIMITS	CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE
Minnesota	Governor and Lieutenant Governor (running together): \$2,000 Attorney General: \$1,000 Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Senator, and State Representative: \$500 <sup>4</sup>	\$20,000 if the candidate accepts the public financing, otherwise unlimited	No more than 50% the expenditure limit for a given candidate
Nebraska	No more than 50% spending limit	Unlimited from individuals, no more than 50% of spending limit from independent committees, businesses, including corporations, unions, industry, trade, or professional associations, and political parties	Maximum funds equal spending limit amount plus additional funds triggered by opponent spending
New Jersey	Governor: \$3,000 per election All other offices: \$2,800 per election <sup>5</sup>	\$25,000 if the candidate accepts public financing, otherwise unlimited	Governor: \$2,700,000 (primary); \$6,400,000 (general) <sup>6</sup>
New Jersey Pilot Project	\$500 limit for 'seed money' is permitted up to an aggregate \$10,000 until a candidate is certified, at which time unspent seed money is forfeited	\$200 in seed money before certification, none for certified candidates, otherwise unlimited	\$50,000 for candidates with at least 400 qualifying contributions, \$100,000 for candidates with at least 800 qualifying contributions. In districts represented by members of more than one political party then average amount of money expended by all candidates for legislative office in the district in the two immediately preceding general elections <sup>7</sup>
New Mexico	Unlimited Clean Money candidates are limited to \$100 seed money contributions, subject to a total limit of \$5,000. Clean Money candidates may accept contributions from political parties up to 10% of their public funds distributions	Clean Money candidates may make personal contributions as long as such contributions do not exceed the total seed money limit of \$5,000, otherwise unlimited	Total matching funds to a certified candidate in an election are limited to twice the amount originally distributed
North Carolina	Candidate or committee: \$4,000 per election Court of Appeals or Supreme Court: \$1,000 per election (individuals); \$2,000 per election (family member)	\$1,000 from the candidate and each family member during the qualifying period if the candidate accepts public financing, and none after the qualifying period ends, otherwise unlimited	Maximum funds equal spending limit amount plus "rescue funds" (additional funds triggered by opponent spending), as follows: Court of Appeals: \$132,600 (primary); \$276,250 (general) Supreme Court: \$138,360 (primary); \$403,550 (general)
Ohio	Statewide Office and General Assembly: \$10,000 per election County Political Party: \$10,000 per election State Political Party: \$30,000 per calendar year Political Action Committee: \$10,000 per calendar year	Unlimited <sup>8</sup>	N/A
Oklahoma	All state candidates: \$2,500 per campaign <sup>9</sup> All other local offices: \$1,000 per campaign County Political Party or Political Action Committee: \$5,000 per calendar year	Unlimited	N/A
Oregon	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A

# CGS - STATE PUBLIC FINANCING CHARTS 2007

## STATE CHART 3: CONTRIBUTION LIMITS, CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS, MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE

STATE	CONTRIBUTION LIMITS	CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE
Rhode Island	Non-participating candidates: \$1,000 per calendar year Participating Candidates: \$1,000 per calendar year Aggregate limit of \$10,000 per calendar year	No more than 5% of the expenditure limit if a candidate accepts public financing, otherwise unlimited	Governor: \$750,000 Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General and General Treasurer: \$187,500
Utah	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Vermont	Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Accounts, and Attorney General: \$400 per 2 year election cycle State Senator and County Office: \$300 State Representative and Local Office: \$200 Non-candidate political committee or political party: \$2,000	Unlimited	Governor: \$75,000 (primary); \$225,000 (general) Lieutenant Governor: \$25,000 (primary); \$75,000 (general) <sup>10</sup>
Virginia	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Wisconsin	Statewide office: \$10,000 per election cycle State Senator: \$1,000 per election cycle State Assembly: \$500 per election cycle Court of Appeals Judge: \$2,500 or \$3,000 (depending on population of district) Circuit Judge: \$1,000 or \$3,000 (depending on population of circuit) Local office: The greater of \$250 or \$.1 times the number of inhabitants (\$3,000 maximum)  Aggregate limit of \$10,000 per calendar year	Twice the individual contribution limit if a candidate accepts public financing, otherwise unlimited	45% of expenditure limit for the office

- 1 The Florida Supreme Court responded to a legal challenge with: "The Republican Party argues that the failure to identify a specific dollar amount to be transferred renders the funding provision null. We do not agree. Section 106.34 sets limits on the amounts candidates can spend. Section 106.35 establishes formulas and thus controls the distribution of funds to qualified candidates. These sections adequately specify, control, and limit the funds transferred." Republican Party of Florida v. Smith, 638 So.2d 26 (Fla. 1994)
- 2 Amounts given are applied separately to the general election and the primary, so the combined limit is double the amounts given. (M.G.L.A. 55C § 1A)
- 3 MI ST 169.269 (6) "As used in this subsection, "immediate family" means a spouse, parent, brother, sister, son, or daughter. A candidate and members of that candidate's immediate family may not contribute in total to that person's candidate committee an amount that is more than \$50,000.00 in value for an election cycle."
- 4 Limits are for election years. In other years the limits are \$500 Governor and Lieutenant Governor, running together; \$200 Attorney General; \$100 Secretary of State, State Auditor, state senator, and state representative.
- 5 The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission adjusts these amounts based on a price index, the given amounts are for 2005 (NJ ST 19:44A-7.1). [www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/Cost%20Index/CostIndex\\_2005.pdf](http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf)
- 6 The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission adjusts these amounts based on a price index, the given amounts are for 2005 (NJ ST 19:44A-7.1). [www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/Cost%20Index/CostIndex\\_2005.pdf](http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf).
- 7 Participating candidates are eligible to receive additional funding up to \$50,000 if a non-participating candidate exceeds the clean money distribution, up to another \$50,000 if a non-participating candidate benefits from independent expenditures.
- 8 Candidates for statewide or general assembly office who receive or expend personal funds of more than \$100,000 in a primary or \$150,000 in general election for statewide office, or more than \$25,000 per election for general assembly must file a personal funds notice.
- 9 Includes candidates for state office, county office in a county of 250,000 or more, or municipal office in a municipality of 250,000 or more.
- 10 The grant for a primary election period is reduced by an amount equal to the candidate's qualifying contributions. Incumbents are entitled to only 85% of the total funds they would otherwise receive. Candidates in uncontested elections and candidates who lose in the primary are not eligible for public funds.

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STATE CHART 4: HIGH SPENDING OPPONENTS, INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES, DEBATE REQUIREMENTS

STATE	HIGH SPENDING OPPONENT TRIGGER PROVISION	INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE ("IE") TRIGGER PROVISION	DEBATE REQUIREMENT
Arizona	If a non-participating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds minus 5% for a non-participating candidates fund raising costs are distributed to participating candidate up to a maximum of three times the expenditure limit	Independent expenditures made against a participating candidate entitle that candidate to matching funds, and independent expenditures in favor of a candidate entitle all other participating candidates to matching funds	Participating candidates must participate in debates prior to the primary and general elections
Arkansas	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida	If a non-participating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds are distributed to participating candidate up to a maximum of twice the expenditure limit	No	No
Hawaii	No	No	No
Idaho	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maine	If any candidate exceeds the clean money distribution, the excess is matched, up to a limit of two times the original distribution	No	No
Maryland	No	No	No
Massachusetts <sup>1</sup>	No	No	No
Michigan	No	No	No
Minnesota	Expenditure limits are eliminated	No	No
Nebraska	If any candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds are distributed to the qualified candidates up to three times the expenditure limit	No	No
New Jersey	No	No	Yes <sup>2</sup>
New Jersey Pilot Project	If a non-participating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds are distributed to participating candidate up to a maximum of \$100,000	If a candidate benefits from independent expenditures, equivalent funds are distributed to non-benefiting certified candidates, up to a maximum of \$50,000	Participating candidates must participate in two debates

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STATE	HIGH SPENDING OPPONENT TRIGGER PROVISION	INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE ("IE") TRIGGER PROVISION	DEBATE REQUIREMENT
New Mexico	If a non-participating candidate exceeds the public funds distribution, including independent expenditure made to influence the election on behalf of the non-participating candidate, additional funds are distributed to match the excess, up to twice the original public funds distribution	Independent expenditure are treated like expenditures made directly by a nonparticipating candidate in order to determine whether participating candidates are entitled to matching funds	No
North Carolina	If expenditures are made in opposition to a certified candidate or in support of an opponent to that candidate, that candidate is entitled to matching funds up to twice the original public funds distribution	Independent expenditures made in opposition to a participating candidate or in support of an opponent to that candidate entitle that candidate to matching funds up to twice the original public funds distribution	No
Ohio	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oklahoma	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oregon	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rhode Island	If a non-participating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, the limit is lifted to the extent the non-participating candidate exceeds them	Independent expenditures are counted against the expenditure limit of the candidate	No
Utah	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vermont	No	Independent expenditures are counted against the expenditure limit of the candidate on whose behalf the expenditure was made	No
Virginia	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wisconsin	If an opponent qualifies for public financing but does not accept it, qualified candidates for the same office who accept public financing are no longer subject to expenditure limits	No	No

1 Massachusetts Clean Elections Law, repealed as of July 1, 2003 (M.G.L.A. 55A) has been replaced by Massachusetts Limited Public Financing of Campaigns for Statewide Elective Office (M.G.L.A. 55C).

2 A participating candidate must forfeit and repay all public funds if he or she does not participate in the debate unless the Election Law Enforcement Commission determines that the candidate's failure to participate occurred under reasonable or justifiable circumstances. (N.J.S.A. 199:44A-47)