



Center for **G**overnmental **S**tudies

State Public Financing Laws

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

STATE	POPULATION	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				PUBLIC FINANCING	
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE	FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
Alabama	4,414,559	1983	---	---	---	\$1 individual, \$2 joint	Surcharge	To political party designated by taxpayer.
Arizona	5,633,997	1998	\$5 reduction in tax for \$5 Clean Elections checkoff; for voluntary donation to fund, a tax credit not to exceed 20% of the tax amount on the return or \$530 per taxpayer, whichever is higher	\$100 individual, \$200 joint. Money designated as surcharge is deductible	\$5 for Clean Elections fund	\$2, \$5 or \$10, additional amounts may be donated	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	2,675,872	1996	\$50 individual, \$100 joint for contributions to candidates, small donor PACs, approved PACs, and organized political parties	---	---	---	---	---
Florida	16,990,183	1986 ²	---	---	---	---	Direct appropriations; candidate filing fees; donated surplus funds; motor vehicle registration ⁴ ; driver's license application ⁵ ; boat registration ⁶ ; and annual reports for corporations ⁷	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 a 1-to-1 basis for subsequent contributions of \$250 or less.
Hawaii	1,227,008	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 ⁸	---	Checkoff, appropriated funds; other moneys	To qualifying candidates for statewide, legislative and local offices.
Idaho	1,360,152	1975	---	---	\$1 individual	---	Checkoff	To political party designated by taxpayer.



STATE	POPULATION	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				PUBLIC FINANCING	
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE	FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
Iowa	2,851,165	1987	---	---	\$1.50 individual, \$3 joint	---	Checkoff	To political party designated by taxpayer or divided among qualified parties as specified by taxpayer.
Maine	1,278,725	1996	---	---	\$3 individual, \$6 joint	Any amount designated by the taxpayer ⁹	Checkoff; general fund; surplus candidate seed money; unspent candidate funds; voluntary donations; fines	<u>Surcharge</u> : to a political party designated by the taxpayer. <u>Clean Money</u> : Distributed to candidates for Governor, state senate, and house of representatives in primary and general elections.
Maryland	5,421,869		---	---	---	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	6,201,416	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	9,858,908	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	4,958,748	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 ¹⁰	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	1,696,513	1992	---	---	---	\$2 of income tax refund	Direct appropriations; taxpayer contribution of income tax refund; amounts repaid to campaign finance limitation cash fund by candidates; civil penalties; and 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	8,503,294	1974	---	---	\$1 individual, \$2 joint	---	Direct appropriations and checkoff	To qualifying candidates for Governor.

STATE	POPULATION	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				PUBLIC FINANCING	
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE	FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
New Jersey Pilot Program (for legislative candidates)		2004	---	---	---	---	Qualifying contributions; seed money contributions unspent at the time a candidate is certified; voluntary donations; earnings from the investment of fund money; fines and penalties; and direct appropriations	To qualifying candidates in two selected General Assembly elections.
New Mexico	1,862,837	2003	---	---	\$2 individual, \$4 joint	---	Qualifying contributions; unspent monies; direct appropriations; utility inspection and supervision fees; utility and carrier inspection fees; insurance premium tax	(1) To political party designated by taxpayer. (2) To qualified candidates for the Public Regulation Commission.
North Carolina	8,270,028	2002	---	\$25 for political contribution.	\$3 individual, \$6 joint	Up to an amount of income tax refund due	<i>Judicial elections:</i> Money from the North Carolina Candidates Financing Fund; taxpayer designations; unspent Public Campaign Financing Fund revenues; returned monies; voluntary donations.	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 fund 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. <i>Judicial elections:</i> To qualified candidates for election to the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court.

STATE	POPULATION	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				PUBLIC FINANCING	
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE	FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
Ohio	11,153,800	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 committee of party, and 50% to county executive committees of party according to proportion of income from tax return checkoffs in each county.
Oklahoma	3,412,202	1995	---	\$100	---	---	---	---
Oregon	3,513,759	1995	Lesser of (1) total contributions with a maximum of \$50 individual, \$100 joint, or (2) the taxpayer's liability for contribution to a major or minor party, a candidate for any office, or registered political committee.	---	---	---	---	---
Rhode Island	1,037,002	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. ¹¹ Eligible statewide candidates are entitled to matching funds.
Utah	2,349,472	1998	---	---	\$2	---	Checkoff	To political party designated by taxpayer: 50% to state central committee, and 50% to county central committee in proportion to the number of taxpayers designating the party in each county to the total number of taxpayers in the state who designate the party

STATE	POPULATION ¹	ENACTED	TAX PROVISIONS				FUNDING MECHANISM	PUBLIC FINANCING PUBLIC FUNDS ALLOCATION
			CREDIT	DEDUCTION	CHECKOFF	SURCHARGE		
Vermont	600,632	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—\$75,000 minus qualifying contributions for primary; \$250,000 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.
Virginia	7,223,519	1999	\$25 individual, \$50 joint, for contributions to candidates	---	---	\$25 individual, \$50 joint, of income tax refund	Surcharge	To designated political party.
Wisconsin	5,350,681	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 2004 census figures from the U.S. Census Bureau, which can be found at the *American Factfinder* website: <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

² 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)

³ F.S.A. § 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>

⁴ F.S.A. § 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.”

⁵ F.S.A. § 322.08(6)(a) “A voluntary contribution of \$5 per applicant, which contribution shall be transferred into the Election Campaign Financing Trust Fund.”

⁶ F.S.A. § 328.72 (11) “The form shall also 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 F.S.A. § 607.1622(1)(g) “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;”

⁸ Hawaii Revised Statutes §235-102.5(a) (“the check-off does not constitute an additional tax liability”).

⁹ 36 Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 5283



¹⁰ 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.”

¹¹ 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.



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

STATE	QUALIFYING THRESHOLD	RESIDENCY RESTRICTION ON QUALIFYING / MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTIONS	SPENDING LIMITS
Alabama	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arizona	<i>To become eligible for public financing, candidates must raise \$5 qualifying contributions as follows:</i> <u>Governor</u> : 4,200 <u>Secretary of State and Attorney General</u> : 2,625 <u>Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Corporation Commissioner</u> : 1,575 <u>Mine Inspector, Member of Legislature</u> : 525	Yes, for qualifying contributions	If a Clean Elections candidate, may only spend Clean Elections funds, otherwise unlimited. <u>Governor</u> : \$431,149 (primary); \$645,224 (general) <u>Secretary of State</u> : \$90,950 (primary); \$135,840 (general) <u>Attorney General</u> : \$90,560 (primary); \$135,840 (general) <u>Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Corporation Commissioner</u> : \$45,280 (primary); \$67,920 (general) <u>Mine Inspector</u> : \$22,640 (primary); \$33,960 (general) <u>Member of Legislature</u> : \$11,320 (primary); \$16,980 (general)
Arkansas	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida	<u>Governor</u> : \$150,000 <u>Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture</u> : \$100,000	Yes, for qualifying and matchable contributions	<i>Spending limited for candidates participating in public financing program:</i> <u>Governor</u> : \$2.00 per registered voter (approximately \$20 million) <u>Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer, and Commissioner of Agriculture</u> : \$1.00 per registered voter (approximately \$10 million)
Hawaii	<u>Governor</u> : \$100,000 <u>Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$50,000 <u>Senator</u> : \$2,500 <u>Representative</u> : \$1,500 <u>Mayors</u> : \$5,000 to \$50,000 <u>Prosecuting Attorneys</u> : \$5,000 to \$30,000 <u>County Council</u> : \$3,000 to \$5,000 <u>All others</u> : \$500	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	<i>Approximate figures given are for 2006 primary and general elections:</i> <u>Governor</u> : \$2.50 per registered voter per election (approximately \$1.45 million) <u>Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$1.40 per registered voter per election (approximately \$812,000) <u>Mayor</u> : \$2.00 per registered voter per election (ranges from \$66,000 – \$800,000 for counties of Kauai, Maui, Hawaii and Honolulu) <u>State senator, state representative</u> : \$1.40 per registered voter per election (ranges from \$11,000 - \$46,000) <u>County Council member</u> : \$1.40 per registered voter per election (ranges from \$12,000 – \$94,000) <u>Prosecuting Attorney</u> : \$1.40 per registered voter per election (ranges from \$46,000 – \$560,000) <u>Board of education and all other offices</u> : \$0.20 per registered voter per election (ranges from \$33,000 - \$116,000)
Idaho	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iowa	N/A	N/A	N/A



STATE	QUALIFYING THRESHOLD	RESIDENCY RESTRICTION ON QUALIFYING / MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTIONS	SPENDING LIMITS
Maine	To become eligible for public financing, candidates must raise \$5 qualifying contributions as follows: Governor: 2,500 Senator: 150 Representatives: 50	Yes, for qualifying contributions.	If a Clean Elections candidate, may only spend Clean Election funds, otherwise unlimited ² Governor: \$200,000 (primary); \$400,000 (general) State Senator: \$6,487 (primary); \$16,791 (general) State Representative: \$1,374 (primary); \$4,032 (general)
Maryland	\$165,267 for 2003, which is \$0.03 times the population of Maryland, as determined by the State Board, counting only contributions of \$250 or less ¹³	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	\$1,652,672 for 2003, which is \$0.30 times the population of Maryland, as determined annually by the State Board
Massachusetts ¹⁴	Counting only 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: \$15,000 (primary); \$25,000 (general)	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Governor and Lieutenant Governor: \$1,500,000 Attorney General: \$625,000 Treasurer, Receiver General, State Secretary and Auditor: \$375,000 ¹⁵
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 ¹⁶
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 ¹⁷	N/A	Governor and Lieutenant Governor (running together): \$2,188,090 Attorney General: \$364,690 Secretary of State and State Auditor: \$182,350 State Senator: \$54,740 State Representative: \$28,400
Nebraska	Must face candidate who spends more than the expenditure limit.	N/A	Governor: \$1,650,000 State Treasurer, Secretary Of State, Attorney General, or Auditor Of Public Accounts: \$150,000 Member of Legislature: \$73,000 Public Service Commission, Board Of Regents of University Of Nebraska, or State Board of Education: \$50,000 ⁸
New Jersey	\$300,000 in contributions of \$3,000 or less, the first \$96,000 of which is not matched ⁹	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Governor: \$4,400,000 (primary); \$9,600,000 (general) ²⁰
New Jersey Pilot Program (for legislative candidates)	1,000 contributions of \$5 and 500 contributions of \$30	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. ²¹
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 ²²	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. ²³
North Carolina	At least 350 contributions of \$10 to \$500 from registered voters, that total at least 30 times the filing fee for candidacy for the office ²⁴	Yes, for qualifying contributions	Court of Appeals: 125 times the filing fee (\$138,125) Supreme Court: 175 times the filing fee (\$201,775)
Ohio	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oklahoma	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oregon	N/A	N/A	N/A

STATE	QUALIFYING THRESHOLD	RESIDENCY RESTRICTION ON QUALIFYING / MATCHABLE CONTRIBUTIONS	SPENDING LIMITS
Rhode Island	At least 250 contributions of at least \$25 each, as follows: <u>Governor</u> : totaling at least \$150,000 <u>Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and General Treasurer</u> : \$37,500	No, for qualifying and matchable contributions	Spending limited for candidates participating in public financing program; otherwise unlimited: <u>Governor</u> : \$1,500,000 <u>Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and General Treasurer</u> : \$375,000
Utah	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vermont	<u>Governor</u> : \$35,000 collected from no fewer than 1,500 qualified individual contributors making a contribution of no more than \$50 each <u>Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$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	<u>Governor</u> : \$300,000 <u>Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$100,000 <u>Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Accounts or Attorney General</u> : \$45,000 <u>State Senator or County Office</u> : \$4,000 <u>State Representative</u> : \$2,000 ²⁵
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 ²⁶	Non-residents who contribute more than \$25 must designate a resident agent within the state	<u>Governor</u> : \$1,078,200 <u>Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$323,475 <u>Attorney General</u> : \$539,000 <u>Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Superintendent, or Supreme Court Justice</u> : \$215,625 <u>State Senator</u> : \$34,500 <u>State Representative</u> : \$17,250

¹² The legislative Clean 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 2004, the Clean Elections distributions for legislative candidates were as follows. Primary Election: Contested candidates for State Representative - \$1,374 Uncontested candidates for State Representative - \$456 Contested candidates for State Senate - \$6,487 Uncontested candidates for State Senate - \$1,514 General Election: Contested candidates for State Representative - \$4,032 Uncontested candidates for State Representative - \$1,613 Contested candidates for State Senate - \$16,791 Uncontested candidates for State Senate - \$6,717

¹³ 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 (July, 2003) estimated the Maryland population at 5,508,909.

¹⁴ Massachusetts Clean Elections Law, repealed as of July 1, 2003, (M.G.L.A. 55A, MA ST 55A) has been replaced by Massachusetts Limited Public Financing of Campaigns for Statewide Elective Office (M.G.L.A. 55C, MA ST 55C).

¹⁵ 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, MA ST 55C § 1A)

¹⁶ 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.”

¹⁷ Only opposed candidates receive shares.

¹⁸ Amounts given are for the general election. Expenditure limits for the primary are 50% of the limit for the general election. NE ST § 32-1604.

¹⁹ 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, NJ ST 19:44A-7.1) http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf

²⁰ 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, NJ ST 19:44A-7.1) http://www.elec.state.nj.us/pdf/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf

²¹ 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.

²² Contributions are limited to registered voters who are eligible to vote for the office the candidate is seeking.

²³ Candidates in former elections are only counted for this calculation 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.

²⁴ The minimum qualifying contribution sum is \$33,150 for the Court of Appeals, and \$34,590 for the North Carolina Supreme Court. Candidates may not raise more than 60 times the filing fee for candidacy for the office, \$66,300 for the Court of Appeals, and \$69,180 for the North Carolina Supreme Court. Finally, to remain eligible, candidates may not raise or expend more than \$10,000 since January 1st of the year before the election.

²⁵ Incumbents may only spend 85% of the listed amount. For state senator, the limit is raised an additional \$2,500.00 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, though this provision is the subject of litigation. As of June, 2005, the parties involved have filed for a Writ of Certiorari. The case is *Landell v. Sorrell*.

²⁶ 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.

**STATE CHART 3: SPENDING LIMITS PER RESIDENT,
CONTRIBUTION LIMITS, CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

STATE	SPENDING LIMITS PER RESIDENT	CONTRIBUTION LIMITS	CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE
Alabama	N/A	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Arizona	<u>Governor</u> : \$0.08(primary); \$0.11(general) <u>Secretary of State</u> : \$.02 (primary); \$0.02 (general) <u>Attorney General</u> : \$0.02 (primary); \$0.02 (general) <u>Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Corporation Commissioner</u> : \$0.01 (primary); \$0.01 (general) <u>Mine Inspector</u> : \$0.01 (primary); \$0.01 (general) <u>Member of Legislature</u> ²⁷ : \$0.12 (primary); \$0.18 (general)	<u>Statewide office</u> : \$700 <u>Legislative candidates</u> : \$270 <u>All other offices</u> : \$340 Aggregate limit of \$3,230.	\$1,100 statewide or \$550 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	N/A	<u>All candidates</u> : \$1,000 per election	Unlimited	N/A
Florida	<u>Governor</u> : \$2.00 <u>Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer, and Commissioner of Agriculture</u> : \$1.00	<u>Candidates and committees</u> : \$500 per election (individuals); \$100 per election (minors)	\$25,000 limit to qualify for public financing, otherwise unlimited	Matching funds eligibility is not expressly capped by statute, but is finite because of spending limits ²⁸
Hawaii	<u>Governor</u> : \$2.50 per registered voter <u>Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$1.40 per registered voter <u>Mayor</u> : \$2.00 per registered voter <u>State senator, state representative, county council member, and prosecuting attorney</u> : \$1.40 per registered voter <u>Board of education and all other offices</u> : \$0.20 per registered voter	<u>4 year statewide office</u> : \$6,000 per election <u>4 year non-statewide office</u> : \$4,000 per election <u>2 year office</u> : \$2,000 per election <u>Non-candidate committees</u> : \$1,000	Contributions from a candidate's immediate family limited to \$50,000.	Based on expenditure limit: <u>Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or mayor</u> : 10% of spending limit <u>Senator, Representative, County Council Member, and Prosecuting Attorney</u> : 15% of spending limit <u>All others</u> : \$100
Idaho	N/A	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Iowa	N/A	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Maine	<u>Governor</u> : \$0.16 (primary); \$0.31 (general) <u>State Senator</u> ²⁹ : \$0.18 (primary); \$0.46 (general) <u>State Representative</u> ³⁰ : \$0.16 (primary); \$0.48 (general)	<u>Governor and Lieutenant Governor (running together)</u> : \$500 per election <u>All other offices</u> : \$250 per election; Aggregate limit of \$25,000 per calendar year.	None allowed for certified clean election candidates, otherwise unlimited	<u>Governor</u> : \$200,000 (primary); \$400,000 (general) Legislative candidates receive the average expenditures made by legislative candidates in contested races in the previous two elections
Maryland	\$0.30 for a gubernatorial ticket	<u>Candidates and committees</u> : \$4,000 per election cycle Aggregate limit of \$10,000 per election cycle	Unlimited	Limited to the money in the Fair Campaign Financing Fund

**STATE CHART 3: SPENDING LIMITS PER RESIDENT,
CONTRIBUTION LIMITS, CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

STATE	SPENDING LIMITS PER RESIDENT	CONTRIBUTION LIMITS	CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE
Massachusetts ³¹	\$0.24 for Governor, and Lieutenant Governor	<u>Candidates</u> : \$500 per calendar year <u>Committees</u> : \$5,000 per calendar year Aggregate limit of \$12,500 per calendar year	Unlimited	<u>Governor and Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$750,000 <u>Attorney General</u> : \$312,500 <u>State Secretary, Treasurer, Receiver General and Auditor</u> : \$187,500, ³²
Michigan	\$0.20 for a gubernatorial ticket	<u>Statewide office</u> : \$3,400 <u>State senate</u> : \$1,000 <u>State representative</u> : \$500 <u>Judicial candidates</u> : \$100 for lawyers	\$50,000 per gubernatorial campaign from the candidate and the candidate's family, regardless of public funding ³³	<u>Governor and Lieutenant Governor</u> : \$1,125,000
Minnesota	\$0.44 for a gubernatorial ticket	<u>Governor and Lieutenant Governor (running together)</u> : \$2,000 <u>Attorney General</u> : \$1,000 <u>Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Senator, and State Representative</u> : \$500 ³⁴	\$20,000 if the candidate accepts the public financing, otherwise unlimited	No more than 50% the expenditure limit for a given candidate
Nebraska	<u>Governor</u> : \$0.98	Unlimited	Unlimited	Maximum funds equal spending limit amount plus additional funds triggered by opponent spending
New Jersey	<u>Governor</u> : \$1.66	<u>Governor</u> : \$3,000 per election <u>All other offices</u> : \$2,800 per election ³⁵	\$25,000 if the candidate accepts public financing, otherwise unlimited	<u>Governor</u> : \$2,700,000 (primary); \$6,400,000 (general) ³⁶
New Jersey Pilot Program (for legislative candidates)	Varies based on district and expenditures made in the previous two elections	\$200 limit for 'seed money' is permitted 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	75% of the average expenditures made by candidates in the 2 preceding elections for that district, or \$100,000, whichever is lower ³⁷
New Mexico	Varies based on expenditures made in the previous four elections	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 distribution.	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	Varies based on the amount of qualifying contributions raised	<u>Candidate or committee</u> : \$4,000 per election <u>Court of Appeals or Supreme Court</u> : \$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: <u>Court of Appeals</u> : \$132,600 (primary); \$276,250 (general) <u>Supreme Court</u> : \$138,360 (primary); \$403,550 (general)
Ohio	N/A	<u>Statewide office or General Assembly</u> : \$10,000 per election; <u>County Political Party</u> : \$10,000 per election <u>State Political Party</u> : \$30,000 per calendar year <u>Political Action Committee</u> : \$10,000 per calendar year	Unlimited ³⁸	N/A

**STATE CHART 3: SPENDING LIMITS PER RESIDENT,
CONTRIBUTION LIMITS, CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

STATE	SPENDING LIMITS PER RESIDENT	CONTRIBUTION LIMITS	CANDIDATE PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS AVAILABLE
Oklahoma	N/A	All state candidates: \$2,500 per campaign ³⁹ All other local offices: \$1,000 per campaign County Political Party or Political Action Committee: \$5,000 per calendar year	Unlimited	N/A
Oregon	N/A	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Rhode Island	Governor: \$1.45	Non-participating candidates: \$1,000 per calendar year Participating candidates: \$2,000 per calendar year Aggregate limit of \$10,000 total 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	N/A	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
VERMONT	Governor: \$0.50	Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Accounts, or Attorney General: \$400 per 2 year election cycle State senator or county office: \$300 State representative or local office: \$200 Non-candidate political committee or political party: \$2,000 ⁴⁰	Unlimited	Governor: \$75,000 (primary); \$225,000 (general) Lieutenant Governor: \$25,000 (primary) \$75,000 (general) ⁴¹
Virginia	N/A	Unlimited	Unlimited	N/A
Wisconsin	Governor: \$0.20	Statewide office: \$10,000 State Senator: \$1,000 State Assembly: \$500 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 the expenditure limit for the office

²⁷ Based on total population, divided by 30 legislative districts, with two representatives per district.

²⁸ 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)

²⁹ Based on total population, divided by 35 senatorial districts.

³⁰ Based on total population, divided by 151 representative districts.

³¹ Massachusetts Clean Elections Law, repealed as of July 1, 2003, (M.G.L.A. 55A, MA ST 55A) has been replaced by Massachusetts Limited Public Financing of Campaigns for Statewide Elective Office (M.G.L.A. 55C, MA ST 55C).

³² 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 § 5, MA ST 55C § 5) (M.G.L.A. 55C § 7, MA ST 55C § 7)

³³ 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.”

³⁴ 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

³⁵ 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, NJ ST 19:44A-7.1) www.elec.state.nj.us/pdffiles/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf

³⁶ 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, NJ ST 19:44A-7.1) www.elec.state.nj.us/pdffiles/Cost%20Index/CostIndex_2005.pdf.

³⁷ 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.

³⁸ Candidates for statewide or general assembly office who receive or expend personal funds of more than \$100,000 in primary or \$150,000 in general election for statewide office, or more than \$25,000 per election for general assembly candidate must file a personal funds notice.

³⁹ 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.

⁴⁰ The contribution limits are the subject of litigation. As of June, 2005, the parties involved have filed for a Writ of Certiorari. The case is *Landell v. Sorrell*.

⁴¹ 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.

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

STATE	HIGH SPENDING OPPONENT TRIGGER PROVISION	INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE (“IE”) TRIGGER PROVISION	DEBATE REQUIREMENT
Alabama	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arizona	If a nonparticipating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds are distributed to participating candidates, 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 nonparticipating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds are distributed to participating candidates, 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 three times the original distribution	No	No
Maryland	No	No	No
Massachusetts⁴²	No	No	No
Michigan	No	No	No
Minnesota	Expenditure limits eliminated	No	No
Nebraska	If any candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds are distributed to the qualified candidates	Independent expenditures of \$2,000 allow the disadvantaged candidate to opt out of the expenditure limits unless that candidate has received public funds ⁴³	No
New Jersey	No	No	Yes ⁴⁴
New Jersey Pilot Program (for legislative candidates)	If a nonparticipating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, equivalent funds are distributed to the certified candidates, up to a maximum of \$50,000	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.
New Mexico	If a nonparticipating candidate exceeds the public funds distribution, including independent expenditures made to influence the election on behalf of the nonparticipating candidate, additional funds are distributed to match the excess, up to twice the original public funds distribution	Independent expenditures 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 certified 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 nonparticipating candidate exceeds the expenditure limit, the limit is lifted to the extent the nonparticipating candidate exceeds them	Independent expenditures are counted against the expenditure limit of the candidate	No

STATE	HIGH SPENDING OPPONENT TRIGGER PROVISION	INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURE (“IE”) TRIGGER PROVISION	DEBATE REQUIREMENT
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 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

⁴² Massachusetts Clean Elections Law, repealed as of July 1, 2003, (M.G.L.A. 55A, MA ST 55A) has been replaced by Massachusetts Limited Public Financing of Campaigns for Statewide Elective Office (M.G.L.A. 55C, MA ST 55C).

⁴³ NE ST § 32-1614(5).

⁴⁴ 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. 19:44A -47, NJ ST 19:44A-47).