

Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Elections Code Rules

Rule 16 Democracy Voucher Program

H. Maximum Campaign Valuations

Relevant Authority

SMC 2.04.690.D provides that "[p]rior to each election cycle, the Commission may reasonably adjust the maximum campaign valuations, the dollar amounts for and numbers of qualifying contributions, the contribution limits per contributor provided in subsection 2.04.630.B (but the Commission shall not set a contribution limit for qualifying candidates that exceeds the contribution limit specified for candidates in Section 2.04.370), or the number or value of democracy vouchers provided to each eligible person, to account for inflation or deflation, and ensure the goals and purposes of the Program including democracy and accountability, high rates of candidate participation, heavy utilization of vouchers by those who have not previously donated to Seattle political campaigns, and high public satisfaction with the Program." Following its analysis of the 2019 election cycle, including an analysis of the cost of running a competitive campaign, in order to preserve high rates of candidate participation, the Commission hereby establishes the following campaign valuations for the 2021 and 2023 elections.

Position	Primary election (\$)	Total for primary and general elections (\$)
At-large City Councilmember	\$187,500	\$375,000
District City Councilmember	\$93,750	\$187,500
City Attorney	\$187,500	\$375,000

The Maximum Campaign Valuations for the Mayor are unchanged at \$400,000 for the Primary and \$800,000 in total for the Primary and general elections. These changes are effective immediately.

Reviser's note: Rule 18.A. The MCV limits for the 2024 At-large City Councilmember election are \$225,000 Primary Election and \$450,000 Total for primary and general elections.