



Seattle's new **Democracy Voucher Program**

makes it easier to support local candidate campaigns.

What is a Democracy Voucher?

Democracy Vouchers make it easier for Seattle residents to have a voice in their government. Democracy Vouchers are certificates valued at \$25 each that Seattle residents can contribute to the campaigns of candidates running for **City Council** or **City Attorney** positions (the program will expand to include the Mayor's race in 2021). Eligible Seattle residents may use four \$25 vouchers, for a total of \$100, in the 2017 city elections.

Who can use Democracy Vouchers?

You must live in Seattle to be eligible to use Democracy Vouchers. You must also be:

- At least 18 years of age, *and*
- A U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident.

How do I get my Democracy Vouchers?

Democracy Vouchers are mailed to Seattle registered voters, newly registered Seattle voters, and those who apply to the program.

If you are **not** a registered voter, contact Seattle Ethics and Elections to apply to receive Democracy Vouchers.

If you have lost your vouchers, contact Seattle Ethics and Elections for replacements.

How do I use my Democracy Vouchers?

You can give candidates one (\$25), two (\$50), three (\$75), or all four (\$100) of your Democracy Vouchers. Vouchers may be given only to candidates who are participating in the program. To learn who is participating, call (206) 727-8855 and press 1, or visit seattle.gov/democracyvoucher. Candidates have until June 2 to decide whether to participate.

To use your vouchers, write the name of a participating candidate on each voucher, sign your name, and write the date. You can give or mail vouchers directly to a candidate's campaign or you can mail your vouchers to the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission. For other return methods, visit seattle.gov/democracyvoucher/return.

Vouchers must be returned by **November 30**.

How is the program funded, and who runs it?

In November 2015, Seattle voters approved a property tax to fund the Democracy Voucher Program for 10 years. The Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission, an independent agency of the City of Seattle, administers the program.

Can I find out who is giving and receiving vouchers?

Yes. Contributions to campaigns, including Democracy Vouchers, are public information. Seattle Ethics and Elections is required to post names of contributors, the candidates they contributed to, and the amount, on its website.

How do I run for office using Democracy Vouchers?

Contact Seattle Ethics and Elections to learn how to use Democracy Vouchers to fund your own campaign.

Contact the Democracy Voucher Program:

(206) 727-8855

seattle.gov/democracyvoucher

democracyvoucher@seattle.gov

PO Box 94729 Seattle, WA 98124



Upon request, Seattle Ethics and Elections will provide reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities to help ensure access to programs. If you would like to request an accommodation, or for materials in other languages, please call (206) 727-8855.