

Hypothetical Combined 2028 Election—Campaign Finance Reporting

With the exception of a first quarter report due on April 15, no committee types have the same reporting period or deadline.

Federal Candidates	Federal Parties / PACs	State and Local Candidates	State Parties	State PACs
April Q (4/15)			April 15	April 15
1/1-3/31	February Monthly	April 15	1/1-3/31	1/1-3/31
Pre-Primary (6/8)	(2/20)	1/1-3/31	July 15	June 1
4/1-5/31	1/1-1/31	June 12	4/1-6/30	4/1-5/25
July Q (7/15)	March Monthly (3/20)	4/1-6/8	Oct 15	September 15
6/1-6/30	2/1-2/28	July 15	7/1-9/30	5/26-8/31
Oct Q (10/15)	April Monthly (4/20)	6/9-6/30	January 15	October 15
7/1-9/30	3/1-3/31	September 15	10/1-12/31	9/1-10/7
Pre-General (10/26)	May Monthly (5/20)	7/1-8/31	3-Day Large Contribution (10K)	January 15
10/1-10/18	4/1-4/30	October 15	1/1-12/31	10/8-12/31
Post-General (12/7)	June Monthly (6/20)	9/1-9/30		3-Day Large Contribution (10K)
10/19-11/27	5/1-5/31	October 30		1/1-12/31
Year-End (1/31)	July Monthly (7/20)	10/1-10/26		24-Hour Pre-Election Contribution & Expenditure (1K)
11/28-12/31	6/1-6/30	December 17		5/26-6/20
<hr/> 48-Hour Pre-Election (1K)	August Monthly (8/20)	10/27-11/30		10/8-11/7
6/1-6/18	7/1-7/31	January 15		
10/19-11/5	September Monthly (9/20)	12/1-12/31		
	8/1-8/31	Large Pre-Session (1K)		
	October Monthly (10/20)	January 15		
	9/1-9/30	1/1-1/11		
	Pre-General (10/26)	24-Hour Pre-Election (500 Local, 1K GA, 5K Statewide)		
	10/1-10/18	6/9-6/20		
	Post-General (12/7)	10/27-11/7		
	10/19-11/27			
	Year-End (1/31)			
	11/28-12/31			

Party Federal/Non-Federal Allocation Rules

Federal Election Rules Allow Political Party Committees to allocate some expenditures between Federal and State Accounts

Fixed Percentage

Administrative, voter drive activities, exempt party activities, and certain staff salaries.

Federal Percentages depending on offices on November ballot
36% - Pres/Sen
28% - Pres/No Sen
21% - No Pres/Sen
15% - No Pres/No Sen

Fundraising

Fundraising events.

Funds Received Ratio applied to expenses (e.g., 75% of contributions Federally permissible, 25% not)

Communications

Communications that are direct candidate support activities for federal and nonfederal candidates, and that do not otherwise qualify as FEA or exempt party activity.

Ratio of time or space devoted to Federal candidates to all candidates.

Federal Election

Activity

Type I—Voter registration activity within 120 days of regular election.

Type II—voter ID, GOTV, generic campaign activity (public communication that promotes or opposed party, but not candidate) from primary filing deadline (mid-April) to Election Day

Type III—PSAO (promote, support, attack, or oppose) Public Communication during calendar year.

Type IV—Employee services (employee who spends more than 25% of compensated time on Federal elections in a month) during the calendar year.

No Allocation—All Federal funds.

Advertising Disclosure Rules

Federal and state disclosure rules differ in both form and to what communications they apply. Federal rules related to “public communications,” which is a defined term; State rules apply to any advertising that includes express advocacy.

TV and Radio

Federal—candidate must include disclaimer in own voice with own image for all TV and Radio (Stand by Your Ad).

State—candidate must include “paid for by” disclosure; Stand by Your Ad applies only when ad mentions another clearly-identified candidate.

Telephone Calls / Text Messages

Federal—all year, 500 or more numbers must include name of candidate or committee.

State—within 180 days of general, 90 days of primary to 25 or more numbers must include name of candidate or committee.

Printed Communications

Federal and state have same visual requirements (authorized by in printed box with sufficient size and color contrast)

Federal—applies to public communications (e.g., mailing to 500 or more) requires disclaimer.

State—any printed communications that includes express advocacy

Internet Communications

Federal—print media rules apply to websites and e-mail; TV and video rules for video and audio on internet; Special rule for small text/graphic ads where disclaimer would take up more than 25%, adapted disclaimer allowed (indicator or mechanism to get to disclaimer)

State—print media rules for websites and e-mail; TV and Video rules for video and audio on internet.

Statutory Exceptions

Federal—(a) cannot be conveniently printed (e.g., pens, bumper stickers, campaign pins, campaign buttons and similar small items)

(b) is not practicable (e.g., wearing apparel, water towers and skywriting)

(c) item is of minimal value, does not contain a political message and is used for administrative purposes (e.g., checks, receipts)

State—Novelty items including, but not limited to, pens, pencils, magnets, and buttons to be attached to wearing apparel.