



2020 Candidate Reporting Updated Deadlines Due to COVID-19

Pursuant to Governor's Executive Orders 56 and 59

2020 Report Year

Candidate Committees Whose Office is Not on the Ballot in 2020:		
Activity Beginning	Activity Ending	Report Due
January 1, 2020	June 30, 2020	July 15, 2020
July 1, 2020	December 31, 2020	January 15, 2021
Candidate Committee Whose Office is on the Ballot on November 3, 2020:		
Activity Beginning	Activity Ending	Report Due
January 1, 2020	March 31, 2020	April 15, 2020
April 1, 2020	June 11, 2020	June 15, 2020
June 12, 2020	June 30, 2020	July 15, 2020
July 1, 2020	August 31, 2020	September 15, 2020
September 1, 2020	September 30, 2020	October 15, 2020
October 1, 2020	October 22, 2020	October 26, 2020
October 23, 2020	November 26, 2020	December 3, 2020
November 27, 2020	December 31, 2020	January 15, 2021
Large Pre-Election Contribution reporting happens June 12, 2020 through June 22, 2020, and Large Pre-Election Contribution reporting happens October 23, 2020 through November 2, 2020		
Candidate Committee Whose Office is on the Ballot on May 5, 2020:		
Activity Beginning	Activity Ending	Report Due
January 1, 2020	March 31, 2020	April 15, 2020
April 1, 2020	May 7, 2020	May 11, 2020
May 8, 2020	May 31, 2020	June 15, 2020
June 1, 2020	June 30, 2020	July 15, 2020
July 1, 2020	December 31, 2020	January 15, 2021
Large Pre-Election Contribution reporting for the General May Election happens May 8, 2020 through May 18, 2020		
Candidates on the Ballot for a Special Election in 2020*:		
Activity Beginning	Activity Ending	Report Due
Inception	11 days Before Special Election	Eight Days <u>Before</u> Special Election
11 Days Before Special Election	30 Days After Special Election	30 Days <u>After</u> Special Election
Large Pre Election Contribution reporting for Special Elections begin 11 days prior to the election.		

*Only applies to special elections held on a day other than a General Election.

Which Schedule Should I Follow?

- ✓ Follow the November Schedule if your office is up for election in November. Follow the May Schedule if your office is up for election in May. Follow the Special Schedule if your office is up for election on a day other than the May/November General Election date. Candidate campaign committees who have not filed a final report and are reporting in a successive election cycle must follow the reporting schedule for the office in which they are registered, **EVEN IF THE CANDIDATE DOES NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT ELECTION OR IS NOT ON THE BALLOT.** (§ 24.2-947.6; § 24.2-947.7; § 24.2-947.8)

Where to file Campaign Finance Reports (§ 24.2-947.5):

- ✓ General Assembly and Statewide candidates file electronically with the Virginia Department of Elections.
- ✓ **§24.2-947.5 (B)** Candidates for local offices and shared constitutional offices, which file reports electronically, file with the Virginia Department of Elections. Localities with a population of 70,000 or more are required to file electronically. Paper filers file with the general registrar in the county or city of the candidate's residence.
 - **NOTE: Reports cannot be faxed to the locality in order to make the deadline.**

When to File Regular Campaign Finance Reports:

- ✓ Electronic filers must file with the Department of Elections by 11:59pm on the day of the deadline.
 - ✓ Local candidates who file on paper must submit their report to the county/city of residence by the close of business on the day of the deadline.
 - ✓ Electronic filing is required for candidates who reside in a county or city which has population of 70,000 or more.
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- ✓ Subject to certain exemptions, candidates for local and constitutional offices in Virginia must file a final campaign finance report covering all activity from the beginning to the date filed. The final report is due after the election before taking the oath of office.

Large Pre-Election Contribution Reports (§ 24.2-947.9):

A Large Pre-Election Contribution report is required to be filed by a candidate's campaign committee if they receive a direct contribution, in-kind contribution or a loan if the contribution or loan amount is:

- ✓ \$5,000 or more if a candidate for Statewide office; or
- ✓ \$1,000 or more if a candidates for the General Assembly; or
- ✓ \$500 or more if a candidate for any other office

and the contribution or loan is received by the campaign committee between:

- ✓ the 11th day preceding any nominating event ; or
- ✓ the 11th day preceding a November election and the election date; or
- ✓ the 11th day preceding any other election in which the individual is a candidate and the Election Day.

Nominating Events

- ✓ A Large Pre-Election Report is not required if the candidate for the nomination is or has become, by virtue of withdrawal of the opponent(s), running unopposed for the nomination if the party nominates by a method other than a primary.
- ✓ Nominating events include, but are not limited to, primary, caucus, mass meeting, or other event at which the party's nomination shall be finally determined or an event at which delegates are chosen who pledge their support of a specified candidate on a ballot at a subsequent convention.

When to File Large Pre-Election Contributions

- ✓ Large Pre-Election Contribution reports are due no later than 11:59 pm on the next day after the committee has received the contribution.
- ✓ If the large pre-election contribution is received on a Saturday, then the report is not due until 11:59 pm on the Monday immediately following the Saturday.
- ✓ If the large pre-election contribution is received on the day before the election, then the report is due on that day.

Where to File Large Pre-Election Contributions

- ✓ Statewide candidates must report large pre-election contributions electronically through the Virginia website. (Faxes are not permitted).
- ✓ General Assembly candidates report their large pre-election contributions electronically on the Virginia Department of Elections website with the Virginia Department of Elections.
- ✓ Candidates for local offices, who file electronically, file Large Pre-Election contributions on the Virginia Department of Elections website. Paper filers file Large Contribution reports with their county or city general registrar. Faxed copies are **NOT** acceptable in order to meet the deadline. An original, signed copy must be submitted to the local general registrar. Postmarks do no govern.

Independent Expenditure Reports (§ 24.2-945.2):

An independent expenditure is an expenditure made by a candidate campaign committee (i) that is not related to the candidate's own campaign and (ii) that is not made to, controlled by, coordinated with, or made with the authorization of a different candidate, his campaign committee, or an agent of that candidate or his campaign committee.

An independent expenditure report is required if the campaign committee makes independent expenditures that support, oppose or benefit a different candidate, in excess of \$1,000 or more to a candidate for statewide office or in excess of \$200 or more to any other candidate in the aggregate during an election cycle.

When to File Independent Expenditure Reports

Independent expenditure reports are due within 24 hours after the committee has made the expenditure or when the advertisement supporting or opposing the clearly identified candidate is disseminated, whichever is first.

Where to File Independent Expenditure Reports

- ✓ The independent expenditure report is to be filed with the Virginia Department of Elections if the candidate(s) supported or opposed is a candidate for statewide office or the General Assembly.
- ✓ If the candidate supported or opposed is a candidate for local or constitutional office, then the independent expenditure report must be filed with the general registrar of that county or city.
- ✓ In cases where multiple candidates are supported or opposed in multiple localities, one report must be filed with the county or city general registrar in the residence of each candidate which is supported or opposed.
- ✓ Independent expenditure reports must be filed on paper and can be faxed to the appropriate office to meet the deadline with an original, signed copy sent and postmarked within 24 hours after the funds are expended.

Please visit our web site at www.elections.virginia.gov or contact the Campaign Finance Division at (804) 864-8901 or 1-800-552-9745 or by email at cfda@elections.virginia.gov.