

Federal Election Commission

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written statement signed by the candidate. The candidate may submit the letter containing the required certifications at any time after January 1 of the year immediately preceding the Presidential election year.

(2) The Commission will not consider a candidate's threshold submission until the candidate has submitted candidate certifications that meet the requirements of this section.

(b) *Certifications.* (1) The candidate shall certify that he or she is seeking nomination by a political party to the Office of President in more than one State. For purposes of this section, in order for a candidate to be deemed to be seeking nomination by a political party to the office of President, the party whose nomination the candidate seeks must have a procedure for holding a primary election, as defined in 11 CFR 9032.7, for nomination to that office. For purposes of this section, the term *political party* means an association, committee or organization which nominates an individual for election to the office of President. The fact that an association, committee or organization qualifies as a political party under this section does not affect the party's status as a national political party for purposes of 2 U.S.C. 441a(a)(1)(B) and 441a(a)(2)(B).

(2) The candidate and the candidate's authorized committee(s) shall certify that they have not incurred and will not incur expenditures in connection with the candidate's campaign for nomination, which expenditures are in excess of the limitations under 11 CFR part 9035.

(3) The candidate and the candidate's authorized committee(s) shall certify:

(i) That they have received matchable contributions totaling more than \$5,000 in each of at least 20 States; and

(ii) That the matchable contributions are from individuals who are residents of the State for which their contributions are submitted.

(iii) A maximum of \$250 of each individual's aggregate contributions will be considered as matchable contributions for the purpose of meeting the thresholds of this section.

(iv) For purposes of this section, contributions of an individual who maintains residences in more than one

State may only be counted toward the \$5,000 threshold for the State from which the earliest contribution was made by that contributor.

(c) *Threshold submission.* To become eligible to receive matching payments, the candidate shall submit documentation of the contributions described in 11 CFR 9033.2(b)(3) to the Commission for review. The submission shall follow the format and requirements of 11 CFR 9036.1.

§ 9033.3 Expenditure limitation certification.

(a) If the Commission makes an initial determination that a candidate or the candidate's authorized committee(s) have knowingly and substantially exceeded the expenditure limitations at 11 CFR part 9035 prior to that candidate's application for certification, the Commission may make an initial determination that the candidate is ineligible to receive matching funds.

(b) The Commission will notify the candidate of its initial determination, in accordance with the procedures outlined in 11 CFR 9033.10(b). The candidate may submit, within 20 calendar days after service of the Commission's notice, written legal or factual materials, in accordance with 11 CFR 9033.10(b), demonstrating that he or she has not knowingly and substantially exceeded the expenditure limitations at 11 CFR part 9035.

(c) A final determination of the candidate's ineligibility will be made by the Commission in accordance with the procedures outlined in 11 CFR 9033.10(c).

(d) A candidate who receives a final determination of ineligibility under 11 CFR 9033.3(c) shall be ineligible to receive matching fund payments under 11 CFR 9034.1.

§ 9033.4 Matching payment eligibility threshold requirements.

(a) The Commission will examine the submission made under 11 CFR 9033.1 and 9033.2 and either—

(1) Make a determination that the candidate has satisfied the minimum contribution threshold requirements under 11 CFR 9033.2(c); or

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(2) Make an initial determination that the candidate has failed to satisfy the matching payment threshold requirements. The Commission will notify the candidate of its initial determination in accordance with the procedures outlined in 11 CFR 9033.10(b). The candidate may, within 30 calendar days after service of the Commission's notice, satisfy the threshold requirements or submit in accordance with 11 CFR 9033.10(b) written legal or factual materials to demonstrate that he or she has satisfied those requirements. A final determination by the Commission that the candidate has failed to satisfy threshold requirements will be made in accordance with the procedures outlined in 11 CFR 9033.10(c).

(b) The Commission will make its examination and determination under this section as soon as practicable. During the Presidential election year, the Commission will generally complete its review and make its determination within 15 business days.

[56 FR 35930, July 29, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 31881, June 16, 1995]

§ 9033.5 Determination of ineligibility date.

The candidate's date of ineligibility shall be whichever date by operation of 11 CFR 9033.5 (a), (b), or (c) occurs first. After the candidate's date of ineligibility, he or she may only receive matching payments to the extent that he or she has net outstanding campaign obligations as defined in 11 CFR 9034.5.

(a) *Inactive candidate.* The ineligibility date shall be the day on which an individual ceases to be a candidate because he or she is not actively conducting campaigns in more than one State in connection with seeking the Presidential nomination. This date shall be the earliest of—

(1) The date the candidate publicly announces that he or she will not be actively conducting campaigns in more than one State; or

(2) The date the candidate notifies the Commission by letter that he or she is not actively conducting campaigns in more than one State; or

(3) The date which the Commission determines under 11 CFR 9033.6 to be the date that the candidate is not ac-

tively seeking election in more than one State.

(b) *Insufficient votes.* The ineligibility date shall be the 30th day following the date of the second consecutive primary election in which such individual receives less than 10 percent of the number of popular votes cast for all candidates of the same party for the same office in that primary election, if the candidate permitted or authorized his or her name to appear on the ballot, unless the candidate certifies to the Commission at least 25 business days prior to the primary that he or she will not be an active candidate in the primary involved.

(1) The Commission may refuse to accept the candidate's certification if it determines under 11 CFR 9033.7 that the candidate is an active candidate in the primary involved.

(2) For purposes of this paragraph, if the candidate is running in two primary elections in different States on the same date, the highest percentage of votes the candidate receives in any one State will govern. Separate primary elections held in more than one State on the same date are not deemed to be consecutive primaries. If two primary elections are held on the same date in the same State (e.g., a primary to select delegates to a national nominating convention and a primary for the expression of preference for the nomination of candidates for election to the office of President), the highest percentage of votes a candidate receives in either election will govern. If two or more primaries are held in the same State on different dates, the earliest primary will govern.

(3) If the candidate certifies that he or she will not be an active candidate in a particular primary, and the Commission accepts the candidate's certification, the primary involved shall not be counted in determining the candidate's date of ineligibility under paragraph (b) of this section, regardless of the percentage of popular votes cast for the candidate in that primary.

(c) *End of matching payment period.* The ineligibility date shall be the last day of the matching payment period for the candidate as specified in 11 CFR 9032.6.