

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT  
LOCAL COMMITTEES OF WISCONSIN**

**Is This Report an Amendment:**     Yes                       No

**Instructions for completing schedules are on the back of each schedule.**

***COMMITTEE IDENTIFICATION***

Name of Committee

Street Address

City, State and Zip Code

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Please check if address is different than previously reported, and complete the Campaign Registration Statement in the back of this form.**

***NAME OF REPORT***

- |   |   |                                 |                               |                                  |  |
|---|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> January Continuing _____   | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Primary _____  | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall | <input type="checkbox"/> Special | <input type="checkbox"/> Termination Report<br><i>also complete Schedule 4</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> July Continuing _____      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Election _____ |                                 |                               |                                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> September Continuing _____ |   |                                 |                               |                                  |  |

***SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS***

**1. RECEIPTS**

	Column A This Period	Column B Calendar Year-To-Date
1A. Contributions (Including Loans) from Individuals	\$	\$
1B. Contributions from Committees (Transfers-In)	\$	\$
1C. Other Income and Commercial Loans	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b> (Add totals from 1A, 1B and 1C)	\$	\$

**2. DISBURSEMENTS**

2A. Gross Expenditures	\$	\$
2B. Contributions to Committees (Transfers-Out)	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b> (Add totals from 2A and 2B)	\$	\$

***CASH SUMMARY***

Cash Balance Beginning of Report	\$
Total Receipts	\$
Subtotal	\$
Total Disbursements	\$
<b>CASH BALANCE END OF REPORT</b>	\$
<b>INCURRED OBLIGATIONS</b> (Balance at the Close of This Period-3A)	\$
<b>LOANS</b> (Balance at the Close of This Period-3B)	\$

***I certify that I have examined this report and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct and complete.***

Type or Print Name of Candidate or Treasurer	Signature of Candidate or Treasurer	Date:
	Email	Daytime Phone:

**NOTE:** The information on this form is required by ss. 11.0204, 11.0304, 11.0404, 11.0504, 11.0604, 11.0804, 11.0904, Wis. Stats. Failure to provide the information may subject you to the penalties of ss.11.1400, 11.1401, Wis. Stats.

# Instructions for Completing Summary Page of Form ETHCF-2L

Instructions for Completing Schedules are on the Back of Each Schedule

## Committee Identification

- ▶ Print or type the complete name and mailing address of your committee.
- ▶ If the report is an amendment to a previous report filed, check the “yes” box. If the report is NOT an amendment, check the “no” box.

## Name of Report

- ▶ Check the box next to the name of the report being filed, and enter the correct calendar year. For information concerning filing dates and report names, refer to the CFIS website – <https://cfis.wi.gov>.

## Summary of Receipts and Disbursements

- ▶ Committees should complete the detailed pages in Schedules 1-A through 3-B before completing this summary section of the report form.

### Receipts

- 1A. Contributions (Including Loans) From Individuals:** Enter the amount of Total Contributions from Individuals (Schedule 1-A) in Column A of the Summary page. Add the amount entered in Column A to contributions previously reported for this calendar year, if any, and enter the amount in Column B, Calendar Year-to-Date.
- 1B. Contributions From Committees (Transfers-In):** Enter the amount from Total Contributions (Transfers-In) Received From Committees (Schedule 1-B) in Column A of the Summary page. Add the amount entered in Column A to contributions previously reported for this calendar year, if any, and enter the amount in Column B, Calendar Year-to-Date.
- 1C. Other Income and Commercial Loans:** Enter the amount of Total Other Income (Schedule 1-C) in Column A. Add the amount entered in Column A to other income previously reported for this calendar year, if any, and enter the amount in Column B, Calendar Year-to-Date.
- Total Receipts:** Add the amounts entered on lines 1-A, 1-B and 1-C, in Column A and enter the total in Total Receipts. Add the amount of Total Receipts previously reported, if any, and enter the amount in Column B, Calendar Year-to-Date.

### Disbursements

- 2A. Gross Expenditures:** Enter the amount from Total Expenditures (Schedule 2-A) in Column A of the Summary page. Add the amount in Column A to expenditures previously reported for this calendar year, if any, and enter the amount in Column B, Calendar Year-to-Date.
- 2B. Contributions to Committees (Transfers-Out):** Enter the amount from Total Contributions (Transfers-Out) Made to Committees (Schedule 2-B) in Column A of the Summary page. Add the amount in Column A to contributions previously reported for this calendar year, if any, and enter the amount in Column B, Calendar Year-to-Date.
- Total Disbursements:** Add the amounts entered on lines 2-A and 2-B in Column A and enter the total in Total Disbursements. Add this amount to Total Disbursements previously reported, if any, and enter the amount in Column B, Calendar Year-to-Date.

## Cash Summary

- Cash Balance Beginning of Report:** If this report is the first report filed by the committee, the cash balance will be zero. If this is not the first report filed by the committee, enter the cash balance from the end of the last report period. The beginning cash balance of a report must *always* be the *same* as the ending cash balance of the prior report.
- Total Receipts:** Enter the amount from Total Receipts in Column A of the Summary page.
- Subtotal:** Add Cash Balance Beginning of Report to Total Receipts and enter the amount.
- Total Disbursements:** Enter the amount from Total Disbursements in Column A of the Summary page.
- Cash Balance End of Report:** Subtract Total Disbursements from Subtotal and enter the amount. The cash balance at the end of the report period should *equal* the reconciled balance in the checking account *plus* any savings or investment accounts.
- Incurred Obligations:** Enter the amount from Total Incurred Obligations (Schedule 3-A) in Column A of the Summary page. Incurred obligations must be carried forward on *each* report until paid in full.
- Loans:** Enter the amount from the Total Outstanding Loans (Schedule 3-B) in Column A of the Summary page. Loans must be carried forward on *each* report until paid in full.

## Sign and Date the Report

The treasurer or candidate must sign and date each report filed. Each report must be complete, correct, and in compliance with the reporting format. Please include a daytime phone number and a contact person if someone other than the treasurer prepares the report.

**RECEIPTS**  
**Contributions (Including Loans) From Individuals**

Complete Committee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions for completing schedules are on the back of each schedule.

Date	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code Of Contributor	Occupation (if year-to-date total exceeds \$200)	Amount of Contribution	Y-T-D Total
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit – Ethics ID# _____			
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit – Ethics ID# _____			
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit – Ethics ID# _____			
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit – Ethics ID# _____			
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit – Ethics ID# _____			
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit – Ethics ID# _____			
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit – Ethics ID# _____			

**SUBTOTAL ITEMIZED CONTRIBUTIONS THIS PAGE**

\$

**TOTAL ITEMIZED CONTRIBUTIONS**

\$

**TOTAL ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTIONS \$10 OR LESS**

\$

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FROM INDIVIDUALS**

\$

# Instructions for Completing Schedule 1-A

## RECEIPTS - Contributions (Including Loans) From Individuals

### General Instructions:

- ▶ Print or type the complete name of your committee in the box provided.
- ▶ Duplicate as many pages as you will need in order to report contributions, including loans from individuals, on this form.
- ▶ Enter the number of Schedule 1-A pages in the upper right corner of the form.

**Date:** Enter the date (month, day, year) each contribution was **RECEIVED**. *Do not* enter the date that appears on the contributor's check or the date deposited, unless it is the same as the date received (*is in committee's possession and control*).

### **Full Name, Mailing Address, and Zip Code:**

1. Enter the full name and address of the contributor.
2. For single or cumulative contributions totaling over \$200 in a calendar year: Enter the full name and address of the contributor. Enter the **occupation**.

**Calendar Year-to-Date Total:** Add contributions previously received this calendar year, from this contributor to the contributions received in this report period. The Calendar Year-to-Date Total for an individual must always be entered. The Current Amount and Year-to-Date Total will be identical on the first report period of the calendar year. Once the individual's Calendar Year-to-Date Total exceeds \$200, you must enter the contributor's occupation.

**Subtotal Itemized Contributions this page:** Enter the total of all the contributions listed on this page. If additional pages are used, enter the subtotal for each separate page.

**Total Itemized Contributions:** Add the subtotals from all pages of Schedule 1-A. If more than one page, enter the total on only the last page of Schedule 1-A.

**Total Anonymous Contributions \$10 or less:** Enter the total of anonymous contributions of \$10 or less only on the last page of Schedule 1-A.

**Total Contributions Received from Individuals:** Add the total **Itemized** contributions to the Total **Anonymous Contributions \$10 or Less** and enter the amount **only** on the last page of Schedule 1-A.

### Special Instructions:

- ◆ Contributions and loans from individuals on Schedule 1-A include any cash, personal or individual loans, purchase of tickets to fundraising events, memberships, gifts, advances, in-kind contributions, and all other personal contributions from an individual **including** the candidate. An in-kind contribution is any goods, property, or services provided to the committee free or for less than the fair market value. (*Volunteer services are not a contribution*).
- ◆ **In-kind contributions from individuals must also be reported as in-kind expenditures on Schedule 2-A to avoid distortion of the cash balance.**
- ◆ When the contribution is in-kind, a loan, or is received through a conduit, check the appropriate box in the section where the contribution is listed. If you receive a personal check or cash, no box needs to be checked.
- ◆ Contributions from individuals transferred through conduits are reported on Schedule 1-A under the individual contributor's name with the name of the conduit listed. The transmittal letter accompanying the conduit check, identifies the conduit and lists the individuals who are the original sources of the contributions. These contributions are subject to itemization on the same basis as other individual contributions; if over \$200, the occupation must be provided.
- ◆ Any individual loans, either from the candidate or from another individual, must be reported on Schedule 1-A **and** on Schedule 3-B, Additional Disclosure, Loans, until paid in full. Loans from individuals are subject to individual contribution limits (see Campaign Finance Overview).
- ◆ Each contributor's name, address, and amount must be listed separately. Contributions from joint accounts shall be reported as coming from the individual signing the check, unless the signor indicates otherwise. If the amount is divided, each individual must be itemized separately. Do not report a contribution as coming from more than one individual.
- ◆ All receipts, including those from raffles, auctions, garage sales or other similar events must be itemized unless the contribution is anonymous and totals \$10 or less.
- ◆ Do **not** report contributions from political action committees, political party committees, or other candidate committees on Schedule 1-A. These contributions must be reported on Schedule 1-B.

**RECEIPTS**  
**Contributions from Committees**  
**(Transfers-In)**

Complete Committee Name

Instructions for completing schedules are on the back of each schedule.

Date	Full Name of Committee, Mailing Address and Zip Code	Amount of Contribution
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan	
<b>SUBTOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS (Transfers-In) THIS PAGE</b>		\$
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS (Transfers-In) RECEIVED FROM COMMITTEES</b>		\$

# Instructions for Completing Schedule 1-B RECEIPTS

## Contributions From Committees (Transfers-In)

### General Instructions:

- ▶ Print or type the complete name of your committee in the box provided.
- ▶ Duplicate as many pages as you will need in order to report contributions from committees (transfers-in) on this form.
- ▶ Enter the number of Schedule 1-B pages in the upper right corner of the form.
- ▶ Each contribution received from a committee **must be itemized** regardless of the amount.

### **Date:**

Enter the date (month, day, year) each contribution was **received**. **DO NOT** enter the date which appears on the contributor's check or the date deposited, unless it is the same as the date received.

### **Complete Name and Address of Committee:**

Enter the full name and address of each contributor.

### **Amount:**

Enter the amount of the contribution this period.

### **Calendar Year-to-Date Total:**

Add contributions previously received this calendar year, from this committee to the contributions received in this report period. The Calendar Year-to-Date Total for a committee must always be entered. The Current Amount and Year-to-Date Total will be identical on the first report period of the calendar year.

### **Subtotal Contributions (Transfers-In) This Page:**

Enter the total of all the contributions (transfers-in) listed on this page. If additional pages are needed, enter the subtotal for each separate page.

### **Total Contributions (Transfers-In) Received from Committees:**

Add the subtotals from all pages of Schedule 1-B. If more than one page, enter the total on only the last page of Schedule 1-B.

### Special Instructions:

- ◆ Contributions transferred through **conduits** are reported as **individual contributions** on Schedule 1-A.
- ◆ In reporting contributions from committees, provide the **complete** name and address of each committee making a contribution.
- ◆ Contributions From Committees (Transfers-In) consist of any funds received from a political party committee, political action committee, candidate committee or a legislative campaign committee.
- ◆ In-kind contributions from a committee must also be reported as an in-kind offset in Schedule 2-A to avoid distortion of the cash balance. An in-kind contribution is any goods, service, or property provided to the committee free or for less than the fair market value. (*Volunteer services are not a contribution.*)
- ◆ When the contribution is in-kind, check the in-kind box in the section where the contribution is listed.
- ◆ Contributions received from sole-proprietorships, partnerships, or qualifying LLCs, must be reported as individual contributions in Schedule 1-A. Contributions from partnerships must reflect the partners' share in the partnership unless otherwise specified.
- ◆ Contributions may not be accepted from corporations, cooperatives, associations, unions, or tribes.



# Instructions for Completing Schedule 1-C RECEIPTS

## Other Income and Commercial Loans

### **General Instructions:**

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- ▶ Print or type the complete name of your committee in the box provided.
- ▶ Duplicate as many pages as you will need in order to report other income and commercial loans on this form.
- ▶ Enter the number of Schedule 1-C pages in the upper right corner of the form.

### **Date:**

Enter the date (month, day, year) other income and commercial loans were **RECEIVED**.

### **Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Source of Income:**

Identify the source of income by providing the name and address of the commercial lending institution. Provide the name and address of any person or business from which other income was received.

### **Describe Type of Income:**

Describe the type of income, e.g., loan from commercial lender for campaign expenses, refund from utility, refund of an over-payment to a vendor, interest on savings, or returned or lost contribution checks previously listed on Schedule 2-B, etc. Use more than one box or attach an additional sheet if needed.

### **Amount:**

Enter the amount of other income and commercial loans for this period only.

### **Subtotal Other Income This Page:**

Enter the total of all the other income itemized on this page. If additional pages are used, enter the subtotal for each separate page.

### **Total Itemized Other Income:**

Add the subtotals from all pages of Schedule 1-C. If more than one page, enter the total on only the last page of Schedule 1-C.

### **Total Other Income:**

Add the Total Other Income and enter the amount on only the last page of Schedule 1-C.

### **Special Instructions:**

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- ◆ **Personal loans** from individuals (including the candidate) must be reported on **Schedule 1-A**.
- ◆ Other income and commercial loans include loans received from any financial institution. Loans must also be listed on Schedule 3-B, Additional Disclosure-Loans, until paid in full.
- ◆ When a contribution given by your committee to another committee is returned to you, report the receipt of the returned contribution in this schedule. Please indicate (under the Type of Income box) the original date your contribution was given.
- ◆ When a loan from a commercial lending institution is guaranteed by individuals, the full name and mailing address of each guarantor and the balance of the amount guaranteed by each guarantor at the end of the reporting period must be reported on Schedule 3-B. The amount of the guarantee is considered a contribution from the guarantor and subject to individual contribution limits until the amount is repaid to the lending institution.
- ◆ Other income includes refunds and interest received. Receipts from fundraising events (auctions, dinners, etc.) and from the sale of commercial items for the purpose of raising funds for political purposes are contributions and must be reported on Schedule 1-A or 1-B.



**SCHEDULE 2-A**

**DISBURSEMENTS  
Gross Expenditures**

Complete Committee Name

Instructions for completing schedules are on the back of each schedule.

Date	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code Of Person or Business to Whom Payment is Made	Specific Purpose of Expenditure	Amount
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind Offset		
<b>SUBTOTAL ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES THIS PAGE</b>			<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES</b>			<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL UNITEMIZED EXPENDITURES</b>			<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>			<b>\$</b>

# Instructions for Completing Schedule 2-A

## DISBURSEMENTS

### Gross Expenditures

#### General Instructions:

- ▶ Print or type the complete name of your committee in the box provided.
- ▶ Duplicate as many pages as you will need in order to report gross expenditures on this form.
- ▶ Enter the number of Schedule 2-A pages in the upper right corner of the form.

**Date:** Enter the date (month, day, year) the disbursement was made.

**Full Name, Mailing Address, and Zip Code of Person or Business to Whom Payment Is Made:** Enter the name and complete address of the person or business to whom payments were made.

**Specific Purpose of Expenditure:** Enter the specific purpose of the expenditure. A complete description of the **type** of expenditure or reimbursement must be given (i.e., food for fundraiser or campaign T-shirts for resale). You may use more than one box or attach an additional sheet if needed.

**Subtotal Itemized Expenditures This Page:** Enter the total of all the expenditures listed on this page. If additional pages are used, enter the subtotal for each separate page.

**Total Itemized Expenditures:** Add the subtotals from all pages of Schedule 2-A. If more than one page, enter the total itemized on only the last page of Schedule 2-A.

**Total Unitemized Expenditures:** Enter the total of unitemized expenditures that are specifically exempted by statute from the normal itemization requirements. (For example, expenses of \$20 or less (§11.0204(1)(a) 8.); expenses for a PAC or independent expenditure committee's fundraising or administrative expenses (§11.0101 (10)(a)); and spending on express advocacy before reaching the \$2,500 threshold (§11.0505(2)(a) and §11.0605(2)(a)). Place the total on only the last page of Schedule 2-A. Note: If you choose to itemize an expenditure, **DO NOT** include that amount **again** in the total of unitemized expenditures.

**Total Expenditures:** Add the Total **Itemized** Expenditures to the Total **Unitemized** Expenditures, and enter the amount on the last page of Schedule 2-A.

#### Special Instructions:

- ◆ Only expenditures of **more than \$20** must be itemized. Expenditures of **\$20 or less** should be totaled and reported as unitemized expenditures.
- ◆ Expenditures for general services, such as consulting, data processing, or reimbursement, should be broken down into the specific services rendered, e.g., salary, travel, data entry, polling.
- ◆ In-kind contributions reported in Schedule 1-A or 1-B, must also be reported as in-kind offsets in Schedule 2-A.
- ◆ Expenditures incurred for in-kind contributions to other registrants must be reported in Schedule 2-B, **NOT** 2-A. See instructions on Schedule 2-B.
- ◆ All expenditures must be made from the campaign depository and must be used for political purposes only.
- ◆ It is permissible for a candidate or an agent of a committee to pay for items from personal funds as long as receipts are submitted to the treasurer for reimbursement from the depository. Reporting of a reimbursement must include information that describes the nature of the original expenditure, and the original vendor of the good(s) or service(s).
- ◆ It is permissible to maintain a petty cash account to pay for minor items provided that funds for the petty cash account are drawn from the campaign depository and that a record of the transactions is kept. Expenditures over \$100 must be paid by negotiable instrument, and be itemized on the report. Expenditures of \$20 or less may be included in unitemized expenditures. If itemized, the purpose of each expenditure must be provided. Only the specific expenditures are reported. Contributions received, deposited, and later returned to the original contributor must be reported as an expense in Schedule 2-A.

**SCHEDULE 2-B**

**DISBURSEMENTS**  
**Contributions To Committees**  
**(Transfers-Out)**

Complete Committee Name

Instructions for completing schedules are on the back of each schedule.

Date	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code	Amount	Y-T-D Total
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
	Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
<b>SUBTOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS (Transfers-Out) THIS PAGE</b>		<b>\$</b>	
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS (Transfers-Out) MADE TO COMMITTEES</b>		<b>\$</b>	

# Instructions for Completing Schedule 2-B

## DISBURSEMENTS Contributions to Committees

### **General Instructions:**

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- ▶ Print or type the complete name of your committee in the box provided.
- ▶ Duplicate as many pages as you will need in order to use this form to report Contributions to Committees (Transfers-Out). Enter the number of Schedule 2-B pages in the upper right corner of the form.
- ▶ Each contribution made to another committee **must be itemized regardless of the amount.**

### **Date:**

Enter the date (month, day, year) that each contribution was made to another committee.

### **Complete Name and Address of Committee:**

Enter the full name and address of each committee.

### **Amount:**

Enter the amount of the contribution given in this period.

### **Calendar Year-to-Date Total:**

Add contributions previously given this calendar year to this committee, to the contributions given in this report period. The Calendar Year-to-Date Total for a committee must always be entered. The Current Amount and Year-to-Date Total will be identical on the first report period of the calendar year.

### **Subtotal Contributions (Transfers-Out) This Page:**

Enter the total of all the contributions (Transfers-Out) listed on this page. If additional pages are used, enter the subtotal for each separate page.

### **Total Contributions (Transfers-Out) Made to Committees:**

Add the subtotals from all pages of Schedule 2-B. If more than one page, enter the total on only the last page of Schedule 2-B.

### **Special Instructions:**

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- ◆ If a contribution is made to a candidate for local office, please print the word “Local” in the space for the ID#. This would include candidates for municipal, school district, and county office. Note: District Attorney and Circuit Court Judge are considered state offices.
- ◆ Contributions to Committees (Transfers-Out) consist of any funds contributed to a political party committee, political action committee, political group (referenda), candidate committee, or legislative campaign committee.
- ◆ When the contribution is in-kind, check the in-kind box in the section where the contribution is listed.
- ◆ When the contribution is a loan, check the loan box in the section where the contribution is listed.
- ◆ For each in-kind contribution, the name and address of the candidate or committee receiving the contribution must be listed, along with the name and address of the person or business to whom payment was made and the amount and date of the in-kind contribution.
  1. *If the committee purchases goods or services and gives them to another committee in the same reporting period as an in-kind contribution, the amount must be reported only once as an expense on Schedule 2-B.*
  2. *If the committee already possesses goods or services and gives them to another committee as an in-kind contribution, please note that this is a non-monetary contribution.*

**Incurred Obligations Excluding Loans  
ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURE**

Complete Committee Name

Instructions for completing schedules are on the back of each schedule.

		Outstanding Balance Beginning This Period	New Obligations or Additions This Period	Cumulative Payments This Period	Outstanding Balance At Close of This Period
Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Creditor				
		Nature of Debt (Purpose)			
Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Creditor				
		Nature of Debt (Purpose)			
Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Creditor				
		Nature of Debt (Purpose)			
Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Creditor				
		Nature of Debt (Purpose)			
Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Creditor				
		Nature of Debt (Purpose)			
Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Creditor				
		Nature of Debt (Purpose)			
Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Creditor				
		Nature of Debt (Purpose)			

**SUBTOTAL ITEMIZED OBLIGATIONS THIS PAGE**

\$

**TOTAL ITEMIZED OBLIGATIONS**

\$

**TOTAL UNITEMIZED OBLIGATIONS \$20 OR LESS**

\$

**TOTAL INCURRED OBLIGATIONS**

\$

# Instructions for Completing Schedule 3-A

## Incurred Obligations Excluding Loans

### ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURE

#### **General Instructions:**

- ▶ Print or type the complete name of your committee in the box provided.
- ▶ Duplicate as many pages as you will need in order to report incurred obligations on this form.
- ▶ Enter the number of Schedule 3-A pages in the upper right corner of the form.

**Date:** Enter the date (month, day, year) the obligation was incurred.

#### **Full Name, Mailing Address, and Zip Code of Creditor:**

Enter the complete name and address of the creditor.

#### **Nature of Debt (Purpose):**

Describe the specific purpose for which the obligation was incurred (See Schedule 2-A for instructions).

#### **Balance Columns:**

In the first column, enter the amount, if any, at the beginning of this report period. If this is a new obligation, there is no beginning balance. If this is an existing obligation, the beginning balance should equal the previous report period's closing balance. In the second column, enter the amount of any new obligations or additions to existing obligations. In the third column, enter any payments made this report period (payments this period must also be reported in Schedule 2-A). In the fourth column, enter the outstanding balance at the close of this report period. Note: If there is a remaining balance, it must be carried forward to the next report's beginning balance.

#### **Subtotal Itemized Obligations:**

Enter the total of all the incurred obligations listed on this page. If additional pages are used, enter the subtotal for each separate page.

#### **Total Itemized Obligations:**

Add the subtotals from all pages of Schedule 3-A. If more than one page, enter the total on only the last page of Schedule 3-A.

#### **Total Unitemized Obligations \$20 or less:**

Enter the total unitemized obligations of \$20 or less on only the last page of Schedule 3-A.

#### **Total Incurred Obligations:**

Add the Total **Itemized** Obligations to the Total **Unitemized** Obligations \$20 or Less and enter the amount on only the last page of Schedule 3-A.

#### **Special Instructions:**

- ◆ Incurred obligations are to be reported when an enforceable agreement has been reached. If the exact amount of the obligation has not yet been defined then the amount of the obligation must be estimated. Although the committee may not have received a bill, the amount recorded should be a good faith estimate of the amount owed.
- ◆ The balance of all incurred obligations should be reported from the time incurred until paid in full.
- ◆ Each obligation must be carried forward on subsequent reports until the obligation has been reduced to zero.
- ◆ When a payment is made on an obligation, the transaction should be reported as a payment on Schedule 3-A and as an expenditure on Schedule 2-A.
- ◆ If the committee has a dispute over the amount owed to a vendor, this must be noted in the "purpose".

**Loans  
Individual, Committee or Commercial  
ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURE**

Complete Committee Name

Instructions for completing schedules are on the back of each schedule.

Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Loan Source	Outstanding Obligations Beginning of This Period	New Loans This Period	Cumulative Payments This Period	Outstanding Obligations End of This Period

List All Endorsers or Guarantors (if any)

Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Guarantor	Occupation
	Amount Guaranteed Outstanding \$

Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Guarantor	Occupation
	Amount Guaranteed Outstanding \$

Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Loan Source	Outstanding Obligations Beginning of This Period	New Loans This Period	Cumulative Payments This Period	Outstanding Obligations End of This Period

List All Endorsers or Guarantors (if any)

Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Guarantor	Occupation
	Amount Guaranteed Outstanding \$

Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Guarantor	Occupation
	Amount Guaranteed Outstanding \$

Date / /	Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Loan Source	Outstanding Obligations Beginning of This Period	New Loans This Period	Cumulative Payments This Period	Outstanding Obligations End of This Period

List All Endorsers or Guarantors (if any)

Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Guarantor	Occupation
	Amount Guaranteed Outstanding \$

Full Name, Mailing Address and Zip Code of Guarantor	Occupation
	Amount Guaranteed Outstanding \$

**SUBTOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS THIS PAGE**

**\$**

**TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS**

**\$**

# **Instructions for Completing Schedule 3-B**

## **Loans – Individual, Committee or Commercial**

### **ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURE**

#### **General Instructions:**

- ▶ Print or type the complete name of your committee in the box provided.
- ▶ Duplicate as many pages as you will need in order to report loans on this form.
- ▶ Enter the number of Schedule 3-B pages in the upper right corner of the form.

#### **Date:**

Enter the date (month, day, year) the loan was made.

#### **Full Name, Mailing Address, and Zip Code of Loan Source:**

Enter the complete name and address of the loan source.

#### **Balance Columns:**

In the first column, enter the actual amount at the beginning of this reporting period. If this is a new loan, the outstanding beginning balance is zero and the amount of the loan is recorded under the section “New Loans This Period”. If this is an existing loan, the outstanding beginning balance should equal the previous report period’s closing (outstanding) balance. In the third column, enter any payments made during this report period (payments made this period must also be reported in Schedule 2-A). In the fourth column, enter the outstanding balance at the end of this report period. Note: If there is a remaining balance, it must be carried forward to the next report’s beginning balance.

#### **List All Endorsers or Guarantors (If Any):**

In the space provided on the form, provide the full name, mailing address and zip code of any guarantors of loans. Enter the amount guaranteed which is outstanding at the end of the reporting period for each guarantor. See the notes below on how to apportion loan guarantees. If the amount guaranteed exceeds \$200, enter the guarantor’s occupation.

#### **Special Instructions:**

- ◆ A loan guarantee is considered a contribution from the guarantor until the loan is repaid.
- ◆ If more than one person guarantees a loan, the amount of the loan is assigned to the guarantors in equal shares, in the proportion that the guarantors bear to the total amount guaranteed unless a different share is specified in the loan instrument.
- ◆ When a payment which reduces the unpaid balance of the loan is made to the lending institution, the amount assigned to each guarantor is reduced in equal shares, unless a different share is specified in the loan instrument.
- ◆ The outstanding amount of a loan or loan guarantee **plus** the total contributions to the campaign by the guarantor may not exceed the individual contribution limit.
- ◆ Any reductions in loans which are not offset by expenditures in Schedule 2-A must be explained (e.g., candidate forgives self loans).





**3. COMMITTEE TREASURER** (Campaign finance correspondence is mailed to this address.)

Treasurer's Name	Telephone Number (residence)	
Address (number and street)	Telephone Number (employment)	
City, State and Zip Code	Treasurer Email Address	

**4. PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF COMMITTEE AND OTHER CUSTODIANS OF BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS**

Attach additional listing if necessary. FOR INDEPENDENT AND LOCAL NONPARTISAN CANDIDATES ONLY: Indicate which officers or committee members are authorized to fill a vacancy in nomination due to death of candidate by an asterisk(\*). See Wis. Stats. §8.35.

NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	Email Address	Phone #	POSITION

**5. DEPOSITORY INFORMATION**

Name of Financial Institution	
Address (number and street)	City, State and Zip Code

**CERTIFICATION**

**MAJOR PURPOSE (For PACs, Independent Expenditure Committees, and Referendum Committees ONLY)**

I certify that EITHER the committee has the major purpose of express advocacy, OR the committee uses more than 50% of its total spending in a 12-month period on expenditures for express advocacy activities (as specified for each committee type in statutory definitions, §11.0101 - see instructions below for details).

**TREASURER**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print full name) certify the information in this statement is true, correct and complete.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_, Treasurer. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**CANDIDATE (or recall petitioner)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print full name) certify the information in this statement is true, correct and complete.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_, Candidate/Petitioner. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**+++ EXEMPTION FROM FILING CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS §11.0104 Wis. Stats. +++**

You may be eligible for an exemption from filing campaign finance reports. Consult the Campaign Finance Overview for your type of committee to determine if your committee qualifies for exemption.

This registrant is eligible for exemption. This registrant will not accept contributions, make disbursements or incur obligations in an aggregate amount of more than \$2,000 in a calendar year. I am aware that per statute §11.0104(2), exempt status is effective only for the calendar year it is granted, and must be renewed each year if the committee wishes to remain exempt from filing reports.

This registrant is no longer eligible to claim exemption.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate or Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CAMPAIGN REGISTRATION STATEMENT (ETHCF-1) INSTRUCTIONS**

**Who Must Register**

**When**

**Where**

<b>Candidates</b>	<b>no later than filing nomination papers or when they raise or spend any money on election, except those needed to open a bank account</b>	<b>Local office or referenda- with the local clerk (town, village, city, school)</b>  <b>State office or statewide referenda – with the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board</b>  For a mix of state and local offices – with the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board
<b>Referenda<sup>¶</sup> committees</b>	<b>Before spending or taking in more than \$10,000</b>	
<b>Recall committees</b>	<b>Before spending or taking in more than \$2,000</b>	
<b>Party Committees</b>	<b>Party committees must register upon their inception and prior to raising or spending any funds.</b>	All Party Committees, PACs, and IECs active in either state or local contests must register at the state level, with the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board.
<b>Political Action* Committees (PACs)</b>	<b>Before spending or taking in more than \$2,500</b>	
<b>Independent‡ Expenditure Committees (IECs)</b>	<b>Before spending or taking in more than \$2,500</b>	

\* A PAC is only required to register if it has the major purpose of express advocacy, or spends more than 50% of its total spending in a 12-month period on express advocacy, referendum activity, or contributions to candidates, legislative campaign committees, and parties.

‡ An IEC is only required to register if it has the major purpose of independent expenditures, or spends over 50% of its total spending in a 12-month period on independent expenditures and referendum activity.

¶ A Referendum Committee is only required to file if it has the major purpose of making expenditures to support or defeat a referendum OR more than 50% of its total spending in a 12-month period is on expenditures made to support or defeat a referendum.

**Completing a Registration Statement**

**Section 1: Candidate and Candidate Committee Information** - Section 1 should be completed by candidate committees only.

- Campaign Committee Name – Any candidate that accepts a donation must have a committee. Any communication (flyers, newspaper ads, website) requires a disclaimer ‘Paid for by *Committee name*.
  - If you are seeking multiple offices (town, county, school board), or plan to seek another office in the future, you may want to consider a generic committee name without the name of the office sought such as ‘Friends of ...’, or ‘Committee to Elect ...’. This will allow you to keep the same committee name for various offices.
  - Your committee name does not have to include your last name, but including your last name makes searching for your committee easier.
  - Committee PIN Number: is any combination of numerical digits selected by the committee and is used for electronic signature purposes.

**Section 2: Non-Candidate Committee Information** - Section 2 should be completed by non-candidate committees only.

- Committee PIN Number: is any combination of numerical digits selected by the committee and is used for electronic signature purposes.
- A. Political Party Committee
  - To use the name of one of the recognized political parties in Wisconsin – Constitution, Democratic, Libertarian, or Republican, you must have permission from the state party.

- C. Political Action Committee (PAC)
  - PACs may receive money from individuals or other PACs, and contribute money directly to candidates. PACs may not accept money from corporations.
  - Committees intending to make only independent expenditures, without contributing to or coordinating with candidate committees, should register as an Independent Expenditure Committee - see letter D below.
  - A resident committee is based in Wisconsin and must report all receipts and expenses.
  - A non-resident committee is based outside of Wisconsin and must report only expenses in Wisconsin for either local and state-level contests.
- D. Independent Expenditure Committee
  - Committees making only independent expenditures may not contribute to candidate committees directly. They also cannot coordinate with candidate committees on express advocacy – communications that explicitly urge recipients to vote for or against a candidate. These committees may accept unlimited contributions from individuals and from corporations.

Section 3. Campaign Treasurer - Section 3 should be completed by all committees.

All committees must name a treasurer. A candidate may designate any elector to serve as the committee's treasurer, or the candidate may serve as his/her own treasurer. It is important that the treasurer's name, complete address, telephone number and email address be provided on the registration statement and be kept current. **All notices and forms for campaign finance reports will be sent to this person at the address given in this section.** Failure to receive notice of the filing requirement does not exempt a candidate from the requirement to file the reports.

**Item 4. Principal Officers of the Committee and Other Custodians of Books and Accounts (Optional)**

If the committee has officers or other contacts besides the treasurer, they should be listed in Item 4. For a recall committee, the recall petitioner must be included here. The Ethics Commission recommends that you provide more than one person's contact information.

**Item 5. Depository Information (MANDATORY)**

In some cases, banks may require a completed ETHCF-1 registration form to open a bank account. Your committee may register without a bank account, but the ETHCF-1 form must be amended **within 10 days** to report any change, including new bank account information.

In general, all committees must have a campaign depository account. Please list the information for one of these two options:

1. Separate campaign account
  - This account may be used only for campaign funds
  - The bank may require an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the IRS to open a committee account
2. Only Candidates may use a personal bank account
  - This is allowed only if the candidate is claiming the exemption from filing finance reports (under \$2,000 of receipts, under \$2,000 expenses in a calendar year)

Candidates running for more than one elected office may have more than one committee and more than one campaign depository account.

## Certification

The candidate and committee treasurer must sign the original registration statement of a candidate committee certifying that the information is true, correct, and complete. For a recall committee, the recall petitioner and the treasurer must both sign. A candidate serving as his/her own treasurer only needs to sign once. Non-candidate committees require only the treasurer's signature. Amendments to the registration may be signed by either the candidate or treasurer. If there is a change in treasurer, the new treasurer should sign.

## Exemption From Filing Campaign Finance Reports

All committees must file campaign finance reports, unless they check the box to claim exemption and remain within those limits.

- A committee not collecting or spending more than \$2,000 total in a calendar year.
- Candidate committees and Party Committees must register before collecting or spending any money, but those committees may not have to file reports if they claim exemption.
- PACs and IECs do not have to register until they collect or spend more than \$2,500 in a calendar year. A PAC or IEC that is already registered, but will have limited activity for a calendar year, may claim exemption and would not have to file reports for that year.
- A referendum committee that does not collect or spend more than \$10,000 is not required to register. Because a referendum committee is unlikely to be active for multiple years, it would be rare for this type of committee to claim exemption.
- A recall committee that does not collect or spend more than \$2,000 is not required to register. A recall committee does not have to file reports unless it succeeds in forcing a recall election.

If a committee on exempt status exceeds any of the limits listed above:

- The committee must immediately file an amended ETHCF-1 with the appropriate filing officer, revoking the exempt status.
- The committee must report all campaign finance activity back to the beginning of the calendar year.

If a committee filed reports for the previous calendar year, and wishes to go on exempt status for the upcoming year, the committee must file a January Continuing report covering all activity through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Include an updated ETHCF-1 requesting exempt status for the upcoming year.

## Renewing Exemption

Statute §11.0104(2) states that exemption is effective only for the calendar year it is granted. If a committee wishes to renew its exempt status, it must file a new ETHCF-1 after 12/31 and before the closing date for the first reporting period for which it would be required to file a report. Candidates on the ballot that calendar year may claim exemption when they first register, or renew their exemption from the previous calendar year, but a candidate on the ballot that calendar year may not claim exemption before the date of her/his election if he/she has not been on exempt status previously. See statute §11.0104(1) (b).

## **Amending a Registration Statement**

When any of the information reported on the registration statement changes, the statement must be amended by filing a new ETHCF-1. The candidate or treasurer must file the new ETHCF-1 within **10 days** of the change, checking the "yes" box at the top of the form to indicate that it is an amendment.

## Certification

The candidate and committee treasurer must sign the original registration statement of a candidate committee certifying that the information is true, correct, and complete. For a recall committee, the recall petitioner and the treasurer must both sign. A candidate serving as his/her own treasurer only needs to sign once. Non-candidate committees require only the treasurer's signature. Amendments to the registration may be signed by either the candidate or treasurer. If there is a change in treasurer, the new treasurer should sign.

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- A referendum committee that does not collect or spend more than \$10,000 is not required to register. Because a referendum committee is unlikely to be active for multiple years, it would be rare for this type of committee to claim exemption.
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If a committee filed reports for the previous calendar year, and wishes to go on exempt status for the upcoming year, the committee must file a January Continuing report covering all activity through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Include an updated ETHCF-1 requesting exempt status for the upcoming year.

### Renewing Exemption

Statute §11.0104(2) states that exemption is effective only for the calendar year it is granted. If a committee wishes to renew its exempt status, it must file a new ETHCF-1 after 12/31 and before the closing date for the first reporting period for which it would be required to file a report. Candidates on the ballot that calendar year may claim exemption when they first register, or renew their exemption from the previous calendar year, but a candidate on the ballot that calendar year may not claim exemption before the date of her/his election if he/she has not been on exempt status previously. See statute §11.0104(1) (b).

### **Amending a Registration Statement**

When any of the information reported on the registration statement changes, the statement must be amended by filing a new ETHCF-1. The candidate or treasurer must file the new ETHCF-1 within **10 days** of the change, checking the “yes” box at the top of the form to indicate that it is an amendment.

# SCHEDULE 4

# TERMINATION REQUEST

Complete Committee Name

Office Use Only

- A committee may terminate its registration and reporting requirements if the committee will no longer receive contributions, make disbursements or incur obligations, and the cash balance and obligations have been reduced to zero.
- Candidates may not terminate prior to the election in which they are participating.
- Non-candidate committees registered with the state must pay the \$100 filing fee if they have over \$2,500 in total expenses for the calendar year.
- Please read carefully and, if necessary, indicate how residual committee funds have been disposed of or if outstanding loans or obligations have been forgiven. Sign and date the termination request at the bottom of this page.
- If you have any transactions since your last report (other than final distribution of funds, or loan forgiveness), be sure to complete the full finance report. (ETHCF-2)
- Please note: An audit must be completed and all obligations with the Board, including settlement offers, fulfilled before termination can be granted. All records must be maintained until 3 years after the date of an election in which the registrant participates, even if termination is granted. (Per Wis. Stats. 11.0201(4), 11.0301(4), 11.0401(4), 11.0501(4), 11.0601(4), 11.0801(4), 11.0901(4))

## DISPOSAL OF RESIDUAL FUNDS

*THIS INFORMATION SHOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED ON SCHEDULE 2-A AND/OR 2-B.*

Date	Recipient	Amount

## LOAN OR DEBT FORGIVENESS

*I hereby forgive all personal loans or have assumed responsibility for any and all debts of my campaign committee.*

Date	Endorser, Guarantor, or Creditor	Amount

- This is a non-candidate committee registered with the state and the committee made over \$2,500 in disbursements in the last calendar year. I have paid the \$100 filing fee.
- I do not owe the \$100 filing fee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate or Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

TERMINATION REQUEST. I hereby request that the committee registration be terminated. I declare that the committee has not incurred any obligations and does not anticipate incurring any. The committee does not anticipate receiving any further contributions or making any disbursements. I further state that the cash balance has been reduced to zero and that all remaining funds have been disposed of in the manner prescribed by law.

**NOTE:** The information on this form is required by s. 11.0105, Wis. Stats. Failure to provide the information may subject you to the penalties of ss.11.1400, 11.1401, Wis. Stats.

---

**Campaign Finance Report**

Short Form ETHCF-2a

Ethics ID Number

 Spring  Fall  Special Pre-Primary \_\_\_\_\_  Continuing Report due Jan. 15, \_\_\_\_\_ Spring  Fall  Special Pre-Election \_\_\_\_\_  Continuing Report due July 15, \_\_\_\_\_ Continuing Report due 4<sup>th</sup> Tues Sept., \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Candidate or Committee (in full)\_\_\_\_\_  
Address\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone

I certify that the above named committee or candidate did not receive contributions or other income, make disbursements, or incur obligations during the period covered by this report and that the cash balance remains the same as previously reported. This report fulfills filing requirements under Sec. 11.0103(3)(d), Stats.

Signature of Committee Treasurer or Candidate

Date

Email Address

---

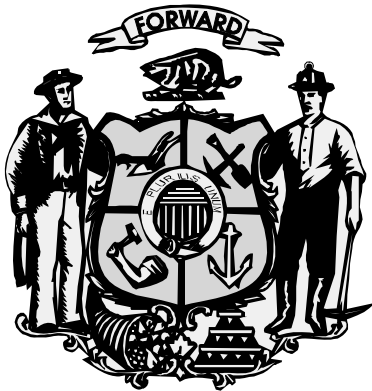
ETHCF-2a | Rev 01/2016 | Wisconsin Ethics Commission P.O. Box 7984, Madison, WI 53707-7984 |  
Phone: (608) 266-8123 | Fax: 608-264-9319 | Web: <https://cfis.wi.gov> | Email: [GABCFIS@wi.gov](mailto:GABCFIS@wi.gov)



# CAMPAIGN FINANCE OVERVIEW

## LOCAL CANDIDATES

March  
2016



**Government Accountability Board**

212 E Washington Ave, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-261-2028

Fax: 608-264-9319

E-mail: [gabcfis@wi.gov](mailto:gabcfis@wi.gov)

Website: <http://cfis.wi.gov>

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## **REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

### **Who is Required to Register**

Under Wisconsin campaign finance law, a candidate for election to public office must register with the appropriate filing officer. A candidate for local office:

County Executive  
County Supervisor  
County Clerk,  
County Treasurer,  
Clerk of Circuit Court,  
Coroner,  
Register of Deeds,  
Sheriff,  
Mayor,  
Aldersperson,  
Town, Village or School District Board Member,  
Municipal Clerk or Municipal Treasurer [if elected],  
Municipal Judge;

must register with the clerk of the county, city, town, village, or school district as soon as any of the following occur:

- (a) The individual takes any of the following affirmative actions to seek nomination or election to a state or local office:
  1. Files nomination papers with the appropriate filing officer.
  2. Is nominated as a candidate for state or local office by a caucus under s. 8.05 (1) or by a political party and the nomination is certified to the appropriate filing officer.
  3. Receives a contribution, makes a disbursement, or gives consent for another person to receive a contribution or make a disbursement in order to bring about the individual's nomination or election to a state or local office.
- (b) The individual holds a state or local office and is the subject of a recall petition.
- (c) The individual holds a state or local office.

A candidate must file a campaign registration statement (ETHCF-1) as soon as practicable after the individual qualifies as a candidate. Registration statements can be obtained from any filing officer or from the Government Accountability Board website (<http://gab.wi.gov/>). A candidate who receives no contributions, makes no disbursements, and incurs no obligations need not designate a campaign depository account until the first contribution is received, disbursement is made, or obligation is incurred. The minimum amount of money needed to open an account can be deposited at a financial institution and a post office box can be rented before registration. These receipts and expenses must be reported on the first campaign finance report.

After filing the registration statement, a candidate may begin receiving and disbursing campaign funds. The campaign's financial activities must be reported to the filing officer on campaign finance reports (ETHCF-2L, 2LE, or 2a), *unless the committee has claimed an exemption from filing finance reports*. These reports will disclose information on the receipts, expenditures, incurred obligations and loans of the campaign.

## **Completing a Registration Statement**

Registration statements are available from the local filing officer or on the Government Accountability Board website (<http://gab.wi.gov>). The information below is required on a campaign registration statement (ETHCF-1). When any of this information changes, an amendment to the registration statement must be filed with the appropriate filing officer in a timely manner (**within 10 days**).

### **Item 1. Candidate and Candidate Committee Information**

This section must be completed by all candidates and candidate committees. It contains the information identifying the candidate and committee, party affiliation (*if any*), office sought (including branch and district number), date of the primary and date of the election. Political action committees, political party committees, recall committees and political groups (referendum groups) skip this section and begin with Item 2.

A personal campaign committee is organized by the candidate to promote the candidate's declared candidacy for a specific office. *Note: You must register as a personal campaign committee to appear on the ballot.*

### **Item 2. Political Committee Information (*Non-Candidates Only*)**

This section must be completed by political committees other than candidate committees.

**Candidate committees do not fill in this section.**

### **Item 3. Campaign Treasurer**

The treasurer for the candidate or political committee must be listed in Item 3. The candidate can serve as the campaign treasurer. It is important that the treasurer's name, complete address, e-mail address, and telephone number(s) be provided on the registration statement and be kept current. **The local filing officer is not required to mail paper notices concerning campaign finance reports, so please make sure your email address is up to date.** Failure to keep this information current may result in the committee being penalized for failure to file necessary reports.

### **Item 4. Principal Officers of the Committee and Other Custodians of Books and Accounts**

If the committee has officers besides the treasurer, they should be listed in Item 4. A nonpartisan candidate for county or municipal office, or an independent candidate, may authorize certain committee members or officers to fill a vacancy in nomination due to the candidate's death. These individuals should be indicated in Item 4 with an asterisk (\*).

### **Item 5. Depository Information**

All registrants must list the name and address of the depository institution in which all contributions are deposited and from which all disbursements are made. Candidates claiming exemption from filing finance reports may use a personal checking account, i.e., they may commingle campaign money with personal funds. A separate (non-personal) account must be opened if the candidate (committee) exceeds the exemption limits. All account information must be provided on the ETHCF-1, regardless of whether the account is a personal or separate

campaign account. An individual who holds a state or local elective office may establish a second candidate committee under this subchapter for the purpose of pursuing a different state or local office.

To open the campaign account, it may be necessary to complete a request for Employer Identification Number (EIN) using form SS4. This form should be available from your financial institution or from an IRS office or website <http://www.irs.gov/charities/political/index.html>.

#### Item 6. Certification

The candidate and committee treasurer must sign the registration statement of a campaign committee certifying that the information is true, correct, and complete, and that the committee is authorized to act on the candidate's behalf.

#### Item 7. Exemption From Filing Campaign Finance Reports

Registrants who are eligible for an exemption from filing campaign finance reports should complete this section. The exemption requirements are explained below.

#### **Amending a Registration Statement**

When any of the information reported on the registration statement changes, the statement must be amended by filing a new ETHCF-1. The candidate or treasurer must file the new ETHCF-1 with the appropriate filing officer, checking the "yes" box at the top of the form to indicate that it is an amendment.

#### **Penalty For Not Filing a Registration Statement**

Failure to file the registration statement by the deadline for filing nomination papers prevents a candidate's name from appearing on the ballot. If a required statement or amendment is not filed on time, the registrant may be subject to a fine.

#### **Candidates Seeking More Than One Office**

An individual who holds a state or local elective office may establish a second candidate committee to pursue another office. If a second committee is established, that committee will register and file reports with to the appropriate filing officer.

If the candidate chooses to keep a single committee, copies of the registration and all reports should be filed with both filing officers, and each reported transaction should be labeled with the office to which it applies.

### **EXEMPTION FROM FILING CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS**

#### **Eligibility**

Committees may be eligible for an exemption from filing campaign finance reports if campaign finance activity is low enough to meet the following criteria:

The committee anticipates that it will not accept contributions, OR make disbursements, incur loans and other obligations in an aggregate amount exceeding \$2,000 in a calendar year.

The candidate or treasurer must sign and date the request for exemption on the campaign registration statement (ETHCF-1) or exemption reverification (ETHCF-14). An indication of limited activity (exemption) under this section is effective only for the calendar year in which it is granted. The candidate's contributions do count toward the total receipts of \$2,000 or less in a calendar year.

If a candidate committee wishes to renew its exempt status, it should file the ETHCF-14 or a new ETHCF-1. Candidates on the ballot may claim an exemption when they first register, or renew their exemption from the previous calendar year. HOWEVER, a candidate on the ballot in that calendar year, who did not previously claim the exemption, may not amend her/his registration to claim the exemption before the date of her/his election.

### **Financial Records During Exemption**

When a committee is exempt, it is not required to file any campaign finance reports (ETHCF-2L, 2LE or 2a). However, the candidate or treasurer is required to keep financial records adequate to meet the requirements of campaign finance law. Records must be kept of all contributions to the committee and of all expenditures.

A candidate who is exempt from filing campaign finance reports may use a personal account as the campaign depository. The name and address of the financial institution must be provided on the ETHCF-1.

### **Revoking Exemption**

If a decision is made at a later date to exceed the \$2,000 limit on contributions or disbursements, the committee must amend its campaign registration statement immediately, by checking the box: *"This registrant is no longer eligible to claim exemption"* on either the ETHCF-1 or ETHCF-14.

The committee is then required to file campaign finance reports beginning with the next regular report. The first report must cover all financial activity from January 1 of the current year, through the cutoff date of the required report.

## **MAJOR PROVISIONS OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW**

### **Contribution Limits**

All candidates running for elected office must abide by contribution limits that vary depending on the office sought and the population of the district. The only contributors not subject to limits are the candidate contributing to his or her own election, and political party committees. To determine the limits for a candidate for local office, see the guidelines below and ***check with the local clerk to get the current and exact amounts.***

Contribution limitations apply cumulatively to the entire primary and election campaign in which the candidate participates, whether or not there is a contested primary election.

**Contribution Limits – Local Office** [§11.1101.Wis. stats.]: (per campaign – 2 to 4 years depending on office)

Receiving Committee	From an Individual	From a Candidate Committee	From a PAC	From a Corporation
Referendum	No limits	No limits	No limits	No limits
Recall Committee	No limits	No limits	No limits	\$0; Illegal
Local Candidate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater of \$500 or 2¢ times the population in the district</li> <li>• Not to exceed \$6,000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater of \$500 or 2¢ times the population in the district</li> <li>• Not to exceed \$6,000</li> <li>• No aggregate limit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater of \$400 or 2¢ times the population in the district</li> <li>• Not to exceed \$5,000</li> <li>• No aggregate limit</li> </ul>	\$0; Illegal

**In-Kind Contributions**

An in-kind contribution is any good, service or property offered to the candidate’s campaign free of charge or at less than the usual cost for such goods, services or property. For example, if a campaign worker purchases stamps that are used for a mailing and is not reimbursed for the cost of the stamps, the value of the stamps is an in-kind contribution to the candidate’s campaign from that campaign worker. When an individual is paid to work on behalf of a candidate by a political committee or some other person, the payment for those services is an in-kind contribution to the candidate’s campaign. If a political committee or individual offers to provide food and beverages for a fundraiser at less than the ordinary market price, the difference between the ordinary market price and the cost to the campaign is an in-kind contribution from the political committee or individual.

The candidate or campaign treasurer must agree to accept an in-kind contribution before it is given. Before making an in-kind contribution to a candidate, the contributor is required to notify an authorized person from the candidate’s campaign and obtain either oral or written consent to the contribution. If the contributor does not know the actual value of the contribution, a good faith and reasonable estimate of the fair market value should be provided.

An in-kind contribution received by the campaign committee is reported by the committee as both a receipt and expenditure. This procedure allows the campaign to disclose the receipt of the contribution on its campaign finance report along with cash contributions received and track year to date and campaign period totals. Then, in order to keep the committee’s cash balance accurate, the amount of the in-kind is reported as an expenditure. The two entries offset each other and do not affect the cash balance.

If an estimate of the value of an in-kind contribution is the only value available at the time the candidate is required to file a report, the committee must report the estimated value of the contribution. When the actual value of the estimated in-kind contribution is known, the actual amount is reported as a contribution and an expenditure on the campaign finance report.

In-kind contributions are subject to the same itemization thresholds and the same contribution limits as cash contributions. Cash contributions and in-kind contributions from a single contributor are added together for the purposes of determining compliance with contribution

limits and the year-to-date amount for a specific contributor. When a political communication is provided as an in-kind contribution, the disclaimer must identify the committee receiving the contribution.

### **Contributions and Other Income from Businesses**

Businesses may make contributions under some circumstances, but the rules vary by the type of business.

1. Corporations **may not contribute** to local or state candidates in the State of Wisconsin.
2. Sole-proprietorships may contribute. The contribution must be reported under the name of the individual owner. This contribution counts toward the contribution limits from that individual to the candidate.
3. Partnerships may contribute. The contribution must be reported under the names of the individual partners. The partnership may agree beforehand on how to allocate a portion of the contribution to each partner. If the partnership does not inform the candidate how the contribution should be allocated between the partners, then the contribution should be divided up according to each partner's share of the partnership's profits.
4. LLCs that are taxed as corporations **may not contribute** to local or state candidates in the State of Wisconsin.
5. LLCs taxed as a sole-proprietorship or partnership may contribute. The contribution must be reported under the name(s) of the individual owner(s). If there is more than one owner, contributions should be allocated as described in the partnership section above.

Occasionally, a candidate committee may receive other income, like interest on a savings or checking account, or a refund of a security deposit, from a business. This other income is not a contribution, and may be accepted from any type of business. The income should be reported on Schedule 1-C (Other Income), rather than Schedule 1-A, where contributions are reported.

### **Prohibited Contributions**

Certain contributions are prohibited by Wisconsin law. A candidate's campaign may not accept the following types of contributions:

1. Anonymous contributions of more than \$10;
2. Contributions in cash of more than \$100;
3. Contributions given in the name of someone other than the contributor (these are laundered contributions);
4. Contributions from corporations, labor organizations or federally recognized American Indian Tribes;
5. Contributions in excess of the limits set by law.

A candidate should monitor contributions from organizations that have not registered. If the candidate's campaign is notified that a contribution was received from an unregistered organization, the candidate should ensure that the contribution is lawful, and not accept any additional contributions from that organization if the committee cannot determine whether the contribution is lawful.



## **Returned Contributions**

Any contribution you return to the donor after depositing it in the campaign account must be reported as a returned contribution to the contributor. Any contribution returned to the donor uncashed within 15 days of receipt has not been accepted and does not get reported.

## **Contributions Transferred through Conduits**

A conduit is any individual, committee or group that receives contributions from individuals, deposits those contributions in a financial institution, and then transfers the contributions to a committee selected by the original contributor. The conduit may not exercise any discretion over the amount or ultimate recipient of the contributions. A conduit is required to register with the Government Accountability Board.

When a conduit transfers contributions, it writes a single check for the total amount of all individual contributions designated for that committee. It is required to provide a transmittal letter with the check. This letter must identify the organization as a conduit, and list the individual contributors, the amount of each individual's contribution, and the date the individual authorized their contribution (see Wis. Admin. Code GAB § 1.855).

Contributions transferred through conduits are reported as contributions received from the individuals listed in the transmittal letter. These contributions are reported under the individual's name. They are subject to itemization on the same basis as other individual contributions.

## **Obligations**

“Obligation” means any express agreement to make a disbursement, including all of the following:

- (a) A loan or loan guarantee.
- (b) A promise or a payment to purchase, rent, or lease tangible personal property.
- (c) A promise or a payment for a service that has been or will be performed.

## **ATTRIBUTION STATEMENTS ON POLITICAL LITERATURE (DISCLAIMERS)**

### **Disclaimers**

No disbursement by candidate committees may be made anonymously, and no contribution or disbursement may be made in a fictitious name or by one person or organization in the name of another.

- (a) Every printed advertisement, billboard, handbill, sample ballot, television or radio advertisement, or other communication containing express advocacy which is paid for by any contribution or disbursement shall clearly identify its source.
- (b) Every communication described under par. (a) the cost of which is paid for or reimbursed by a committee, or for which a committee assumes responsibility, whether by accepting a contribution or making a disbursement, shall identify its source by the words "Paid for by" followed by the name of the committee making the payment or reimbursement or assuming responsibility for the communication and may include the name of the treasurer or other authorized agent of the committee.

Attribution statements do not apply to communications containing express advocacy printed on small items, which would normally require a disclaimer, but cannot be conveniently printed, including text messages, social media communications, and certain small advertisements on mobile phones.

### **Formats for Disclaimers**

When a communication is paid for by a candidate committee, the disclaimer must include the words “Paid for by”, followed by the name of the committee:

“Paid for by Friends of Mary Smith.”

The disclaimer may also include the name of the treasurer or other authorized agent:

“Paid for by Friends of Mary Smith, James Jones, Treasurer.”

### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS (GAB-2L, 2LE, or 2a)**

All registrants that are not exempt from filing must file campaign finance reports. Committees must continue to file periodic reports until termination of their registration. These reports must be filed with the appropriate local filing officer when due. The reports may be submitted electronically via email, fax, mail or other authorized format. The reports must be received by the filing officer by the day the report is due.

### **Types of Reports**

Candidates on the ballot must file a pre-primary and a pre-election report due 8 days before the primary or general election. *Candidates for local office whose names do not appear on the primary ballot are not required to file a pre-primary report.* Candidates who lose in the primary or general election must continue to file reports until they are eligible for, and request, termination of their committee. Candidates must also file continuing reports in January and July of each year until they terminate their registration, whether or not they are on the ballot.

- **Itemization of Reporting Periods and Elections:**

**Spring Primary:** A committee that engages in activity concerning a spring primary must file: (1) a pre-primary report; (2) a pre-election report; and (3) annually in each year of an election cycle, a report on January 15 and July 15.

**Spring Election:** A committee that engages in activity concerning a spring election must file: (1) a pre-election report; and (2) annually in each year of an election cycle, a report on January 15 and July 15.

**Partisan Primary:** A committee that engages in activity concerning a partisan primary must file: (1) a pre-primary report; (2) a pre-election report; (3) in an odd-numbered year, a report on January 15 and July 15; and (4) in an even-numbered year, a report on January 15 and July 15 and on the 4th Tuesday in September.

**General Election:** A committee that engages in activity concerning a general election must file: (1) a pre-

election report; (2) in an odd-numbered year, a report on January 15 and July 15; and (3) in an even-numbered year, a report on January 15 and July 15 and on the 4th Tuesday in September.

Reporting deadlines can be found at: (<http://www.gab.wi.gov/campaign-finance/limits-deadlines>)

## **Information Required**

The information listed on the campaign finance report discloses the financial activity of the candidate's campaign. The law requires disclosure of income, disbursements, and incurred obligations. In addition, disclosure is required for obligations, including loan guarantees, and for estimated in-kind contributions. Committee treasurers must exercise diligence in acquiring and furnishing the contributor information required on the receipts schedules. Under current state law, treasurers and candidates are required to make a "good faith effort" to obtain all information required on the reports. For all contributors, you must disclose the individual's name and address. If the individual's year-to-date total exceeds \$200, you must also provide the individual's occupation.

Each of the report schedules has detailed instructions for completing it on the back. These instructions should be reviewed each time a campaign finance report is prepared. A candidate is only required to file schedules that show activity. **You do not need to include blank schedules when filing reports.**

All contributions received by the committee must be reported in Schedule 1 (Receipts) of the campaign finance report. Contributions and loans from individuals are listed in Schedule 1A (Contributions Including Loans From Individuals). Contributions from other committees, such as political action committees, political party committees, and other candidate committees, are reported in Schedule 1B (Contributions from Committees). All other income such as loans from financial institutions, contributions returned from other registrants, refunds, returns of deposits or interest on investments are reported in Schedule 1C (Other Income and Commercial Loans). The date which must be provided for all contributions is the date the committee **received** the contribution, that is, the date it acquired possession and control of the contribution, **not** the date of deposit or date on the check (unless all dates are the same).

All money spent by the committee is reported in Schedule 2 (Disbursements) of the campaign finance report. General operating expenditures are listed in Schedule 2A (Gross Expenditures). Contributions to other political committees are listed in Schedule 2B (Contributions to Committees).

Additional information required to be disclosed is reported in Schedule 3 (Additional Disclosure) of the campaign finance report. All obligations of the committee such as unpaid bills are listed in Schedule 3A (Incurred Obligations Excluding Loans). Loans and the individuals who guarantee loans for the committee are listed in Schedule 3B (Loans).

Schedule 4 (Termination Request) of the campaign finance report or the ETHCF-13 form (termination request) is used for requests to terminate a committee.

## **No-Activity Report (Postcard Report)**

If a candidate receives no contributions, makes no disbursements and incurs no obligations during a reporting period, the registrant may file a postcard report form, ETHCF-2a. This postcard form should be used **only** when there has been no financial activity and the cash balance remains unchanged during the reporting period. If there is any financial activity, a registrant is required to use the regular campaign finance report form, ETHCF-2L or 2LE.

## **How to Complete Campaign Finance Reports**

### **Reporting Receipts**

In preparing to report receipts on a campaign finance report, please remember the following:

1. Anonymous contributions of \$10 or less can be accepted from individuals only. Under this threshold, the individual donor's name and address do not have to be tracked. If any anonymous receipts of more than \$10 are received, the excess donations must be donated to the common school fund or to charity.
2. Any non-anonymous contribution must be itemized, and include the person's name and address.
3. Contributions of \$100 or less may be accepted in cash. Contributions over \$100 must be made by check, or by other negotiable instrument.
4. If a single contribution is over \$200 (or if one person's total contributions for the calendar year go over \$200) the committee must report not only the contributor's name and address, but also the contributor's occupation.
5. Contributions from individuals received through a conduit are reported as receipts. They are treated in the same manner as other individual contributions.
6. A contribution given from a joint checking account should be reported as a contribution from the individual that signed the check. If any part of the amount on the check is intended to be contributed by the other owner of the account, that amount should be clearly indicated on the check or in some other writing which accompanies the check.
7. Receipts from raffles, auctions, garage sale, and other similar fundraising events are individual contributions (unless anonymous under \$10) and must be entered as a receipt.
8. All contributions from political committees, regardless of the amount, must be itemized and entered as a receipt from the contributing committee. The full name and address of the registrant, the date and the amount of the contribution are required.
9. In-kind contributions such as political posters, lawn signs, and other items are reported at their fair market value at the time of contribution. These contributions are reported as both a receipt and an expenditure. As a receipt, they are entered as a contribution type of "in-kind", with the appropriate information about the contributor. An offsetting expenditure entry is necessary because an in-kind contribution is treated as if cash was given, and then used to buy the item contributed.
10. A loan from an individual is considered a contribution. It must be reported as a contribution and as a loan. Payments on the loan should be reported as expenditures and the cumulative amount paid in a reporting period is also reported. **THE LOAN ADDED TO OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE SAME INDIVIDUAL CANNOT EXCEED THE APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION LIMIT.** Loans from political committees are considered contributions and are reported.
11. Returned contributions received from other registrants, refunds, interest income and loans from commercial lenders are also reported as money received by the campaign. They are listed as "other income" rather than contributions.

## **Reporting Disbursements - Gross Expenditures**

In preparing Schedule 2 of the campaign finance report, the treasurer should remember the following:

1. An expenditure that exceeds \$20 in amount or value is an itemized expenditure requiring the name and address of the person or business to whom it was made and the date and amount of the payment.
2. The specific spending purpose of an expenditure must be reported. Please remember that the purpose of campaign finance reports is to inform the public. The descriptions should provide a person, perhaps unfamiliar with the intricacies of campaigning, with information on the nature of the expenditure and how it relates to the political process. For example, if food has been purchased for a fundraiser or for a party for workers, give the purpose as “food for fundraiser” or “food for party for campaign workers.” Do not write “food” only. If T-shirts are purchased for resale by the committee, give the purpose as “campaign T-shirts for resale,” not “T-shirts” only.
3. An in-kind contribution of goods or services to another committee must be itemized, regardless of the amount. The itemization must include the name and address of the registrant on whose behalf the disbursement (in-kind contribution) is made, the name and address of the original vendor of the goods or services, and the date and amount of the disbursement.
4. The receipt of an in-kind contribution is also reported as an in-kind expenditure. If the candidate or other person makes an in-kind contribution to the committee, the in-kind expenditure must include the name of the original vendor of the goods or services, and the political purpose of the expenditure.
5. Payments made on loans and incurred obligations are reported as expenditures. The cumulative amount paid to each creditor is reported.
6. All financial institution service charges should be listed as itemized expenditures depending on the amount.
7. Contributions to other political registrants should be reported and must be itemized regardless of the amount transferred. The itemization must list the name and address of the registrant receiving the contribution, the date and amount of the contribution.
8. A letter should be sent to the filing officer within 5 days of donating money to a charitable organization, the Common School Fund, or any government entity. The letter should include the date of the donation, the name of the organization, and shall provide an explanation to the filing officer of why the funds were not retained by the committee. See 11.1302 *Wis. Stats.*

## **Reporting Incurred Obligations**

1. Incurred obligations are to be reported when an enforceable agreement has been reached. If the exact amount of the obligation has not yet been defined, the amount of the obligation must be estimated. Although the committee may not have received a bill, the amount recorded should be a good faith estimate of the amount owed.
2. Each obligation must be carried forward on subsequent reports until the obligation has been reduced to zero.

## **Reporting Loans**

It is important to remember the following information concerning the recording and reporting of loans:

1. A loan from an individual or a political committee is reported as a contribution in Schedule 1A (individual) or in Schedule 1B (political committee) and is listed in Schedule 3B.
2. A loan from a financial institution is reported in Schedule 1C as other income and in Schedule 3B as a loan.
3. Each payment on a loan must be reported as an expenditure in Schedule 2A. The cumulative amount of the payments made on a loan is reported in Schedule 3B.

## **TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

A candidate may terminate its registration if it meets the following requirements:

1. Determines that all financial activity will stop, and that she or he will no longer receive contributions, make disbursements, or incur obligations; and
2. Files a termination campaign finance report showing that all incurred obligations have been paid or satisfied, and that the cash balance has been reduced to zero; and,
3. Completes a request for termination in Schedule 4 (Termination Request) or form ETHCF-13.

**A candidate may not terminate his or her registration before a primary or election in which he or she is a candidate. If a candidate loses a primary, he or she may terminate before the general election.**

## **Disposal of Residual Funds**

Residual funds may be used for any purpose not prohibited by law and not for an individual's strictly personal use, including:

1. Returning money to contributors in amounts that are not more than the contributor's original contribution (note: the candidate or treasurer may choose which contributors to refund. You *are not required* to pro-rate and return a portion to all contributors); or
2. Donating money to any tax-exempt charitable organization or the Common School Fund; or
3. Transferring money to another registrant within the permitted contribution limit; or
4. Using any combination of the above.

Prior to making these disbursements, make sure the committee does not have any pending fees or settlement offers.