

CANDIDATE FORMS & DISCLOSURES



Georgia Government Transparency
& Campaign Finance Commission

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to Accept Contributions

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COOSA

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CCDR

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FR&TS

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PFDS

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TBD

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Day Report

Local Filing Officer

Individual a candidate for a
county or municipal office files
with. Usually the city clerk or
elections superintendent.

FORMS

Declaration of Intention to Accept Campaign Contributions

Reference: O.C.G.A. § 21-5-30(g)

- Must be filed **PRIOR** to accepting contributions.
- A candidate's personal funds expended for their campaign, except for payment of a qualifying fee, are considered campaign contributions.
- A new form must be filed if there is a break in office or if accepting contributions for a different office.
- County and Municipal candidates file this form with their local filing officer. All other candidates file with the Commission.

Registration Form for a Campaign Committee

Reference: O.C.G.A. §§ 21-5-3(2); 21-5-30(b)

- This form registers a candidate's campaign committee.
- A committee is required only if a candidate designates someone to file reports, accept money, or expend money on behalf of the campaign.
- A Chairperson and Treasurer are required to form a committee; however, they can be the same person and can be the candidate. If either position is vacant, the committee cannot accept contributions.
- The committee registration will remain in effect until the registration is canceled by the committee or the candidate.
- Filed with the Commission

Choosing the Option of Separate Accounting

Reference: O.C.G.A. §§ 21-5-43(a)(2); 21-5-30 (c)

- Permits candidates to accept contributions for multiple elections within an election cycle. Thus, a candidate may accept contributions for the general election in an election cycle even if the primary election has not occurred.
- A candidate must designate what election the contribution is accepted for on the applicable CCDR.
- Contributions received for a future election cannot be expended until the current election has occurred.
- If a candidate does not qualify or participate in a future election in an election cycle, the contributions received for the future election must be returned to contributors pro-rata.
- Filed with the Commission

Electronic Filing Access Code Application

Reference: O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34.1(a)

- Used for identification purposes for local and state candidates.
- Filed with the Commission.

DISCLOSURES

Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report

Reference: O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34

- A CCDR is a report filed by a candidate or campaign committee that discloses all contributions received and expenditures made during a reporting period.
- Six reports are due in an election year and two reports are due in a nonelection year. Filing Schedule is found at O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34(c).
- \$125 late fee is assessed when a report is filed late. However, there is a five-day grace period.
- Local candidates may be exempt from filing CCDRs if they file an Affidavit of Exemption and meet certain criteria.
- Candidates for any state or state-wide office must file electronically with the Commission and candidates for county and municipal offices file with their local filing officer.

Final Report & Termination Statement

Reference: O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34 (m)

- A FR&TS is a statement submitted with the campaign's final CCDR.
- It is filed by all campaigns within 10 days of the dissolution of the campaign.
- The Statement must identify the termination date as well as the person responsible for maintaining campaign records as required by the Act.
- To qualify to file a FR&TS, the filer must have a zero net balance, zero debt, and not be seeking or holding the office.
- Candidates for any state or state-wide office must file electronically with the Commission and candidates for county and municipal offices file with their local filing officer.

Personal Financial Disclosure Statement

Reference: O.C.G.A. § 21-5-50

- A PFDS is a statement filed by a candidate or public official in which the filer discloses information about financial activity for the preceding calendar year.
- A statement must be filed each year, even if information does not change.
- If running for a state-wide position additional information is required to be reported.
- No grace period and a \$125 late fee is assessed when a statement is filed after the due date.
- Candidates for any state or state-wide office must file electronically with the Commission and candidates for county and municipal offices file with their local filing officer.

Two Business Day Report

Reference: O.C.G.A. § 21-5-34 (c)(2)(C)

- A TBD is a report used to report individual contributions (including loans) of \$1,000.00 or more received between the date of the last CCDR due prior to the date the election for which the candidate has qualified and the date of such election.
- These contributions must be reported within two business days of receipt.
- This contribution must also be reported on the next scheduled CCDR.
- Candidates for any state or state-wide office must file electronically with the Commission and candidates for county and municipal offices file with their local filing officer.
- No grace period and a \$125 late fee is assessed when a statement is filed after the due date.

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