

Rule 16 Implementing I-122

A. Candidate's Representative – SMC 2.04.620(d)

A candidate or an officer of the candidate's political committee must register a candidate's representative with the Commission in writing.

B. Debates – SMC 2.04.630(b)

A debate is a live event, open to the general public, at which ~~all the~~ candidates ~~in a particular who show minimal public support race~~ have an opportunity to respond to questions. Each candidate must be given an equal opportunity to participate.

To show minimal public support, a candidate's campaign reports filed with the Commission must show no fewer than the following number of contributors on the date of the debate:

<u>Mayor</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>At-large City Councilmember</u>	<u>50</u>
<u>District City Councilmember</u>	<u>50 [or 25] [or 20]</u>
<u>City Attorney</u>	<u>50 [or 25] [or 20]</u>

Nothing in this rule relieves public agencies that sponsor debates from responsibility for ensuring that all candidates for particular races are invited to participate.

C. Qualifying Contributions – SMC 2.04.630(c)

A qualifying contribution must be a monetary contribution. Loans, pledges, or in-kind contributions are not counted toward the minimum number of contributions a candidate needs to qualify for the Program.

D. Campaign Spending Limit – SMC 2.04.630(d)

To avoid double-counting, "cash on hand" included in the calculation of the Campaign Spending Limit means cash on hand in excess of a committee's debts and obligations (line 20 on the C-4).

E. Use of Democracy Voucher Proceeds – SMC 2.04.630(i) and (j)

1. A participating candidate has 45 days from withdrawing, becoming ineligible, losing qualification, losing an election, or winning the general election, to pay all campaign debts and obligations. If a participating candidate dies, the campaign has 90 days to pay all campaign debts and obligations.

2. After paying all campaign debts and obligations, any remaining funds, up to the amount of Democracy Vouchers redeemed by the candidate, will be considered Unspent Democracy Voucher Proceeds. Such funds must be refunded to the Democracy Voucher Program within those 45 days (or 90 days upon the death of a participating candidate).

F. Duplicate Vouchers – SMC 2.04.658

If the SEEC receives more than two vouchers with the same voucher identification number, or five or more vouchers from the same assignor, the Executive Director will within five business days contact the assignor to determine the circumstances. If the Executive Director has reason to believe that the assignor or some other person knowingly submitted a voucher that has been purchased, stolen, or forged, the Executive Director will initiate an investigation. If, after an investigation, the Executive Director finds reason to believe that a Democracy Voucher has been purchased, stolen, or forged, in addition to pursuing remedies available under the Elections Code, the Executive Director shall refer the matter to the City Attorney for the City Attorney's consideration of whether to file criminal charges. The purchase, sale, theft, or forgery of a Democracy Voucher is a gross misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for a term of up to 364 days.

G. Returning All Democracy Voucher Proceeds – SMC 2.04.658

A participating candidate who accepts and retains monetary contributions in excess of the contribution limit for that office under SMC 2.04.630(b), or exceeds the Campaign Spending Limit without the Commission's authorization, does not participate in three debates without receiving a waiver from the Commission, or obtains Democracy Vouchers through intentional acts of forgery, threats, duress, or coercion, shall refund within 10 days of being ordered to by the Commission the sum of all Democracy Voucher proceeds that candidate has redeemed.

Rule 16 was adopted by the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission at its December 7, 2016 meeting. The Commission members voting to take this action were:

Brendan Donckers, Vice Chair
Charlene Angeles
Alexandra McKay
Vickie Rawlins

Bruce Carter
Hardeep Singh
Rekhi

STATE OF WASHINGTON CITY OF SEATTLE

I, WAYNE BARNETT, Executive Director of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission, State of Washington, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Elections Code Rules, implementing SMC 2.04, as last amended on December 7, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of December, 2016.

_____ WAYNE BARNETT, Executive Director