

Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission: Democracy Voucher Program Update

Commission Meeting: October 1, 2025

Candidates - General

Office	Non-DVP Candidates	Number of DVP Candidates	Number of Qualified DVP Candidates	Reached Maximum Voucher Distribution
Mayor	0	2	2	Bruce Harrell
City Attorney	0	2	2	
City Council 9	1	1	1	Dionne Foster
City Council 8	0	2	1	
City Council 2	0	2	2	
Total	1	9	8	

2025 Date of Release from Maximum Campaign Valuation and/or DVP contribution Limit - General

District / Candidate	MCV	DVP Contribution Limit
CC9 / Foster	8/8/2025	
CC9 / Foster		8/19/2025

Invoicing

Distributed \$3,455,150, representing 138,206 redeemed vouchers.

Democracy Vouchers

To date, 155,837 vouchers have been returned, representing 41,662 Seattle residents.

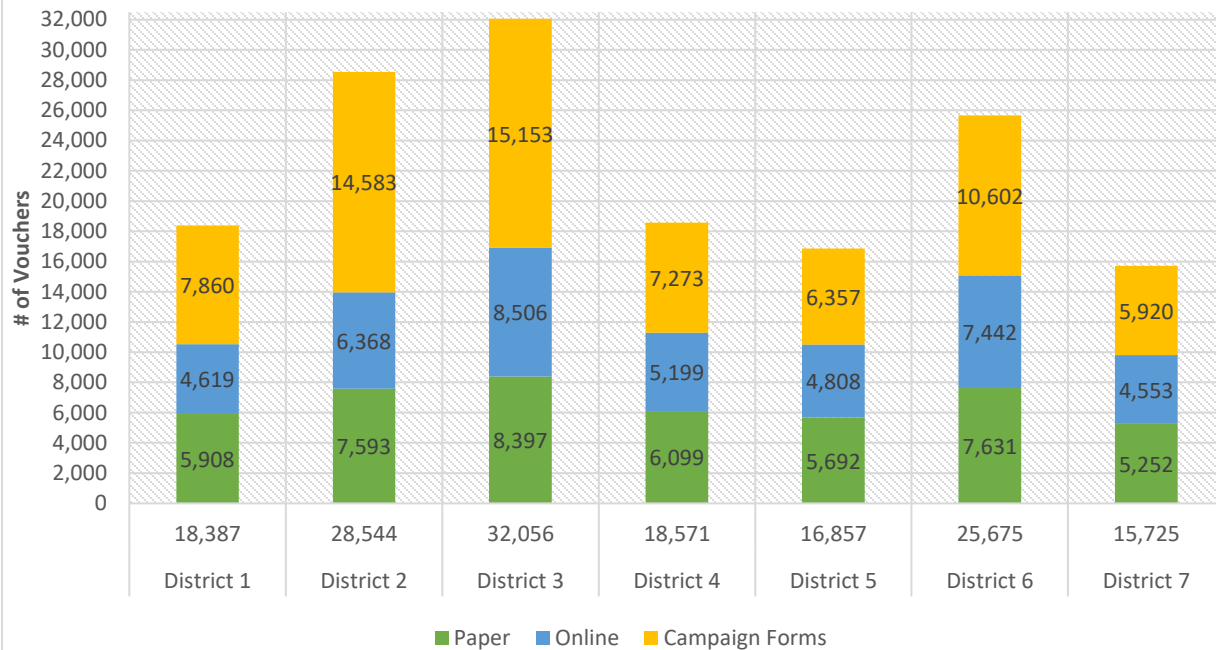
- Paper: 46,572, 30%
- Online: 41,495, 27%
- Campaign Forms: 67,748, 43%

Utilization of Available Program Funds

Year	Available Funds	Distributed Funds	Utilization Rate
2017	\$3,000,000	\$1,140,525	38%
2019	\$4,200,000	\$2,454,475	58%
2021	\$6,800,000	\$3,397,050	50%
2023	\$5,250,000	\$2,286,750	44%
2024	\$1,800,000	\$766,025	43%
2025	\$9,000,000	\$3,455,150	38%

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2025 Returned Vouchers Type and District



Voucher district totals do not include returned ACP vouchers.

Outreach

- Community Resource Day – September 12
- 2026 Democracy Voucher Outreach Fund RFP Timeline:
 - October 23 at 3:00pm – Q&A Session
 - November 14, 2025 - Proposals are due by 4:00pm.
 - December 15, 2025 - Notice of award.
 - February 10, 2026, and February 12, 2026 - Required remote training sessions.
 - February 13, 2026 - Outreach activities may begin.
 - March 16, 2026 – Democracy Voucher Program Launch
 - June 2026 – Required mid-year check in meeting.
 - October 31, 2026 - Outreach activities must be completed.



The Democracy Voucher Program partners with community-based organizations to promote civic engagement in underserved communities through Democracy Voucher Program education and outreach.

Let's celebrate the important work our partners are doing:

- Asian Counseling and Referral Service
- Chinese Information and Service Center
- Dignity for Divas
- Eritrean Association in Greater Seattle
- Horn of Africa Services
- Literacy Source
- Orchestra Northwest
- Refugee Women's Alliance
- Somali Cultural Center
- Somali Health Board
- Villa Comunitaria

