

	<b>Seattle</b>	<b>Portland</b>	<b>San Francisco</b>
Population	562,106	537,081	744,041
Executive and legislative branches	Mayor, city attorney, and nine councilmembers elected citywide.	Mayor, auditor, and four commissioners, all elected citywide.	Mayor and 11 Supervisors elected by district (roughly 67,000 voters per supervisor).
What must a candidate do to qualify for public financing?	Portland-style or SF-style? Residents, registered voters, or persons? If Portland-style, should the contribution be \$5 or \$10, and how many should a candidate need to collect? If SF-style, what should the thresholds be?	Commissioners: Collect 1,000 \$5 contributions from registered Portland voters. Mayor: Collect 1,500 \$5 contributions from registered Portland voters. (NB: This requires coordination with the County Elections Office.)	Supervisors: Collect \$5,000 in contributions between \$10 and \$100 from at least 75 San Francisco residents. Mayor: Collect \$25,000 in contributions between \$10 and \$100 from at least 250 San Francisco residents.
When must a candidate qualify?		With a primary in late May, candidates can begin accepting qualifying contributions in July of the previous year and accept them through the end of January.	Candidates can begin accepting qualifying contributions up to 18 months before the general election. They have until 70 days before the election to qualify to receive public funds. (San Francisco does not have a primary election.)
After qualifying, candidates receive:	Should payouts be linked to an objective measure of what it costs to “get one’s message out,” or should payouts be linked to what candidates spent in recent years? (In’07 candidates in competitive races spent between \$227,000 and \$353,000, but between \$17,000 and \$41,000 on fundraising.)  How do we balance attention to the cost of the program with the desire to make the program attractive?	Contested Primary: An initial allocation of up to \$150,000 for Commissioner and \$200,000 for Mayor.  Contested General: An initial allocation of up to \$200,000 for Commissioner and \$250,000 for Mayor.  As discussed below, candidates can receive additional public funds under certain conditions.	Supervisors: (1) An initial \$10,000 disbursement. (2) Up to \$40,000 in 4:1 matches of \$10,000 in contributions of \$500 or less. <sup>1</sup> (3) Up to \$37,500 in 1:1 matches of \$37,500 in contributions of \$500 or less.  Mayor: (1) An initial \$50,000 disbursement. (2) Up to \$400,000 in 4:1 matches of \$10,000 in contributions of \$500 or less. (3) Up to \$400,000 in 1:1 matches of \$400,000 in contributions of \$500 or less.  As discussed below, candidates can receive additional public funds under certain conditions.

<sup>1</sup> New York City matches the first \$175 in contributions on a 6:1 basis.

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Can participating candidates accept non-qualifying contributions?	If Portland-style, should there be a cap? Should all private contributions be deducted from a candidate's public award?	Yes, commissioner candidates can collect up to \$15,000 in contributions of \$100 or less, and mayoral candidates can collect up to \$20,000 in contributions of \$100 or less. Funds raised privately are ultimately subtracted from the total public funds awarded.	Yes.
Can participating candidates accept in kind contributions?	If Portland-style, should there be a cap of less than \$700 on the value of in kind contributions to participating candidates?	Yes, commissioner candidates can collect up to \$9,000 in in-kind contributions in connection with the primary and \$12,000 in connection with the general election. Mayoral candidates can collect up to \$12,000 in in-kind contributions in connection with the primary and \$15,000 in connection with the general election.	Yes.
Expenditure Ceiling		N/A	Supervisors: \$140,000, but can be revised upward if total funds supporting an opponent exceed \$140,000 or total funds opposing the candidate exceed \$10,000. Mayor: \$1,375,000, but can be revised upward if total funds supporting an opponent exceed \$1,375,000, or total funds opposing the candidate exceed \$10,000.
Are there restrictions on how a candidate may spend public funds?		Yes. Most of the restrictions mirror those in place in Seattle. One notable addition: no salary or payments to family members, other than reimbursements.	No. Participating candidates do not face additional restrictions.
Public awards contingent on opponent?		Yes. Unopposed candidates are not eligible to receive public funds	Yes. Supervisor must be opposed by candidate who raises in excess of \$5,000. Mayor must be opposed by a candidate who raises in excess of \$50,000.

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What happens when a participating candidate faces a high-spending opponent?	Should the total in matching funds be capped? If so, where?	Matching funds available, capped on a per-race, not a per-candidate basis. For example, if four publicly financed candidates were competing against one privately funded candidate who spent \$250,000 on his or her primary, the four participating candidates would be eligible to split \$100,000 between them, since the privately funded candidate exceeded the \$150,000 threshold by \$100,000.	When a participating candidate's opponent raises more than the expenditure threshold, the participating candidate can continue to receive a 1:1 match for contributions, up to the amount raised by his or her opponent, and subject to the availability of funds.
What happens when there are independent expenditures?	Should the total in matching funds be capped? If so, where? What should the law do when it's not clear who is helped or hurt by an independent expenditure?	Portland is currently considering changes to how the law deals with independent expenditures. The proposal is illustrated in <u>Attachment A</u> .	When spending in support of a participating candidate's opponent, or in opposition to a participating candidate exceeds the expenditure threshold, a participating candidate can continue to receive a 1:1 match for contributions, up to the amount spent independently, and subject to the availability of funds.
What are the penalties for violations?		For accepting a prohibited contribution or making a prohibited expenditure: First offense, a participating candidate's award is reduced by two times the amount of the unlawful contribution or expenditure, with a minimum penalty of \$1,000. Second offense: the candidate must repay all public funds received, plus 12 percent interest per annum. For other Elections Code violations, penalties span from small civil penalties to the authority to decertify a candidate and require repayment.	No additional penalties for candidates who participate in the matching fund program.
Budget	Can a program remain viable when candidates can't be certain at the outset how much they will receive in public funding? If not, how does the law balance fiscal responsibility with creating a viable program?	2008 range (three positions on the ballot, seven participating candidates): \$2.05 million to \$3.2 million	\$2 million, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Other		Candidates must identify themselves as “Certified Campaign Finance Fund Candidates” in their advertising. Equipment purchased with public funds becomes the property of the City after the election. Candidates who have funds available from prior campaigns must dispose of those funds according to law, or contribute them to the campaign finance fund.	Equipment purchased with public funds becomes the property of the City after the election.