

Thornton's Candidate Committee Regulations At-a-Glance

References: Colorado Constitution Article XXVIII, Colorado Revised Statutes Title 1, Article 45 (Fair Campaign Practices Act), Secretary of State's Rule 8 CCR 1505-6, Thornton City Code Article VI (approved by Ordinance 3676)

- Candidate Affidavit:
 - Must be filed within 10 days of publicly announcing an intention to run for office and subsequently receiving a contribution or making an expenditure in support of the candidacy
- Committee Registration:
 - Must be filed prior to accepting contributions or making an expenditure
- Bank Accounts:
 - All contributions received must be deposited and maintained in a separate account which must include the name of the committee
- Filing Deadlines:
 - 120 Days Prior to the Election – *New, per Ordinance 3676*
 - 90 Days Prior to the Election – *New, per Ordinance 3676*
 - 60 Days Prior to the Election – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
 - 30 Days Prior to the Election – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
 - 15 Days Prior to the Election – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
 - 30 Days After the Election – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
 - Annually in off-election years until the committee is terminated
- Contribution Limits:
 - Limit of \$400, per election, of aggregate contributions from any one person, including a political party and excluding a small donor committee – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
 - Limit of \$4,000, per election, in aggregate contributions from any one small donor committee – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
- Prohibited Contributions:
 - Contributions from a person who is not a citizen of the U.S.
 - A foreign government
 - Any foreign corporation that does not have the authority to transact business in Colorado
 - Another candidate committee
 - Issue committees
 - Anonymous donations of \$20 or more
- Expenditures for Advertising:
 - Cannot pay radio or television station, newspaper, periodical, or other supplier of materials or services a higher charge than normally required for local commercial customers for comparable use of space
 - Rates shall not be rebated, directly or indirectly
 - If any radio or television station, newspaper, periodical, or other supplier of materials a lower rate, the difference must be reported as a contribution to the candidate committee
- Disclosure Requirements:
 - All contributions must be reported
 - Contributions of \$20 or more must be itemized

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- One-time contributions from an individual of \$100 or more must include employer and occupation of donor
- Contributions and expenditures exceeding \$100 must be made by check, money order, or traceable funds
- Terminating a candidate committee:
 - For a candidate not elected, the committee must be terminated within one year following the election, unless there is a campaign finance complaint against the committee
 - For a candidate elected, the committee must be terminated within one year following the date the candidate leaves office, unless there is a campaign finance complaint against the committee
- Publication and Retention of reports (City Clerk responsibility):
 - Reports must be made available on the City’s website
 - For a candidate not elected, reports must be kept for 10 years from the date of filing – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*
 - For a candidate elected, reports must be kept for six years after the candidate leaves office – *New, per House Bill 23-1245*

2025 Reporting Dates

Report	Report due date	Report period
120 days prior to the election	Monday, July 7	First contribution/expenditure through July 2
90 days prior to the election	Wednesday, August 6	July 3 through August 1
60 days prior to the election	Friday, September 5	August 2 through August 31
30 days prior to the election	Monday, October 6*	September 1 through September 30
15 days prior to the election	Monday, October 20	October 1 through October 15
30 days after to the election	Thursday, December 4	October 16 through November 29
Annual Report †	Monday, November 3*	October 28, 2024 through October 27, 2025

* Date affected by holiday or weekend.

† For candidates who have an open committee but are not running in 2025.