

MAINE CLEAN ELECTION ACT CANDIDATES ONLINE QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTIONS SERVICE

ONLINE QUALIFYING CONTRIBUTIONS WEBSITE:

<http://www.maine.gov/online/ethics/cleanelection>

SERVICE INFORMATION

- FAQ
- Maine Clean Election Act

RELATED SERVICES

- Maine eDemocracy
- Find Your Polling Place
- Find Your Elected Officials

ADMINISTRATION

- Candidate Login

Use the "Candidate Login" to access your administration screen.

Contributors select "Make a Qualifying Contribution to a Candidate" then follow the instructions.

Welcome to the Maine Clean Election Act - Online Qualifying Contribution Service

You can use this service to:

- Support a candidate seeking public financing by making a qualifying contribution of \$5 or more.
- Support the Maine Clean Election Act program by making a general donation in any amount.

What is a qualifying contribution?

- A qualifying contribution is a contribution of \$5 or more made in support of a candidate who wants to run for office as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate.
- Candidates must raise a certain number of qualifying contributions to show they have community support from individual voters who are registered in their district.

When can I make a qualifying contribution?

- For gubernatorial candidates, you can make a qualifying contribution from October 15, 2009 to April 1, 2010.
- For legislative candidates, you can make a qualifying contribution from January 1, 2010 to April 20, 2010.

Who can make a qualifying contribution or donation to the Maine Clean Election Fund?

- Only individuals can make qualifying contributions.
- You must be registered to vote in the candidate's district.
- Any registered voter can contribute to a gubernatorial candidate.
- Anyone can make a donation to the Maine Clean Election Fund.

Other important information:

- Qualifying contributions can only be made with the contributor's personal funds.
- Contributions made with a business credit card will not be counted.
- The candidate cannot give anything in exchange for the contribution.
- There is no fee for using this service.
- You will need a valid credit card (VISA or MasterCard).

PLEASE NOTE: YOU CANNOT MAKE A SEED MONEY CONTRIBUTION TO A CANDIDATE USING THIS SERVICE. TO MAKE A SEED MONEY CONTRIBUTION, CONTACT THE CANDIDATE DIRECTLY. CLICK [HERE](#) TO SEE A LIST OF ALL CANDIDATES.

Get Started Now

- Make a Qualifying Contribution to a Candidate
- Make a Donation to the Maine Clean Election Fund

GO

This is the home page for the online qualifying contributions website.

The online qualifying contribution service is quick and convenient for contributors and candidates. Contributors can go to a secure website to make qualifying contributions with a VISA or MasterCard. Contributors who give their qualifying contribution online do not need to sign a paper form.

The system is even more convenient for candidates now than when it was launched in 2008 because the system will try to automatically verify the voter registration of contributors. If the system is not able to verify the voter registration for a contributor, that contributor will still be able to make a qualifying contribution online but the campaign must get the contributor's voter registration verified by the town clerks. Candidates will be able to print lists of the unverified contributors listed by town to bring to the town clerks.

The online system uses data from the Secretary of State's Central Voter Registry (CVR) for voters' names and addresses. If the system does not recognize a contributor's street name, the system will give the contributor a list of similar street names to choose from. If the system does not recognize an address because it is not in the CVR (e.g., an address at a new development), the contributor will still be able to make a qualifying contribution by printing a receipt and acknowledgement form and sending it and a check or money order directly to the candidate.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACCESS FOR CANDIDATES

Each candidate will have password-protected administrative access to the online qualifying contribution system so that the candidate can review the status of his or her online qualifying contributions, including the verification of contributors' voter registration. Candidates can also search for contributions by contributor name or town or date range, download receipt and acknowledgement forms, and view the total contributions made online. To log on to the site:

1. Go to www.maine.gov/ethics.
 2. Look for "**ONLINE SERVICES**" in the list of links on the left hand side of the screen, and select "Qualifying Contributions."
 3. On this screen, look for "Candidate Login" under "Administration" on the left hand side of the screen.
 4. Enter your user name and password that you use for e-filing your campaign finance reports. We sent that to you when you registered. Call us if you don't have it.
 5. Once on your administration screen, select the tab for the service or report you want.
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INFORMATION FOR YOUR SUPPORTERS

Direct your supporters to go to www.maine.gov/ethics. Tell them to look for "**ONLINE SERVICES**" in the list of links on the left hand side of the screen, and select "Qualifying Contributions."

They will need to:

- enter their name and the street address where they are registered to vote;
- select the candidates they wish to make a qualifying contribution to;
- enter payment information using a credit card or bank debit card (MasterCard and VISA only); and
- sign the affirmation statement electronically (no hand-written signature required).

The online system will automatically list all gubernatorial candidates and the legislative candidates who are running in the contributor's district.

You can put a link to the online qualifying contribution service on your campaign website or send the link in an e-mail to your supporters and include instructions like the sample below.

Please note that this online service is for qualifying contributions and not seed money contributions.

Sample instructions for your supporters:

1. Go to www.maine.gov/ethics.
2. Look for "**ONLINE SERVICES**" in the list of links on the left hand side of the screen, and select "Qualifying Contributions."
3. This will bring you to the first step to make an online qualifying contribution.
4. At the bottom of the screen, choose "Make a Contribution to a Candidate" and click "GO."
5. Then just follow the directions to make a contribution to support my candidacy and to help me qualify for public funding for my campaign.



Questions?
Call

207-287-4179