New Contribution Limits for County Candidates in 2019

What is happening?

With the passage of House Bill 19-1007 during the 2019 legislative session, county candidates, and more specifically, their Candidate Committees, will be subject to contribution limits from individuals, Political Parties, Small Donor Committees, and other groups.

When does this take effect?

The effective date of the legislation is August 2, 2019. From that date, contribution limits will apply to all county candidates and their Candidate Committees. Until then, Candidate Committees for county candidates can continue to raise and receive unlimited contributions from permissible sources.

What offices are subject to contribution limits?

The new contributions limits apply to all Candidate Committees established by county candidates required to register and file disclosure reports with the Secretary of State’s Office. These are candidates running for the following offices:

- County Assessor
- County Clerk and Recorder
- County Commissioner
- County Coroner
- County Sheriff
- County Surveyor
- County Treasurer

The new contribution limits do not apply to School Board candidates or Special District candidates and their committees.
What are the new limits?

The new limits (from specified contributor types) that apply to county Candidate Committees are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Natural Person</th>
<th>Person, other than a natural person</th>
<th>Political committee</th>
<th>Small donor committee</th>
<th>Political party</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Candidate</td>
<td>$1,250 *</td>
<td>$1,250 *</td>
<td>$1,250 *</td>
<td>$12,500 *</td>
<td>$22,125 per election cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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* All Candidate Committees (in both contested and uncontested elections) may accept the contribution limit for both the primary election and the general election; a Candidate Committee may receive $2,500 in aggregate per election cycle from Persons/Political Committees and $25,000 in aggregate from Small Donor Committees. Candidate Committees may accept contributions up to the aggregate limit at any point during the election cycle.

Can someone contribute to a county Candidate Committee before the new limits take effect on August 2, 2019 and then contribute again after the limits take effect?

Yes. Before August 2, 2019, all non-prohibited contributors can make unlimited contributions to county Candidate Committees. After August 2, 2019, a contributor may contribute an additional $2,500 to the same county Candidate Committee between August 2, 2019 and the end of the current election cycle. After the end of the current election cycle, contributions to county Candidate Committees are capped at $2,500 per election cycle.

Additional questions?

For questions about Colorado’s Campaign Finance laws and rules or accessing the State’s online disclosure system (TRACER) e-mail us at cpfhelp@sos.state.co.us, visit us at tracer.sos.colorado.gov or call 303-894-2200 (dial 3, then 1).

Thank You!
Campaign Finance Support
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