

Election Finance and the City of Reading Code of Ethics

These regulations apply only to those running for and those elected to the positions of the City of Reading Mayor, Auditor, and City Council

Campaign Limits

The Code of Ethics sets limits for campaign contributions for both election years and non-election years as follows:

- Election year:
 - Maximum contribution by individuals - \$3,200
 - Maximum contribution by organizations - \$13,000
 - Maximum contribution by campaign committees - \$10,000
- Non-Election year:
 - Mayor – contributions may not exceed \$150,000 per year
 - Auditor – contributions may not exceed \$75,000 per year
 - City Council President – contributions may not exceed \$50,000
 - City Council – contributions may not exceed \$25,000 per year
- Post-Election contributions to candidates and Candidate Campaign Committees
 - Maximum contribution by individuals - \$3,200
 - Maximum contribution by organizations - \$13,000

Limitations imposed above do not apply to contributions made from a candidate's personal resources unless contributions exceed \$250,000.

Pre-Candidacy contributions may not be used to influence the outcome of an election, on transition expenses or inauguration expenses, or to retire debt incurred on a completed election (prior election expenses).

Pre-Candidacy contributions made in the same year that a person becomes a candidate count toward the limitations above.

These limits do not include volunteer labor.

Financial Disclosure

Candidates may have only one political committee and one checking account. Other funds may not be used to influence an election or to retire debt incurred.

All Candidates must submit a copy of their County Board of Elections or State report of receipts and expenditures to the office of the City Clerk. The forms are notarized to ensure that the information provided on the form is true and correct and that candidates have not violated the campaign provisions and did not exceed spending limitations. **These statements must be supplied to the office of the City Clerk each time the County Board of Elections or State report is filed (both election and non-election years).**

*If no committee is formed and the candidate has signed the waiver at the Berks County Elections office, these forms do not need to be submitted UNLESS the candidate spends in excess of \$250. When the spending exceeds \$250 the candidate must submit the County Board of Elections or State report and provide a copy to the City Clerk.

All Candidates must file a Financial Interest Statement and provide a copy to the City Clerk.

Publication

These provisions will be available on the City of Reading website – www.readingpa.gov on the Board of Ethics page and the Berks County Office of Election Services website – at all times.