

Title 17: Elections
Chapter 59: CAMPAIGN FINANCE
Sub-Chapter 06: Vermont Campaign Finance Option
17 V.S.A. § 2853. Vermont campaign finance grants;
conditions

§ 2853. Vermont campaign finance grants; conditions

(a) A person shall not be eligible for Vermont campaign finance grants if, during a two-year general election cycle, he or she becomes a candidate by announcing that he or she seeks an elected position as Governor or Lieutenant Governor, or by accepting contributions totaling \$2,000.00 or more or by making expenditures totaling \$2,000.00 or more, prior to February 15 of the general election year.

(b) A candidate who accepts Vermont campaign finance grants, shall:

(1) Not solicit, accept, or expend any contributions except qualifying contributions, Vermont campaign finance grants, and contributions authorized under section 2855 of this title, which contributions may be solicited, accepted, or expended only in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter.

Deposit all qualifying contributions, Vermont campaign finance grants, and any contributions accepted in accordance with the provisions of section 2855 of this title in a federally insured noninterest bearing checking account.

(3) Not later than 40 days after the general election, deposit in the Secretary of State Services Fund, after all permissible expenditures have been paid, the balance of any amounts remaining in the account established under subdivision

(2) of this subsection. (Added 1997, No. 64, § 2, eff. Nov. 4, 1998; amended 2005, No. 62, § 12; 2013, No. 1, § 84.)

17 V.S.A. § 2855. Vermont campaign finance grants; amounts; timing

§ 2855. Vermont campaign finance grants; amounts; timing

(a) The Secretary of State shall make grants from the Secretary of State Services Fund in separate grants for the primary and general election periods to candidates who have qualified for Vermont campaign finance grants under this subchapter.

(b) Whether a candidate has entered a primary or is an independent candidate, Vermont campaign finance grants shall be in the following amounts:

(1) For Governor, \$75,000.00 in a primary election period and \$225,000.00 in a general election period, provided that the grant for a primary election period shall be reduced by an amount equal to the candidate's qualifying contributions.

(2) For Lieutenant Governor, \$25,000.00 in a primary election period and \$75,000.00 in a general election period, provided that the grant for a primary election period shall be reduced by an amount equal to the candidate's qualifying contributions.

(3) A candidate who is an incumbent of the office being sought shall be entitled to receive a grant in an amount equal to 85 percent of the amount listed in subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection.

(c) In an uncontested general election and in the case of a candidate who enters a primary election and is unsuccessful in that election, an otherwise eligible candidate shall not be eligible for a general election period grant. However, such candidate may solicit and accept contributions and make expenditures as follows: contributions shall be subject to the limitations of section 2805 of this title and expenditures shall be limited to an amount equal to the amount of the grant set forth in subsection (b) of this section for the general election for that office.

(d) Grants awarded in a primary election period, but not expended by the candidate in the primary election period, may be expended by the candidate in the general election period.

(e) Vermont campaign finance grants for a primary election period shall be paid to qualifying candidates within the first 10 business days of the primary election period. Vermont campaign finance grants for a general election period shall be paid to qualifying candidates during the first 10 business days of the general election period. (Added 1997, No. 64, § 2, eff. Nov. 4, 1998; amended 2013, No. 1, § 85.)