

Chapter 3: MAINE CLEAN ELECTION ACT AND RELATED PROVISIONS

SECTION 6. LIMITATIONS ON CAMPAIGN EXPENSES

A certified candidate must:

1. limit the candidate's campaign expenditures and obligations to the applicable Clean Election Act Fund distribution amounts;
2. not accept any contributions unless specifically authorized in writing to do so by the Commission in accordance with the Act [§1125(2) and §1125(13)];
3. use revenues distributed from the Fund only for campaign-related purposes as outlined in guidelines published by the Commission, and not for personal or any other use;
4. not use revenues distributed from the Fund to purchase goods to sell for profit;
5. not spend more than the following amounts of Fund revenues on post-election parties, thank you notes, or advertising to thank supporters or voters after the candidate's final election during the election year:
 - A. \$250 for a candidate for the State House of Representatives;
 - B. \$750 for a candidate for the State Senate; and
 - C. \$2,500 by a gubernatorial candidate.

A candidate who has won a primary election may not use Fund revenues on a post-primary election party to thank voters, supporters or volunteers, but may use Fund revenues in the amounts above on advertising to thank supporters or voters or thank you notes.

A candidate may not use Fund revenues to make a thank-you gift (including a gift card) to a volunteer or supporter. The candidate may also use ~~his or her~~ the candidate's personal funds for ~~any~~ of these purposes ~~above~~ set out in this subsection; and

6. not use revenues distributed from the Fund for the payment of fines, forfeitures, or civil penalties, or for the defense of any enforcement action of the Commission.