

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FEC ANNOUNCES 1996 PRESIDENTIAL SPENDING LIMITS

WASHINGTON -- Presidential candidates who accept public funding may spend \$37.092 million on their pre-nomination efforts while each party's nominee will be able to spend \$61.82 million during the 1996 general election, according to unofficial calculations released today by the Federal Election Commission.

Each of the two major parties will be able to spend up to \$11,994,007 million on behalf of their presidential nominees, and \$12,364,000 million on their conventions, according to these calculations.

There is an overall spending limit for the entire pre-convention period as well as limits for spending in each state. The limits apply only to those campaigns choosing to accept federal funds. Campaigns which forego federal funding may spend unlimited amounts of money.

The overall "base" spending limit for presidential primary campaigns is \$10 million, plus a cost-of-living adjustment (over 1974). For the 1996 primary season, the "base" spending limit is \$30,910,000. An exemption for 20% of a campaign's fundraising expenses effectively raises the amount primary contenders may spend in the pre-convention period to \$37,092,000. Candidates may spend unlimited amounts for certain legal and accounting costs.

State spending limits are keyed to the voting age population of each state, with a minimum of at least \$200,000 plus a cost-of-living adjustment for those states with a low VAP. The formula for setting state limits is $16\text{¢} \times \text{VAP} + \text{cost-of-living}$. A less populated state, such as New Hampshire, would have a limit of \$200,000, plus cost-of-living, or \$618,200. A larger state, such as California, would have a limit of $16\text{¢} \times 22,796,000$ (VAP), plus cost-of-living, or \$11,273,990.

The two major party nominees will be given \$61,820,000 each for the general election campaign. Candidates opting for general election funding have a spending limit of \$20 million plus a cost-of-living adjustment, (over 1974). They receive all of their funds from the U.S. Treasury and may not raise private contributions for the campaign, other than for legal and accounting costs, which are not subject to the spending limit.

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Note to editors/correspondents: Updated VAP and COLA figures were delayed due to budget and weather-induced shutdowns in certain segments of the federal government. The spending limits are, at this time, unofficial until the Labor Department and the Bureau of Census certify the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and voting age population (VAP) figures. However, the FEC does not expect the computations to change and committees are being so notified.

**1996 State-By-State Expenditure Limits
For Presidential Candidates**

State	VAP (in thousands)	Expenditure Limit
Alabama	3,173	\$ 1,569,239
Alaska	414	618,200
Arizona	3,025	1,496,044
Arkansas	1,834	907,023
California	22,796	11,273,990
Colorado	2,765	1,367,458
Connecticut	2,477	1,225,025
Delaware	538	618,200
DC	440	618,200
Florida	10,794	5,338,281
Georgia	5,277	2,609,793
Hawaii	878	618,200
Idaho	815	618,200
Illinois	8,704	4,304,650
Indiana	4,316	2,134,521
Iowa	2,117	1,046,984
Kansas	1,873	926,311
Kentucky	2,888	1,428,289
Louisiana	3,103	1,534,620
Maine	936	618,200
Maryland	3,770	1,864,491
Massachusetts	4,642	2,295,748
Michigan	7,030	3,476,757
Minnesota	3,364	1,663,700
Mississippi	1,935	956,974
Missouri	3,942	1,949,556
Montana	634	618,200
Nebraska	1,194	618,200
Nevada	1,132	618,200
New Hampshire	853	618,200
New Jersey	5,982	2,958,458
New Mexico	1,185	618,200
New York	13,599	6,725,521
North Carolina	5,396	2,668,646
North Dakota	471	618,200
Ohio	8,291	4,100,397
Oklahoma	2,400	1,186,944
Oregon	2,344	1,159,249
Pennsylvania	9,163	4,531,653
Rhode Island	752	618,200
South Carolina	2,729	1,349,654
South Dakota	523	618,200
Tennessee	3,946	1,951,534
Texas	13,324	6,589,517
Utah	1,277	631,553
Vermont	438	618,200
Virginia	5,006	2,475,767
Washington	4,013	1,984,669
West Virginia	1,406	695,351
Wisconsin	3,770	1,864,491
Wyoming	344	618,200
US Territories:		
American Samoa		618,200
Guam		618,200
Puerto Rico		618,200
Virgin Islands		618,200