

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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IF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WERE HELD IN 1995...

WASHINGTON -- If the presidential election were held in 1995, the Federal Election Commission calculates that each primary contender would be able to spend at least \$36 million seeking his or her party's nomination. Party nominees would be able to spend at least \$60 million in the general election.

The FEC releases figures one year in advance of the presidential election year to meet the needs of campaigns in the early formative stages. The figures are NOT the final word in spending for the 1996 presidential race. Official spending computations will not be available until early 1996, since they must be updated for changes in state voting age populations and cost-of-living adjustments.

The FEC figures include overall spending limits and limits for spending in each state. They apply only to those campaigns choosing to accept federal funds. Campaigns which opt to 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). At this time, the "base" spending limit is \$30,060,000. An exemption for 20% of a campaign's fundraising expenses effectively raises the amount primary contenders may spend in the pre-convention period to \$36,072,000. Candidates may spend unlimited amounts for certain legal and accounting costs.

State spending limits are keyed to the voting age population (VAP) 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 $16c \times VAP + \text{cost of living}$. A less populated state, such as New Hampshire, would have a limit of \$200,000, plus cost-of-living, or \$601,200. A larger state, such as California, would have a limit of $16c \times 22,753,000$ (VAP), plus cost-of-living, or \$10,943,283.

If they choose public funding, the two major party nominees will be given at least \$60 million each for the general election campaign (\$20 million, plus COLA over 1974). Furthermore, they would not be allowed to raise private contributions for the campaign, except for legal and accounting costs, which are not subject to the spending limit. The two major parties will be able to spend at least \$11.6 million on their nominees.

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**1995 State-By-State Expenditure List
For Presidential Candidates**

State	VAP (in thousands)	Expenditure Limit
Alabama	3,139	\$ 1,509,733
Alaska	415	601,200
Arizona	2,936	1,412,099
Arkansas	1,812	871,500
California	22,753	10,943,283
Colorado	2,686	1,291,859
Connecticut	2,487	1,196,148
Delaware	532	601,200
DC	452	601,200
Florida	10,690	5,141,462
Georgia	5,163	2,483,196
Hawaii	874	601,200
Idaho	794	601,200
Illinois	8,668	4,168,961
Indiana	4,279	2,058,028
Iowa	2,100	1,010,016
Kansas	1,863	896,028
Kentucky	2,857	1,374,103
Louisiana	3,080	1,481,357
Maine	935	601,200
Maryland	3,743	1,800,233
Massachusetts	4,617	2,220,592
Michigan	6,971	3,352,772
Minnesota	3,327	1,600,154
Mississippi	1,913	920,076
Missouri	3,899	1,875,263
Montana	619	601,200
Nebraska	1,181	601,200
Nevada	1,081	601,200
New Hampshire	845	601,200
New Jersey	5,973	2,872,774
New Mexico	1,156	601,200
New York	13,658	6,568,952
North Carolina	5,314	2,555,821
North Dakota	466	601,200
Ohio	8,248	3,966,958
Oklahoma	2,378	1,143,723
Oregon	2,304	1,108,132
Pennsylvania	9,155	4,403,189
Rhode Island	757	601,200
South Carolina	2,712	1,304,364
South Dakota	513	601,200
Tennessee	3,879	1,865,644
Texas	13,077	6,289,514
Utah	1,236	601,200
Vermont	435	601,200
Virginia	4,949	2,380,271
Washington	3,935	1,892,578
West Virginia	1,393	669,977
Wisconsin	3,735	1,796,386
Wyoming	339	601,200
US Territories:		
American Samoa		601,200
Guam		601,200
Puerto Rico		601,200
Virgin Islands		601,200

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