

Major Provisions of Federal Public Campaign Financing Legislation, 113th Congress

	<u>H.R. 268</u> Grassroots Democracy Act (Sarbanes)	<u>H.R. 269</u> Fair Elections Now Act (Yarmuth & Pingree)	<u>H.R. 270</u> Empowering Citizens Act (Price & Van Hollen)
Covered Offices	U.S. Senate and House of Representatives	U.S. House of Representatives	U.S. Senate and House of Representatives and President
Qualifying Requirements	<p>House: Minimum of \$50,000 in qualifying contributions between \$5 and \$100 from 2,000 individuals, at least half of which are residents of the candidate's congressional district.</p> <p>Senate: Minimum of \$200,000 plus product of \$25,000 and the number of the state's congressional districts in qualifying contributions between \$5 and \$100 from a number of individuals equaling at least 2,000 plus the product of 500 and the number of the state's congressional districts, at least half of which are state residents.</p>	<p>Minimum of \$50,000 in qualifying contributions between \$5 and \$100 from a number of state residents equal to the lesser of 0.25% of the voting age population of the state or 1,500.</p>	<p>House: Minimum of \$40,000 in qualifying contributions from at least 400 state residents, with only the first \$250 of a contribution counting towards the qualification threshold.</p> <p>Senate: Minimum of product of \$40,000 and the number of the state's congressional districts in qualifying contributions from a number of state residents equaling at least the product of 400 and the number of the state's congressional districts, with only the first \$250 of a contribution counting towards the qualification threshold.</p> <p>President: Minimum of \$25,000 from residents of each of at least 20 states, with only the first \$250 counting towards the qualification threshold.</p>

Initial Public Grant	N/A	<p>Primary – 40% of the base amount (an amount equal to 80% of the national average of disbursements by winning House candidates in past two election cycles) for primary elections.</p> <p>General – 60% of the base amount for general elections.</p>	N/A
Matching Funds	<p>Tier 1 – 5:1 match on donations between \$5 and \$100.</p> <p>Tier 2 – 10:1 match on donations between \$5 and \$100.</p>	5:1 match on donations of \$100 or less from residents of the candidate’s state.	<p>President – 5:1 match on donations of \$250 or less.</p> <p>Congressional – 5:1 match on donations of \$250 or less from residents of the candidate’s state.</p>
Matching Fund Payment Cap	<p>Tier 1 – 50% of the average of the 10 greatest amounts of aggregate disbursements by winning candidates during the previous election cycle.</p> <p>Tier 2 – Average of the top 10 greatest amounts of aggregate disbursements by winning candidates during the previous election cycle.</p>	300% the amount of the allocation of the initial public grant for election cycle.	<p>President - \$150 million for primary and general election.</p> <p>House - \$2 million per election cycle.</p> <p>Senate - \$10 million per election cycle.</p>

Participation Restrictions	<p>Tier 1 – Candidates are permitted to accept contributions greater than the matchable amount, but over 6 years the contribution limit is reduced by 80%.</p> <p>Tier 2 - \$100 contribution limit.</p>	<p>Limited to raising qualified (matchable) contributions.</p>	<p>Contribution limit reduced by 50% for participating candidates, to \$1,250 from individual donors compared with the \$2,500 from individual donors that non-participating candidates can raise.</p>
Outside Spending	<p>Participating candidates are eligible for an additional grant equal to the amount of qualified (matchable) contributions he/she has raised once aggregate outside spending in the race crosses a predetermined threshold.</p> <p>Electioneering communications window expanded to 120 days before general election.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Spending by outside groups that is coordinated with candidates is deemed a contribution and subject to relevant limits. Defines coordination to include: (a) formation of outside group at the suggestion, express or tacit, of candidate or agents; (b) candidates or agents assisting outside group with fundraising; (c) outside group is managed by former major employee of candidate; (d) engaging in “more than incidental communications” between campaign and outside spender about candidate’s needs or campaign activity; (e) outside group maintains professional service of any person who provides professional service campaign/candidate; (f) outside group is established or managed by or has received contribution from a member of the candidate’s immediate family.</p>

Tax Credits and Vouchers	<p>\$25 refundable tax credit to taxpayers who make no aggregate contributions larger than \$200 to a candidate or party committee.</p> <p>In states selected for pilot voucher program, registered voters may designate a \$50 voucher in \$5 increments to federal candidates.</p>	N/A	N/A
Miscellaneous Provisions	Non-candidate political committees and bundlers must pay annual \$100 user fees.	N/A	Increases limit on coordinated activity between presidential candidate and party committee to \$50 million.