



**34<sup>th</sup> Biennial Institute**  
FOR **Georgia Legislators**

# What You Need to Know About the Ethics Commission







# STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



# CAMPAIGN FINANCE BASICS

## Non-Election Year Schedule

### Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report (CCDR)

Due on January 31, 2025 with the grace period ending on February 7, 2025.

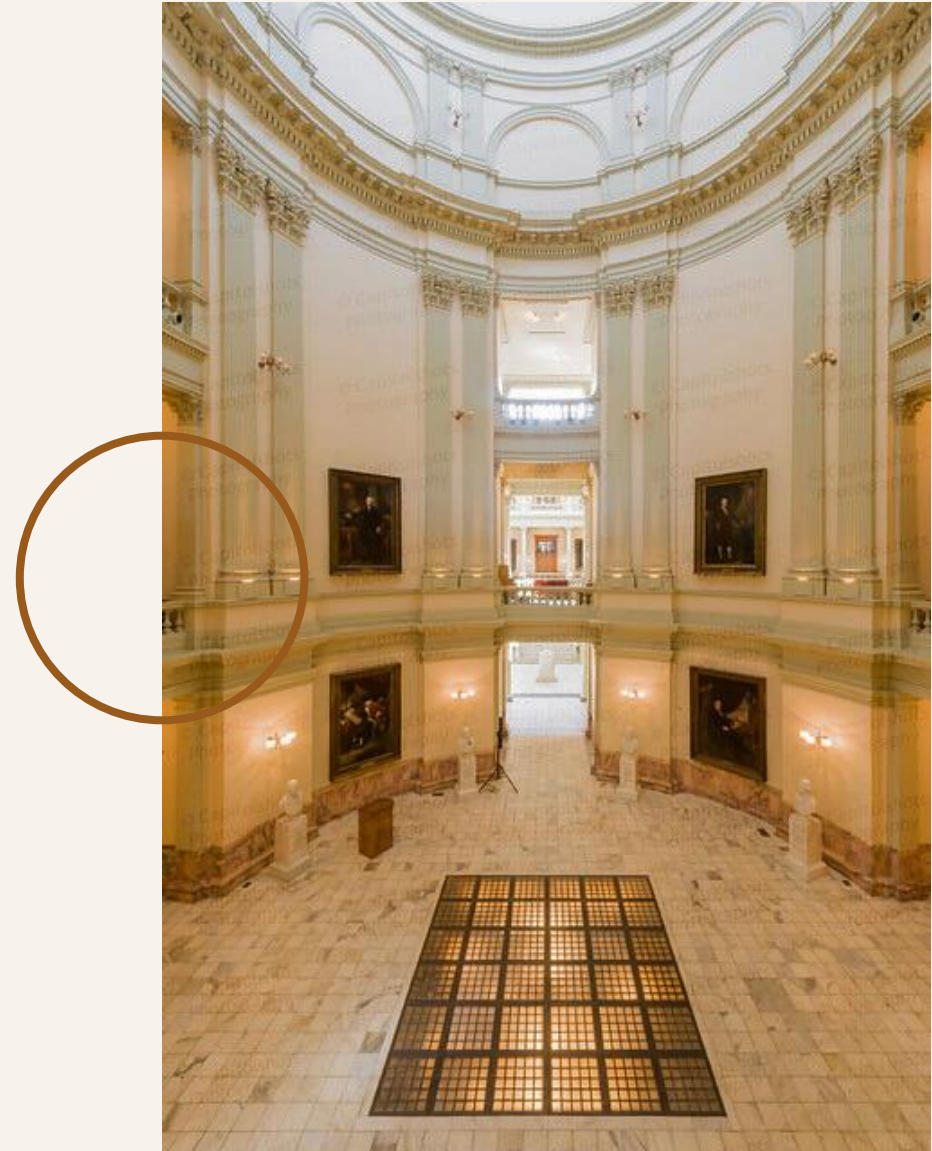
### Personal Financial Disclosure Statement (PFDS)

Due on July 1, 2025 with no grace period.

### Two-Business Day Reports

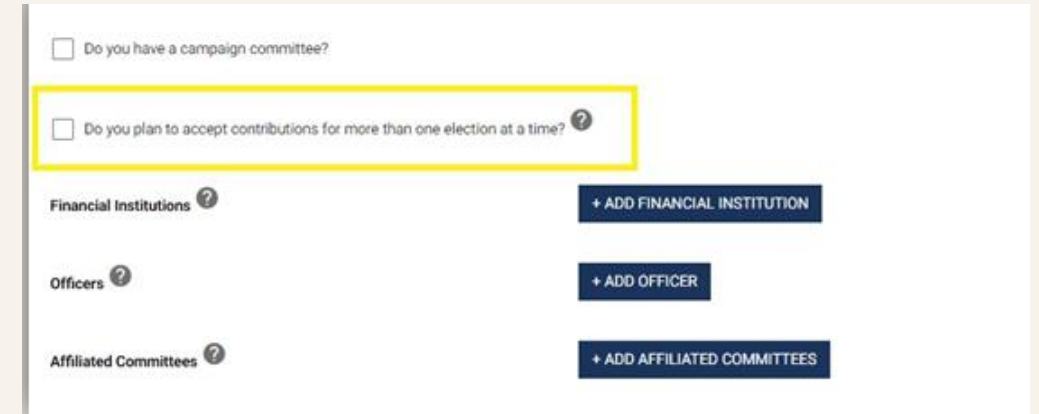
These reports are required beginning the day after the last report is filed before election day for any donations that you may receive for \$1,000 or more.

*Example: The last report filed before election day (November 5th) is the October 25th report. Any donation of \$1000 or more that you receive between October 26th and November 4th will require you to file a Two Business Day Report.*



# CAMPAIGN FINANCE BASICS

## COOSA, Choosing Option of Separate Accounting



☐ Do you have a campaign committee?

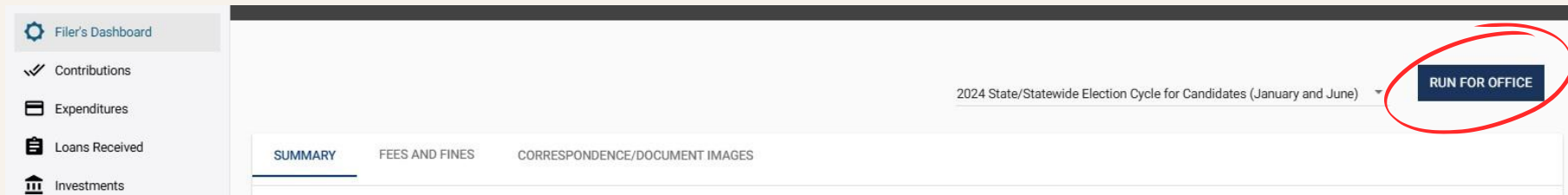
☐ Do you plan to accept contributions for more than one election at a time? <sup>?</sup>

Financial Institutions <sup>?</sup> [+ ADD FINANCIAL INSTITUTION](#)

Officers <sup>?</sup> [+ ADD OFFICER](#)

Affiliated Committees <sup>?</sup> [+ ADD AFFILIATED COMMITTEES](#)

## Renewing your election cycle for 2025



[Filer's Dashboard](#)

- [Contributions](#)
- [Expenditures](#)
- [Loans Received](#)
- [Investments](#)

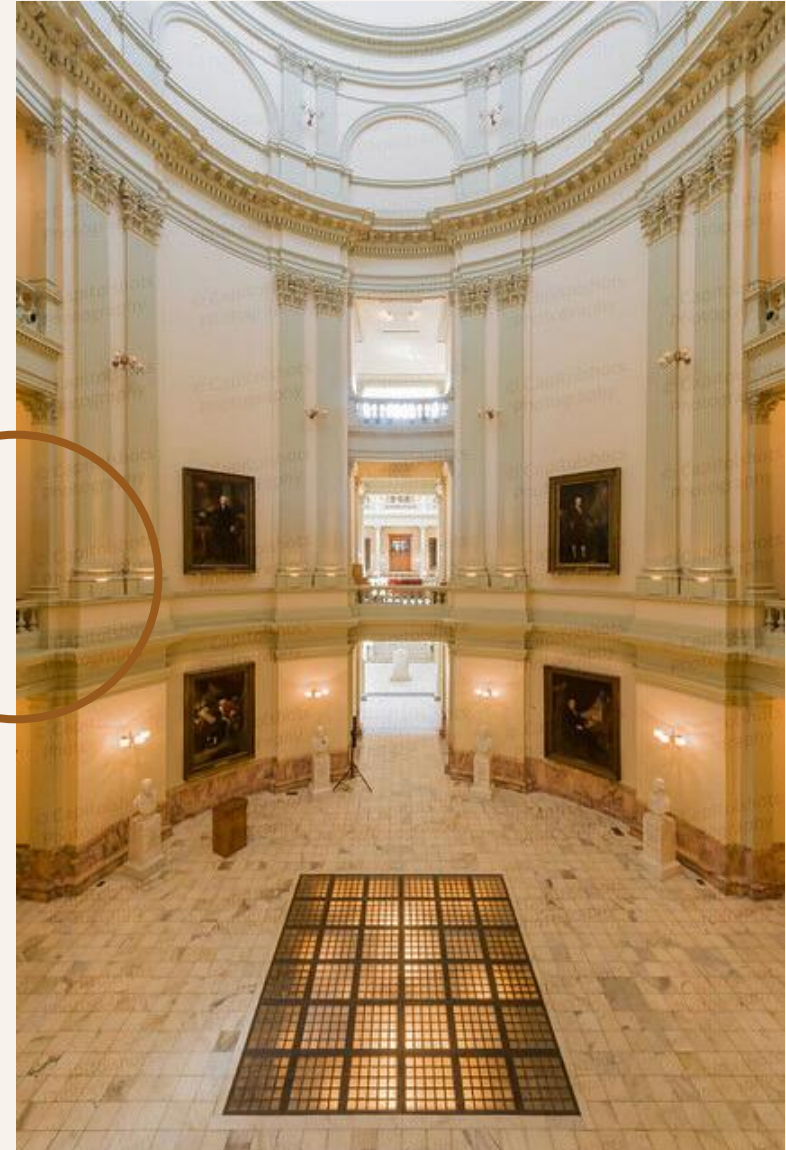
2024 State/Statewide Election Cycle for Candidates (January and June) [RUN FOR OFFICE](#)

[SUMMARY](#) [FEES AND FINES](#) [CORRESPONDENCE/DOCUMENT IMAGES](#)

# CAMPAIGN FINANCE BASICS

## House Rule 11.2(b)

(b) Any member of the House who is notified by the Speaker of the House that he or she is delinquent in the payment of any fee or fine imposed by the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission shall be ineligible to participate as a member of any committee for so long as the delinquency continues. Any member who disputes that he or she is delinquent or contends that his or her delinquency has been satisfied may appeal his or her suspension from the committees to the Committee on Ethics or may ask the committee for reinstatement upon a showing of satisfaction of the delinquency. Upon a determination by the Committee on Ethics that the member is not delinquent, the member's eligibility to serve on committees shall be reinstated. The Committee on Ethics, in its discretion, shall also be authorized to toll any suspension pending its own investigation and determination of delinquency.



# PRE-SESSION CHECKS



*Please use the date that is on the check, not when you receive the check*





# What can I use my campaign funds for as a legislator?

*When we think about these types of expenses, we typically use the “but for” test. But for the fact that you were not in elected office, you would not have these expenses.*

## SESSION HOUSING

You may use campaign funds to rent any accommodations you may need during the legislative session.

## CONFERENCES

Campaign funds may be used to pay for any conference fees that may be related to your office or committee that you are on.

## CAREGIVER EXPENSES

You may use campaign funds to pay for childcare or elder care. The Commission released Advisory Opinion, at the request of Stacy Evans and Beth Camp in a bipartisan effort.

## SESSION LEGISLATIVES AIDES

Campaign funds may be used to pay an aide if you see fit during session.

## MILEAGE

You may use campaign funds to reimburse yourself for mileage, using the IRD mileage rate, if your travel is related to your official business.

## CONSTITUENT SERVICES

You may use campaign funds for constituent service related matters such as donating to a local community organizations or local disaster relief efforts.

# INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE VS POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

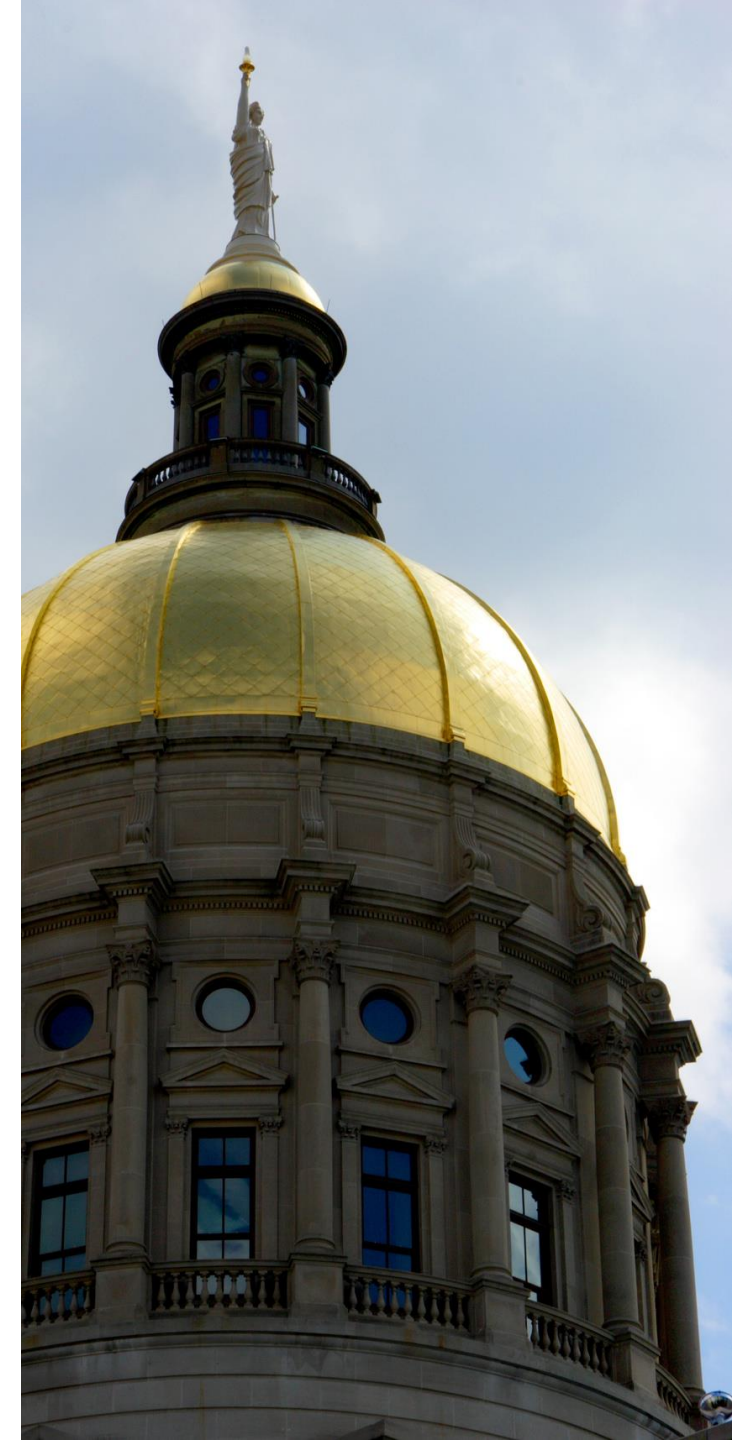
*It is important to remember that neither one of these committees allow coordination with a candidate*

## IC

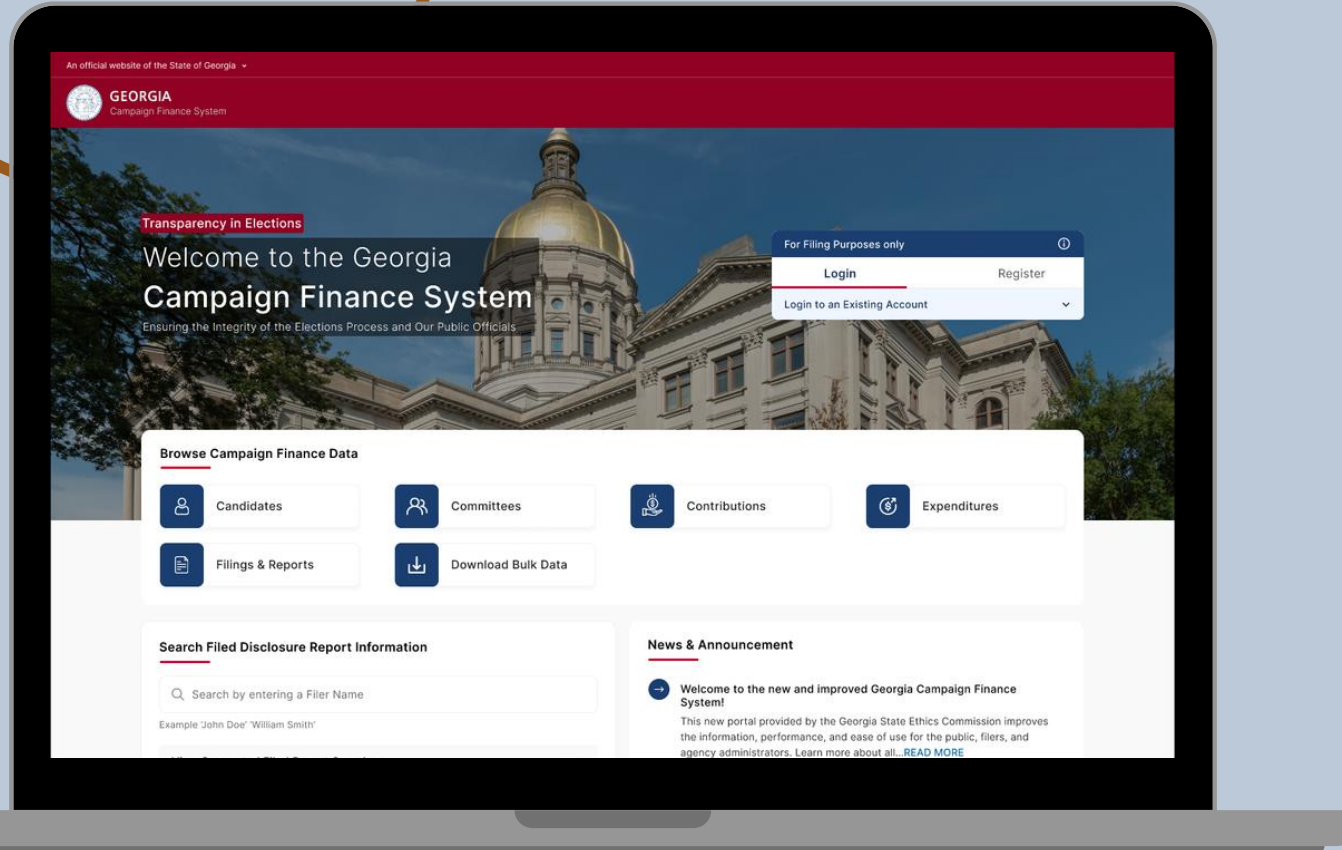
- Used for strategic initiatives and advertisements in support and opposition of a candidate.
- IC's do not have a threshold to register with the Commission. Once they start spending money in support or opposition of a candidate, they must register and file reports with the Commission.
- IC 's will have a 2 Month Prior, 1 Month Prior, 2 Week Prior and December 31st report, based on which election(s) they are participating in.

## PAC

- Used to raise and donate money to other candidates
- Once the PAC has reached the \$25,000 in spending they must register and begin filing reports with the Commission
- PAC's follow the filing schedule to which candidate(s) they are donating to.







NEW E-FILING SYSTEM

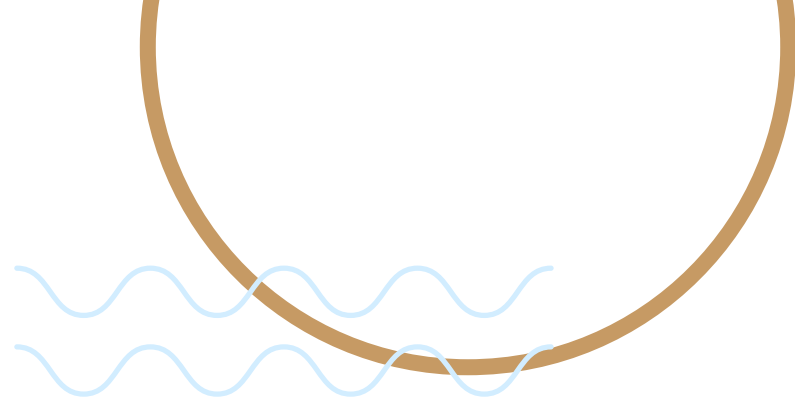
Coming  
Soon!

A low-angle, upward-looking shot of a grand, ornate ceiling. The ceiling features a central circular medallion with intricate floral patterns, surrounded by a series of concentric rings and rectangular panels. The panels are decorated with subtle, repeating patterns. A large, multi-tiered chandelier with numerous glowing light bulbs hangs from the center of the ceiling. The overall color palette is warm, with beige, cream, and gold tones. The text "LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES" is superimposed in the center of the image.

# **LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES**



# THANK YOU!



## LETS KEEP IN TOUCH

Call 404-463-1980  
[www.ethics.ga.gov](http://www.ethics.ga.gov)  
[gaethics@ethics.ga.gov](mailto:gaethics@ethics.ga.gov)



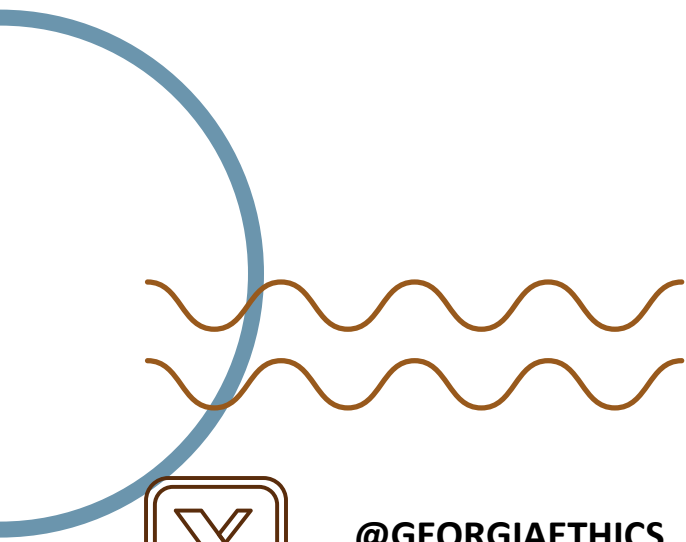
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GEORGIA STATE ETHICS COMMISSION



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