

Fair Political Practices Commission
Filing Schedule for Political Party Committees
January through December 2021
Including Activity for State Special Primary and Special General Elections
March 2, April 6, May 4, and June 8, 2021

Note: Political party committees must file pre-election statements in connection with any state election, including a state special election, if the committee receives contributions of \$1,000 or more, or makes contributions or independent expenditures of \$500 or more in connection with a state election. This may be true even if the committee does not make a payment in connection with the particular election by virtue of receiving contributions during the applicable reporting period. This includes state elections held in both even and odd numbered years.

Please read notes carefully. **Special elections covered: SD 30 and AD79.**

Semi-Annual and Pre-Election Deadlines

| Deadline | Period | Form | Notes: Please read notes carefully. |
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| Jan 21, 2021 <i>1st Pre-Election</i> <i>(Mar 2 Primary)</i> | 1/1/21 – 1/16/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the March 2 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Feb 1, 2021** <i>Semi-Annual</i> | * – 12/31/20 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All committees must file Form 450 or Form 460. May be filed on January 21, 2021. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Feb 18, 2021 <i>2nd Pre-Election</i> <i>(Mar 2 Primary)</i> | 1/17/21 – 2/13/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the March 2 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Feb 25, 2021 <i>1st Pre-Election</i> <i>(April 6 Primary)</i> | 1/1/21 – 2/20/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the April 6 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Mar 25, 2021 <i>2nd Pre-Election</i> <i>(April 6 Primary)</i> | 2/21/21 – 3/20/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the April 6 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |

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| Mar 25, 2021 <i>1st Pre-Election (May 4 General)</i> | 2/14/21 – 3/20/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the May 4 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Apr 22, 2021 <i>2nd Pre-Election (May 4 General)</i> | 3/21/21 - 4/17/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the May 4 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Apr 29, 2021 <i>1st Pre-Election (June 8 General)</i> | 3/21/21 – 4/24/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the June 8 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| May 27, 2021 <i>2nd Pre-Election (June 8 General)</i> | 4/25/21 - 5/22/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if contributions totaling \$1,000 or more were <i>received</i> or if independent expenditures or contributions totaling \$500 or more were <i>made</i> in connection with the June 8 election. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Aug 2, 2021 <i>Semi-Annual</i> | * – 6/30/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All committees must file Form 450 or Form 460. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| Jan 31, 2022 <i>Semi-Annual</i> | * – 12/31/21 | 450 or 460 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All committees must file Form 450 or Form 460. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committee filings will be done online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |

Additional Reports

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| Within 24 Hours <i>Election Cycle Reports</i> | 12/17/20 – 3/2/21 <i>(March 2 Primary)</i> 2/2/21 – 4/6/21 <i>(April 6 Primary)</i> 2/3/21 – 5/4/21 <i>(May 4 General)</i> 3/10/21 – 6/8/21 <i>(June 8 General)</i> | 496 497 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-file only. No paper copy is required. 496: File if an independent expenditure of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is <i>made</i> in connection with a candidate or ballot measure being voted on the March 2 or May 4 or April 6 or June 8 ballot. 497: File if a contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is <i>received</i> from a single source. 497: File if a contribution of \$1,000 or more in the aggregate is <i>made</i> to or in connection with a candidate or ballot measure being voted on the March 2 or May 4 or April 6 or June 8 ballot or to another political party committee. |
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| <p>Within 48 Hours <i>Issue Advocacy Report</i></p> | <p>1/16/21 – 3/2/21 <i>(March 2 Primary)</i></p> <p>2/20/21 – 4/6/21 <i>(April 6 Primary)</i></p> <p>3/20/21 – 5/4/21 <i>(May 4 General)</i></p> <p>4/24/21 – 6/8/21 <i>(June 8 General)</i></p> | <p>E-530</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-file only. No paper copy is required. • File if a payment or promise of a payment of \$50,000 or more is made during the 45 days prior to an election for a communication that identifies a state candidate being voted upon in the election but does not expressly advocate the election or defeat of the candidate. No paper copy is required. |
| <p>Within 10 Days <i>Independent Expenditure Verification</i></p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>462</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committees making independent expenditures must file this form with the FPPC by e-mail only. No paper copy is required. • Committees file only one Form 462 per election for each candidate or measure supported or opposed by an independent expenditure. Until the California Access Replacement System (CARS) is live, committees making independent expenditures must file this form with the FPPC by e-mail only, no paper is copied. Once the CARS system is live, this report will be eliminated as the information will be captured on other statements and reports. |
| <p>Within 10 Business Days <i>\$5,000 Report State Ballot Measure Payments</i></p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>496 497</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 496: Report each independent expenditure totaling \$5,000 or more to support or oppose the qualification or passage of a single state ballot measure. • 497: Report each contribution totaling \$5,000 or more to support or oppose the qualification or passage of a single state ballot measure. • Contributions Received: List all new contributions of \$100 or more received by the committee that have not been previously reported up through the date of the \$5,000 or more payment. • Until the California Access Replacement System (CARS) is live, only e-filers file this report. Once the CARS system is live, all filers file this report online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |
| <p>Within 10 Days <i>Paid Spokesperson Report</i></p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>511</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • File if either of the following expenditures related to an advertisement to support or oppose a ballot measure is made: 1) a payment totaling \$5,000 or more to an individual to appear in an advertisement, or 2) a payment of any amount to an individual portraying a member of a licensed occupation (e.g., nurse, doctor, firefighter). E-filers must also file a paper copy. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) is live, all filers will file this report online or electronically with the Secretary of State. |

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Additional Notes:

- ***Period Covered:** The period covered by any statement begins on the day after the closing date of the last statement filed, or January 1 if no previous statement has been filed.
- ****Deadlines:** Due to the date of the March 2 election being held early in the year, the deadline for the first pre-election report for calendar year 2021 is earlier than the semi-annual report for calendar year 2020. A candidate/committee active in both calendar years may file the 2020 semi-annual report on January 21, 2021. However, the candidate/committee must still file a pre-election statement by January 21, 2021, as well.
- **Odd Year Report:** File by April 30, 2021 if contributions totaling \$10,000 or more are made to committees controlled by *elected* state officers between January 1 and March 31, 2021 and by October 31 if contributions totaling \$10,000 or more are made to committees controlled by *elected* state officers between June 1 and September 30, 2021.
- **Deadline Extensions:** Deadlines are extended when they fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. This extension does not apply to a 24-Hour/10-Day Contribution Report (Form 497) that is due the weekend before an election, and this extension never applies to any 24-Hour/10-Day Independent Expenditure Report (Form 496). Such reports must be filed within 24 hours regardless of the day of the week.
- **California Access Replacement System (CARS):** The new Cal-Access system is expected to go live in 2021.
- **E-filer:** Until the California Access Replacement System (CARS) is live, only state committees that have received contributions or made expenditures totaling \$25,000 or more e-file. Once the CARS system is live, all state committees must file online or electronically with the Secretary of State.
- **Forms 450 and 460:** All state committees, including e-filers, must also file paper statements. Paper statements may be filed by first class mail unless otherwise noted. Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committees will file online or electronically with the Secretary of State, no paper copies will be required.
- **Forms 496 and 497:** Payments for member communications are reportable within 24 hours if the member communication would otherwise be considered a contribution or independent expenditure, and the payments are made during the election cycle.
- **State Contribution Limits:** Refer to the [contribution limits chart](#) on the FPPC website.
- **Penalties:** Late statements and reports are subject to a fine of \$10 per day on both the paper and the e-filed version (e.g., \$20 per day for a late e-filed Form 460). Once the California Access Replacement System (CARS) system is live, all state committees will file online or electronically with the Secretary of State and late e-filed statements and reports will be subject to a fine of \$10 per day. Failure to file a statement or report could result in an enforcement penalty of \$5,000 per violation.
- **Public Documents:** All statements and reports are public documents.
- **Resources:** Campaign manuals and other instructional materials are available [here](#). Or, visit www.fppc.ca.gov > Learn > Campaign Rules.