

Draft Revisions to
**CAMPAIGN SERVICES & ENDORSEMENT POLICY & PROCEDURE FOR
CANDIDATES AND BALLOT MEASURES**

Both partisan and non-partisan offices and ballot measure campaigns are eligible to apply for endorsement and campaign services from the Thurston County Democrats (TCD).

Eligibility Criteria

- Candidate must qualify for the office being sought and demonstrate that they have a well-organized campaign.
- Candidate must file for their specific position as a Democrat or, in the case of non-partisan position other than judicial positions, be able to express support for the most recent TCD platform.
- Ballot measure representatives should be able to identify how their measures are in accord with those principles in the most recent TCD platform.

Candidates or ballot measure initiative supporters may address the TCD at its monthly meetings by contacting the Chair to get on the agenda. If they want additional support, they may apply for campaigns services. The TCD may endorse (post-primary) and provide campaign services to multiple candidates for an elective office or competing ballot measure.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Ballot Measure - Any initiative, referendum, proposed constitutional amendment, or any other ballot measure submitted by the state or any subdivision of the state for consideration by the voters of any part of Thurston County.

Campaign Services – Access to walking lists, mailing lists and precinct maps; announcement of campaign events on the TCD website and in the TCD newsletter; event announcements via email list; posted links to the campaign’s website at the TCD website; use of the TCD bulk mail permit; assistance of PCOs to help distribute literature; consideration of financial contributions for campaign expenses; when available, use of office space and resources; and endorsement (post-primary for candidates), including permission to publicize such endorsement.

Campaign Services Committee (CSC) - A committee whose Chair is appointed by the TCD Executive Committee and whose members are approved by the TCD Chair. The CSC meets monthly to establish campaign services levels & priorities; interview candidates and make campaign services recommendations to TCD membership; and prepare and present financial assistance recommendations to TCD membership based on TCD budget, campaign need, and campaign viability.

Candidate – An individual who has filed to run for elective office.

Candidate Questionnaire – The questionnaire applicants wishing to receive TCD campaign services must complete and submit to CSC.

Chair – The Chair of the TCD.

Voting Member - Members of TCD as defined in TCD Bylaws. A Precinct Committee

Officer (PCO) or his/her proxy in the PCO's absence.

Campaign Services Procedure

1. A representative of the campaign contacts the CSC Chair to obtain an application.
2. The campaign representative completes signs, and submits the application on or before the 10th of the month in which the campaign wishes to obtain services. Applications for campaign services received after the 10th of the month will be considered the following month. **This means that the application deadline for the Primary Election is July 10th of the election year.**
3. The CSC Chair schedules an interview with the candidate or campaign representative. assigns a liaison for the campaign and schedules the candidate, her/his representative or the ballot measure campaign representative for an interview with the CSC.
4. The CSC interviews the candidate or ballot measure representative.
5. Following the interview, the CSC vote on whether to recommend the candidate or ballot measure to the TCD membership for endorsement, campaign service, or both. A candidate must receive at least a 2/3 vote from the CSC members present. Ballot measures require a simple majority vote of the CSC members present.
6. Incumbent local, statewide or congressional candidates may be screened rather than interviewed. In the case of statewide offices, a local representative may make a presentation for the candidate.
7. The CSC Chair presents the CSC's recommendation to the TCD membership at the next scheduled meeting. The Chair conducts a vote on whether to accept the CSC's recommendations. A simple majority vote of the TCD members present at the meeting is required for approval.
8. Candidates or ballot measure representatives may seek approval for campaign services from the full TCD membership directly if they do not receive it from the CSC. In these cases, a motion to approve campaign services must originate from a voting member, and a 2/3 vote of the voting members present in support of the candidate or measure will be required.

Endorsement Procedures

1. Candidate endorsements may be made at any regular or special TCD membership meeting occurring after a Primary Election. Ballot measure campaigns may obtain endorsement before a Primary Election. Intent to endorse must be included in the meeting notice. The endorsement notice must be made on the "TCD Announce" email list or its equivalent no less than 10 calendar days prior to the meeting. ~~The CSC liaison works with the candidate to ensure that the notice is made correctly and at the appropriate time.~~
2. The TCD shall publicize its endorsements in its newsletters, including a comprehensive insert in October's edition between the Primary and General elections. Subject to available funds. The CSC may produce an endorsement flyer. For endorsement, paper ballots shall be used to determine endorsements, and the Chair shall appoint a tally committee to count the paper ballots. The TCDCC endorsement flyer must be distributed. However, each individual participating in the TCDCC literature distribution system has the right to refuse to distribute specific campaign material and to distribute additional campaign material and to distribute additional campaign materials at his or her option.
3. If a candidate or ballot measure approved for campaign services does not seek

~~endorsement or is not endorsed by TCD their campaign services will continue as approved by TCD. The CSC must produce an endorsement flyer. The TCDCC endorsement flyer must be distributed. However, each individual participating in the TCDCC literature distribution system has the right to refuse to distribute specific campaign material and to distribute additional campaign material and to distribute additional campaign materials at his or her option.~~

Financial Assistance

1. Campaigns must make final requests for financial assistance to CSC by the September 10th prior to the General Election.
2. CSC will make financial assistance recommendations to the TCD membership at the regularly scheduled September meeting. These recommendations shall be based on TCD budget, campaign need, and organization of a viable campaign

General Provisions

1. Any member of the CSC who is employed by or is an active officer in the campaign of a candidate or ballot measure may not make a recommendation on candidates for that office or ballot measure.
2. The TCD's bulk mail permit and mailing lists shall be available to approved candidates and ballot measure campaigns, subject to any provisions specified by the TCD Executive Committee. The bulk mail permit and mailing lists shall remain the property of the TCD.
3. No campaign granted campaign services from the TCD may give its mailing list or mailing privileges to any other campaign that has not been granted these same services. No campaign may share the mailing list or mailing privileges, in a joint mailing, with any other campaign that has not been granted campaign services by the TCD.
4. Any campaign which violates these policies and procedures as outlined in this document will be subject to punitive actions as decided by the TCD. These actions may include revoking all campaign services privileges.
5. The financial contributions of the TCD are subject to any limits defined by the Public Disclosure Commission of the State of Washington, Federal Elections Commission or Washington State Democratic Party rules.