

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 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.
- Candidates and ballot measure campaigns must adhere to TCD code of fair campaign practices
- 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 campaign 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 seven-member committee whose members are appointed by the TCD Executive Committee after a thorough application and selection process. Committee members shall represent the diversity of Democrats in Thurston County and include members who meet following criteria:

- Extensive Campaign management or consulting experience, or
- Current or past elected official, and
- Willingness and ability to provide technical assistance and support to approved campaigns, and

- TCD Member or PCO, and
- Agrees to abide by code of fair campaign practices.

The CSC meets: in February to self elect male and female co-chairs and establish campaign services levels & priorities; April and June to interview candidates and make campaign services recommendations to TCD membership; throughout the campaign season CSC members self assign to provide mentoring and access to services to approved campaigns

Candidate - A Democrat 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.

Code of Fair Campaign Practices- guidelines for fair and ethical campaigns

TCDEC-Thurston County Democrats Executive Committee

Voting Member - Members of TCD as defined in TCD Bylaws.

Campaign Services Procedure

1. A representative of the campaign contacts a CSC CO-Chair to obtain an application.
2. The campaign representative completes signs, and submits the application on or before the 10th of April, for early application, or the 10th of June for final applications. Applications for campaign services received after the 10th of April will be considered the following month, no applications will be accepted after June 10th
3. The CSC Co-Chairs schedules an interview with the candidate or campaign representative.
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 Co-Chairs presents the CSC's recommendation to the TCD membership at the April and June TCD meetings. 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.
9. Services approved by TCD may be revoked by a unanimous vote by TCDEC or a 2/3 vote of full membership for reasons such as violations of the code of fair campaign practices.

Endorsement Procedures

1. Candidate endorsements may be made at the September 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.
2. ***For endorsement, paper ballots shall be used to determine endorsements, and the Chair shall appoint a tally committee to count the paper ballots.***
3. Endorsement shall be implied in the case of non-partisan candidates receiving services.
4. 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,
5. 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.

Financial Assistance

1. Campaigns must make final requests for financial assistance to TCDEC by the September 10th prior to the General Election.
2. TCDEC 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
3. TCD membership may vote on each individual candidate's financial assistance separately.

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. Upon final recommendations to TCD in June the CSC will adjust focus to one of mentoring and

providing technical assistance to approved campaigns in an effort to ensure success by Democrats.

3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.

Adopted 22 February 2010