



Exempt Candidates

Who is an exempt candidate? (§ 130.016, RSMo)

An exempt candidate is:

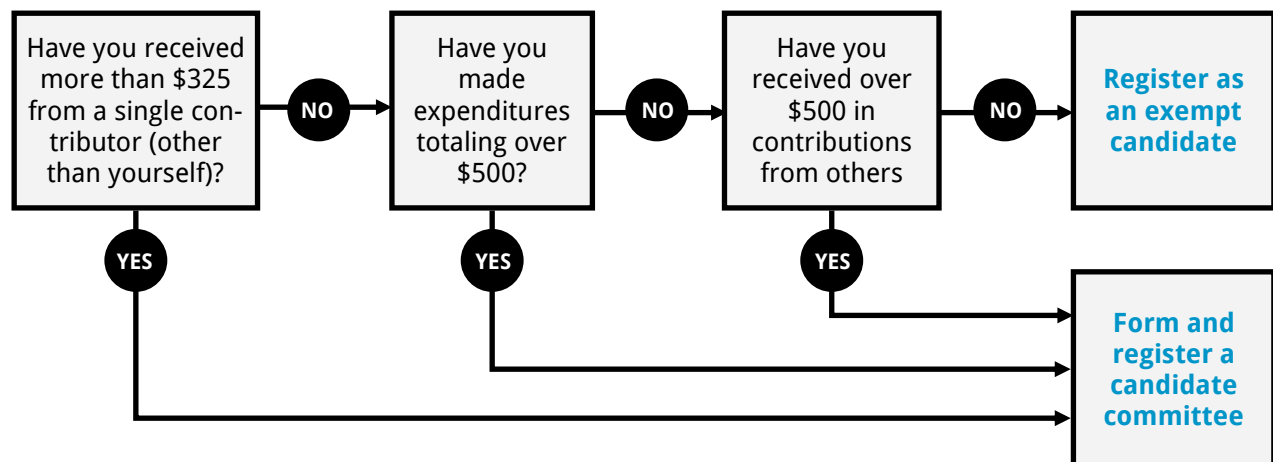
- A candidate for statewide elective office (Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Attorney General); **or**
- A candidate for the General Assembly (State Representative or State Senator); **or**
- A candidate for a municipal office in a city with a population of over 100,000 people;

AND

- Neither the aggregate of contributions received nor the aggregate of expenditures made by or on behalf of such candidate exceeds \$500; **or**
- No single contributor (other than the candidate) contributes more than \$325.

Am I an exempt candidate?

Candidates for statewide office, the General Assembly, or a municipal office with a population over 100,000 should ask themselves the following questions to determine if they meet the qualifications of an exempt candidate:



MEC Tip: The MEC advises candidates that meet the requirements to file as exempt candidates, but anticipate exceeding the above thresholds, to proceed with forming and registering a committee.



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Required Filings for Exempt Candidates

Exempt candidates must file the following with the MEC:

- *Statement of Exemption* no later than the deadline of the first report that would have been required, had the candidate formed a candidate committee (§ 130.016.1(1), RSMo).
- *Electronic Filing Agreement*.
- An *Exemption Statement of Limited Activity* as required by law, for each reporting period, which may include:
 - *Quarterly Reports*.
 - *40 Day Before Election Report*.
 - *8 Day Before Election Report*.
 - *30 Day After Election Report*.

Rejecting Exempt Candidate Status

Exempt candidates who exceed the committee formation thresholds (\$500 aggregate contributions, \$500 aggregate expenditures, or \$325 from a single contributor) must file the following no later than 30 days before the election:

- *Statement of Rejection* stating that you are rejecting your exempt candidate status.
- *Statement of Committee Organization*.
- *Electronic Filing Agreement*.



Related Resources

- [When to Form and Register a Committee](#)
- [Campaign Finance Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [MEC Webinar Schedule](#)
- [Use of Campaign Contributions](#)
- [Chapter 130, RSMo](#)



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