MEC News

Elizabeth Ziegler | Executive Director

2023 Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD) Filing Deadlines

2023 Annual Filers

If a political subdivision listed you as a person required to file a PFD due to a position held in 2022, you must file your PFD no later than **May 1, 2023.** You will receive a letter with e-filing instructions, your MEC ID, and password.

Annual filers who are also candidates should adhere to the earlier due date. Annual filers must file for each year (or portion of a year) for which they hold a position that requires the filing of a PFD.

Failure to file by May 1, 2023, results in a late filing fee of \$10 per day. After 30 days, the fee increases to \$100 per day, not to exceed \$6,000. Additional penalties may also apply.

2023 Candidates

If you are required to file a PFD as a candidate in the April 4, 2023, election, the due dates are:

- 14-day deadline: January 10, 2023
- 21-day deadline: January 17, 2023

*Failure to file by the 14-day deadline results in \$10/day late fees for candidates in a political subdivision without a conflict of interest ordinance.

**Failure to file by the 21-day deadline results in candidate disqualification and removal from the ballot for candidates in a political subdivision without a conflict of interest ordinance.

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Important Reminder:

The MEC <u>cannot</u> enforce a political subdivision's conflict of interest ordinance.

If a subdivision has a conflict of interest ordinance on file and PFD deadlines are not met, penalties can only be enforced by the subdivision according to its ordinance.

Our mission: The MEC serves the public interest by promoting and maintaining transparency, accountability, and compliance with campaign finance, lobbying, and conflict of interest laws. We educate and assist the citizens of Missouri, public officials, lobbyists, and those participating in public elections by increasing awareness and understanding of the law. We investigate and enforce these laws consistently.

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Campaign Finance Tips

Unsuccessful November Candidates: Terminate Your Committee

If you are an unsuccessful candidate and have more money on hand than debt, you are required by law to terminate your committee. To terminate, simply:

- 1. Disburse any remaining funds appropriately.
- 2. Close your committee bank account.
- 3. File a full disclosure report that includes a Termination Statement. This can be filed as a standalone report at any time, or while filing another campaign finance report by checking the Termination Statement box on the committee homepage.

Accepting and Reporting Contributions Received through Online Fundraising Platforms

Your committee may receive contributions using platforms like Venmo, PayPal, ActBlue, WinRed, etc., so long as funds are transferred directly to the committee's official bank account within five days of receipt.

On your campaign finance report, disclose the full amount donated by a contributor. Then, report any fees taken as an expenditure to the vendor.

For example: If Jane Smith donates \$125 dollars to your campaign via PayPal and your committee receives \$122 after fees, report a \$125 contribution from Jane Smith and a \$3 expenditure to PayPal.

APRIL CANDIDATES: Register for an MEC Webinar

Not sure if you need to form a committee? Questions about campaign finance law?

When to Form and Register a Candidate Committee

- January 12, 2023 at noon. Click <u>here</u> to register.
- January 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Click <u>here</u> to register.
- February 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Click <u>here</u> to register.
- February 24, 2023 at noon. Click <u>here</u> to register.

Introduction to Campaign Finance and Record-Keeping

- January 19, 2023 at noon. Click <u>here</u> to register.
- February 16, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Click <u>here</u> to register.
- March 14, 2023 at noon. Click <u>here</u> to register.

Completing a Campaign Finance Report

- January Quarterly Report Webinar: January 9, 2023 at noon. Click <u>here</u> to register.
- 40 Day Before Election Report Webinar: February 21, 2023 at noon. Click <u>here</u> to register.
- 8 Day Before Election Report Webinar: March 24, 2023 at noon. Click <u>here</u> to register.

Physical Address:

3411 A. Knipp Dr., Jefferson City, MO 65109 Mailing Address: PO Box 1370, Jefferson City, MO 65102 Phone: 800-392-8660 or 573-751-2020 Email: helpdesk@mec.mo.gov Website: www.mec.mo.gov

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We're Hiring! Reporting Specialist Position Available

The MEC is seeking a talented reporting specialist for its compliance and education division, based in Jefferson City. This specialist will assist candidates, public officials, committee treasurers, and lobbyists with their MEC filing requirements. Duties include entering and updating information in electronic systems, and reviewing reports for completion and accuracy. A degree from an accredited college or university is preferred; or a high school diploma and two years of work experience are required. For more information about this opportunity, click <u>here</u>.

JANUARY 2023										
	1/10		14-day PFD deadline for April 4 candidates							
	1/10		Lobbyist monthly expenditure report due							
	1/16		Martin Luther King Jr. Day—MEC office closed							
	1/17 21-day PFD deadline for April 4 candidates									
	1/17 January Quarterly Report due (optional)									
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
29	30	31								

Calendar Check

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FEBRUARY 2023											
	2/10)	Lobbyist monthly expenditure report due								
	2/13	(Lincoln's Birthday— MEC office closed								
	2/20)	President's Day—MEC office closed								
	2/23	ζ	40 Day Before April 4 Election Report due								
S	М	т	W	т	F	S					
			1	2	3	4					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25					
26	27	28									

MARCH 2023 Lobbyist monthly 3/10 expenditure report due List of Principals and 3/15 Legislative Action Report due Deadline to register a 3/23 candidate committee for April 4 election 8 Day Before April 4 3/27 Election Report due S Т W Т F S Μ 1 2 3 4 7 9 5 6 8 10 11 14 15 17 12 13 16 18 22 23 19 20 21 24 25 26 27 28 26 29 30 31

Coming Soon:

Mandatory April Quarterly

Report due April 17

MEC Tip:

Make sure to add your MEC deadlines to a calendar you check regularly to avoid late fees and penalties.

