

Federal Election Commission

§ 100.5

which candidate(s) should be certified as a nominee for the Federal office sought, is a runoff election.

(2) The election held after a general election and prescribed by applicable State law as the means for deciding which candidate should be certified as an officeholder elect, is a runoff election.

(e) *Caucus or Convention.* A caucus or convention of a political party is an election if the caucus or convention has the authority to select a nominee for federal office on behalf of that party.

(f) *Special election.* *Special election* means an election which is held to fill a vacancy in a Federal office. A special election may be a primary, general, or runoff election, as defined at 11 CFR 100.2 (b), (c) and (d).

§ 100.3 Candidate (2 U.S.C. 431(2)).

(a) *Definition.* *Candidate* means an individual who seeks nomination for election, or election, to federal office. An individual becomes a candidate for Federal office whenever any of the following events occur:

(1) The individual has received contributions aggregating in excess of \$5,000 or made expenditures aggregating in excess of \$5,000.

(2) The individual has given his or her consent to another person to receive contributions or make expenditures on behalf of that individual and such person has received contributions aggregating in excess of \$5,000 or made expenditures aggregating in excess of \$5,000.

(3) After written notification by the Commission that any other person has received contributions aggregating in excess of \$5,000 or made expenditures aggregating in excess of \$5,000 on the individual's behalf, the individual fails to disavow such activity by letter to the Commission within 30 days of receipt of the notification.

(4) The aggregate of contributions received under 11 CFR 100.3(a) (1), (2), and (3), in any combination thereof, exceeds \$5,000, or the aggregate of expenditures made under 11 CFR 100.3(a) (1), (2), and (3), in any combination thereof, exceeds \$5,000.

(b) *Election cycle.* For purposes of determining whether an individual is a

candidate under this section, contributions or expenditures shall be aggregated on an election cycle basis. An election cycle shall begin on the first day following the date of the previous general election for the office or seat which the candidate seeks, unless contributions or expenditures are designated for another election cycle. For an individual who receives contributions or makes expenditures designated for another election cycle, the election cycle shall begin at the time such individual, or any other person acting on the individual's behalf, first receives contributions or makes expenditures in connection with the designated election. The election cycle shall end on the date on which the general election for the office or seat that the individual seeks is held.

§ 100.4 Federal office (2 U.S.C. 431(3)).

Federal office means the office of President or Vice President of the United States, Senator or Representative in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress of the United States.

§ 100.5 Political committee (2 U.S.C. 431 (4), (5), (6)).

Political committee means any group meeting one of the following conditions:

(a) Except as provided in 11 CFR 100.5 (b), (c) and (d), any committee, club, association, or other group of persons which receives contributions aggregating in excess of \$1,000 or which makes expenditures aggregating in excess of \$1,000 during a calendar year is a political committee.

(b) Any separate segregated fund established under 2 U.S.C. 441b(b)(2)(C) is a political committee.

(c) Any local committee of a political party is a political committee if: it receives contributions aggregating in excess of \$5,000 during a calendar year; it makes payments exempted from the definition of contribution, under 11 CFR 100.80, 100.87, and 100.89 and expenditure, under 11 CFR 100.140, 100.147, and 100.149, which payments aggregate in excess of \$5,000 during a calendar