

A Summary of Changes to the Debate Program

THEN

Debate Participants

All participating candidates are required to take part in the first primary, general, and run-off debates.

Only the second general election debate limited to “leading contenders.”

Candidates who don’t join the Campaign Finance Program may not participate in any debates, except the second general election debate, and only then if they are deemed “leading contenders” and invited by sponsors.

Only candidates participating in the Campaign Finance Program are required to take part in the Debate Program.

Second Primary Debate

All participating candidates required to take part in second primary debate.

Run-Off Elections

Two debates held for a run-off election.

Alternative Non-Partisan Voter Education Program

Sponsor required to provide alternative non-partisan voter education program for any participating candidates who are not deemed “leading contenders.”

NOW

Debate Participants

Only participating candidates and limited participating candidates with a minimum level of public support may participate in the first primary and general election debate.

The second primary and general election debates limited to “leading contenders.”

Debate sponsors may invite candidates who don’t join the Campaign Finance Program to participate in any of the debates as long as they satisfy the same criteria applicable to participating candidates and limited participating candidates.

Limited participating candidates as well as participating candidates are required to take part in the Debate Program.

Second Primary Debate

Second primary debate limited to “leading contenders.”

Run-Off Elections

One debate held for a run-off election.

Alternative Non-Partisan Voter Education Program

Sponsor not required to provide alternative non-partisan voter education program.



TWO-TIERED BONUS FOR PARTICIPANTS FACING A HIGH-SPENDING OPPONENT

	MATCHING RATE	TRIGGER (% spending limit raised or spent)	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS (Amount of regular spending limit)	SPENDING LIMIT (% of regular spending limit)
No Bonus	4:1	n/a	55%	n/a
Tier One	5:1	50%	66%	150%
Tier Two	6:1	300%	125%	no limit

BONUS AS APPLIED BY OFFICE

	MATCHING RATE	TRIGGER (% spending limit raised or spent)	MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS (Amount of regular spending limit)	SPENDING LIMIT (% of regular spending limit)
MAYOR				
No Bonus	4:1	n/a	\$3,150,400	\$5,728,000
Tier One	5:1	\$2,864,001	\$3,818,667	\$8,592,000
Tier Two	6:1	\$17,184,001	\$7,160,000	no limit
PUBLIC ADVOCATE/COMPROLLER				
No Bonus	4:1	n/a	\$1,969,550	\$3,581,000
Tier One	5:1	\$1,790,501	\$2,387,333	\$5,371,500
Tier Two	6:1	\$10,743,001	\$4,476,250	no limit
BOROUGH PRESIDENT				
No Bonus	4:1	n/a	\$708,950	\$1,289,000
Tier One	5:1	\$644,501	\$859,333	\$1,933,500
Tier Two	6:1	\$3,867,001	\$1,611,250	no limit
CITY COUNCIL				
No Bonus	4:1	n/a	\$82,500	\$150,000
Tier One	5:1	\$75,001	\$100,000	\$225,000
Tier Two	6:1	\$450,001	\$187,500	no limit

2005 LIMITS, REQUIREMENTS, AND PUBLIC FUNDS

CONTRIBUTION LIMITS*

	Mayor	Public Advocate	Comptroller	Borough President	City Council
	\$4,950	\$4,950	\$4,950	\$3,850	\$2,750

* Per campaign (primary and general election combined). The contribution limits cover the entire election cycle. Participants may make contributions to their own campaigns of up to three times these limits. For special elections, the contribution limits are half these amounts. Non-participants may contribute an unlimited amount to their own campaign.

SPENDING LIMITS (participants only)

	Mayor	Public Advocate	Comptroller	Borough President	City Council
2002 – 2003*	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 3,000
2004*	180,000	180,000	180,000	120,000	40,000
2005 Primary Election†	<u>5,728,000</u>	<u>3,581,000</u>	<u>3,581,000</u>	<u>1,289,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
2005 General Election	5,728,000	3,581,000	3,581,000	1,289,000	150,000
2005 Primary or General Election					
tier one bonus rate	8,592,000	5,371,500	5,371,500	1,933,500	225,000

* Spending in excess of these amounts will be charged against the first limit applicable in 2005.

† If no primary election is held and a primary election spending limit is not otherwise applicable, the amount set forth in this row will constitute the limit for the general election.

THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS (participants only)

	Mayor	Public Advocate	Comptroller	Borough President	City Council
Dollar Amount	\$250,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$10,000 – 49,307*	\$5,000
Number of Contributors	1,000	500	500	100	75

* For borough president, the threshold dollar amount is equal to the number of persons living in each borough multiplied by two cents, or ten thousand dollars, whichever is greater. The dollar amount (based on the 2000 census) for each borough is: Bronx, \$26,653; Brooklyn, \$49,307; Manhattan, \$30,744; Queens, \$44,588; and Staten Island, \$10,000.

MAXIMUM PUBLIC FUNDS* (participants only)

	Mayor	Public Advocate	Comptroller	Borough President	City Council
	\$3,150,400	\$1,969,550	\$1,969,55	\$708,950	\$82,500
	\$3,818,667†	\$2,387,333†	\$2,387,333†	\$859,333†	\$100,000†
	\$7,160,000‡	\$4,476,250‡	\$4,476,250‡	\$1,611,250‡	\$187,500‡

* Per election, in election year.

† Maximum public funds under bonus rate, tier one.

‡ Maximum public funds under bonus rate, tier two.



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Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr., *Chairman*

Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr. was named by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg to succeed founding Campaign Finance Board Chairman Joseph A. O'Hare, S.J. Fritz Schwarz has a long and distinguished record in public service. Under former Mayor Edward I. Koch, he served as Corporation Counsel, and later served as Chair of the 1989 New York City Charter Revision Commission. Currently senior counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU Law School, Mr. Schwarz also serves as senior counsel at the law firm Cravath, Swaine & Moore. His public service awards include Common Cause New York's "I Love an Ethical New York Award," and the Civic Leadership Award of the Citizens Union of the City of New York. He was also honored as a Founder by New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. Mr. Schwarz's term began on April 1, 2003 and will expire on March 31, 2008.



Nicole A. Gordon, *Executive Director*

Nicole A. Gordon is the first Executive Director of the New York City Campaign Finance Board, an independent non-partisan City agency created in 1988 that provides public funding to eligible candidates for City elective offices who choose to join the voluntary Campaign Finance Program. The Board, which has been recognized as a "model for the country" in campaign finance reform, oversees and monitors candidates' campaign finances to determine their compliance with the Campaign Finance Act. Ms. Gordon has been a recipient of several awards recognizing her outstanding public service, including the New York State Common Cause's "I Love an Ethical New York" Award (as co-recipient with the Board members); the New York County Lawyers' Association Public Service Award; and most recently Columbia University Law School's Lawrence A. Wien Prize for Social Responsibility. She is a past Chair of the Government Ethics Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and a past President of the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws. Ms. Gordon is a graduate of Columbia Law School and Barnard College.