

These rules were approved by the Board on January 15, 2026, and will become effective thirty days after publication in The City Record.

**New York City
Campaign Finance Board
Notice of Final Rules**

IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 1043 OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER, and exercising authority vested in the Campaign Finance Board under Chapters 45 and 46 of the New York City Charter (including sections 1043, 1052(a)(5), (a)(8), (a)(12), and (d) thereof) and under the New York City Campaign Finance Act (the “Act”) (including sections 3-703(1)(d), (1)(g), (15), 3-705(4), 3-708(5), 3-708(8), 3-710(1), (2)(a), and 3-710.5(ii) of the New York City Administrative Code (the “Code”)), and section 14-128 of the New York State Election Law, the Board hereby adopts amendments to the Campaign Finance Board Rules (the “Board rules”) related to disclosure, eligibility for public funds, contributions, payment determinations, penalties, formal adjudication, and special elections.

I. Explanation, Basis, and Purpose

The Board Rules are codified in Chapter 52 of the Rules of the City of New York.

The Campaign Finance Board (the “CFB” or “Board”) is a nonpartisan, independent City agency that empowers New Yorkers to make a greater impact in City elections. The CFB administers the City’s campaign finance system, overseeing and enforcing the regulations related to campaign finance and holding candidates accountable for using public funds responsibly. The CFB publishes detailed public information about money raised and spent in City elections by candidates and independent spenders, and engages and educates voters through community outreach, the Voter Guide pursuant to § 3-709.5 of the Administrative Code, and the Debate Program pursuant to § 1053 of the City Charter.

A proposed version of these amendments was published in the City Record on November 5, 2025. A public hearing was held on December 5, 2025.

The CFB received one written comment and no oral testimony at the public hearing.

Upon careful consideration of this comment and internal discussion, the CFB adopted all amendments with no changes.

The following is a summary of the rules as adopted:

Summary of Final Rules

Miscellaneous

Sections 1-02, 5-11(a)(v), 6-01(h)(iv)(B)(2)(II), and 15-02(b) & (c) are amended to bring the language into conformity with the language used by candidates to register on the CFB portal.

Section 5-07(a) is amended to bring the language into conformity with New York City Administrative Code § 3-710.

Section 7-09(c)(ii)(A) is amended to clarify that a petition may be considered by the Board Chair if the Board is not scheduled to meet within five days.

Sections 11-01, 11-02, 11-05(a)(i), 11-10(b), 11-16(c), 11-21, and 11-25 are amended to bring the language into conformity with § 1046 of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 1 of Title 48 of the Rules of the City of New York.

Sections 15-01, 15-03(i), and 15-06(b)(i) are amended to bring the language into conformity with §§ 24 & 25 of the Charter of the City of New York.

Minor technical amendments are made to sections 2-06(b)(iv), 3-01(d)(ii)(B), 4-01(e), 4-05(b)(ii)(B), 5-01(a), 9-01, and 10-03(e).

The following rules will take effect thirty days after final publication in The City Record:

II. Final Rules

New material is underlined.

[Deleted material is in brackets.]

“Shall” and “must” denote mandatory requirements and may be used interchangeably in CFB rules, unless otherwise specified or unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Section 1. The definition of “filer registration” set forth in section 1-02 of chapter 1 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is REPEALED, and a new definition of “registration” is added to such section, in alphabetical order, to read as follows:

“Registration” means the submission of the information required pursuant to § 2-01 prior to the filing of disclosure statements.

§ 2. Paragraph (iv) of subdivision (b) of section 2-06 of chapter 2 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(iv) for a primary or general election, the election year is the calendar year in which the election occurs; for a special election, the election year begins on the date the special election is proclaimed.

§ 3. Subparagraph (B) of paragraph (ii) of subdivision (d) of section 3-01 of chapter 3 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(B) Discretionary ineligibility. The Board may determine that neither a pre-election nor post-election public funds payment will be paid to a candidate if there is reason to believe that, in the course of Program participation, the candidate has engaged in conduct detrimental to the Program that is in violation of any [other] applicable law.

§ 4. Subdivision (e) of section 4-01 of chapter 4 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(e) Fundraisers. Candidates must maintain records for all fundraising events, which must contain: the date and location of the event; the individual(s) or organization(s), other than the candidate's authorized committee, hosting the event; an itemized list of all expenses incurred in connection with the event, including all expenses whether or not paid or incurred by the authorized committee; and the contributor name and amount of each contribution received at or in connection with the event. This subdivision does not apply to activities at an individual's residential premises, including house parties, to the extent that the total costs of such activities do not exceed \$500 and are not contributions pursuant to § [3-702(8)(ii)] 3-702(8)(c)(ii) of the Code.

§ 5. Subparagraph (B) of paragraph (ii) of subdivision (b) of section 4-05 of chapter 4 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(B) Pre-election disclosure statements are due:

[(i)] (1) 32 and 11 days before the election;

[(ii)] (2) at the Board's discretion, on October 15 in the year before the year of the election; and

[(iii)] (3) at the Board's discretion, on March 15 and the fourth Friday in August in the year of the election.

§ 6. Subdivision (a) of section 5-01 of chapter 5 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(a) Candidates may not accept contributions from a single source in excess of the limits set forth in [§ 3-703(1)(f)] §§ 3-703(1)(f) and (h) of the Code.

§ 7. Subdivision (a) of section 5-07 of chapter 5 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(a) Generally. When a candidate knows or has reason to know that the candidate has accepted a contribution or aggregate contributions from a single source in excess of the applicable contribution limit, including a contribution or contributions from a contributor having business dealings with the city, or from a source prohibited by the Act or the Charter or by state or federal law, the candidate must promptly refund the excess portion or prohibited contribution to the contributor or to the Fund. When a candidate knows or has reason to know that the candidate has accepted [a nominee or] an anonymous contribution, the candidate must promptly disgorge the contribution to the comptroller of the state of New York for deposit in the general treasury of the state.

§ 8. Paragraph (v) of subdivision (a) of section 5-11 of chapter 5 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(v) **Deposit of receipts.** All monetary contributions must be accepted and deposited into the account(s) listed on the candidate’s [Filer] Registration or Certification and in disclosure statements filed with the Board, or rejected and returned to a contributor, within 20 business days after receipt, except contributions made in the form of cash must be accepted and deposited, or rejected and returned to a contributor, within 10 business days after receipt. All monetary receipts accepted for an election must be deposited into the candidate’s authorized committee bank account. A monetary receipt is received on the date it is delivered to the candidate.

§ 9. Item (II) of clause (2) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (iv) of subdivision (h) of section 6-01 of chapter 6 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(II) filing a [Filer] Registration or Certification with the Board;

§ 10. Subparagraph (A) of paragraph (ii) of subdivision (c) of section 7-09 of chapter 7 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(A) If the Board is [unable to convene] not scheduled to meet within five business days of receipt of the petition, the candidate may appear at the next scheduled Board meeting.

§ 11. Section 9-01 of chapter 9 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

§ 9-01 Repayment of Public Funds.

Candidates must promptly repay public funds upon a determination made by the Board that a repayment is required. Candidates returning public funds must make a check payable to the “New York City Election Campaign Finance Fund.” Candidates may not reclaim public funds they have returned. Public funds must be repaid to the Board separately from, and in addition to, any penalties owed by the candidate.

§ 12. Subdivision (e) of section 10-03 of chapter 10 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(e) **Penalty Guidelines.** The Board shall publicize [staff guidelines for presumptive] a schedule of civil penalties to be recommended for certain violations of the Charter, Act, and these rules, subject to consideration of aggravating and mitigating factors that may be considered in determining the appropriate penalty assessment for the violation.

§ 13. The definition of “case” set forth in section 11-01 of chapter 11 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

“**Case**” means an adjudication pursuant to CAPA, under § 1046 of the Charter, or an adjudication referred to OATH, pursuant to § 1048 of the Charter.

§ 14. Section 11-02 of chapter 11 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

§ 11-02 Applicability.

[(a)] This chapter applies solely to cases that are subject to CAPA, including hearings, pre-hearing and post-hearing matters, brought by the Board pursuant to the Act or the Charter.

[(b) In the event of any inconsistency between this chapter, other chapters of this title, and the rules of OATH, this chapter shall govern.]

§ 15. Paragraph (i) of subdivision (a) of section 11-05 of chapter 11 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(i) The Board shall institute proceedings pursuant to this chapter by serving a petition, sworn to or affirmed as to the truth thereof, on the respondent(s). The petition shall comply with the requirements in OATH Rules of Practice §§ 1-22 and 1-23. The petition shall set forth the facts which, if proved, constitute violations of the Act or these rules or require repayment of public funds.

§ 16. Subdivision b of section 11-10 of chapter 11 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(b) The notice of conference or hearing shall be served by first class mail, or, upon consent of the parties, by electronic means, and appropriate proof of service shall be maintained. A copy of the notice of conference, with proof of service, must be filed with OATH at or before the commencement of the conference.

§ 17. Subdivision (c) of section 11-16 of chapter 11 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(c) regulate the course of the hearing in accordance with [section] § 11-20 of this Chapter;

§ 18. Section 11-21 of chapter 11 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

§ 11-21 Interpreters.

[The hearing officer will make reasonable efforts to provide language assistance services to a party or its witnesses who are in need of an interpreter to communicate at a hearing or conference.]

(a) OATH will provide language assistance services to a party or their witnesses in need of such services to communicate at a trial or conference. All requests for language assistance must be made to OATH's calendar unit.

(b) A request for language assistance by telephone may be made at any time before the trial or conference.

(c) A request for in-person interpretation must be made at least five (5) business days before the trial or conference.

(d) A request for sign language interpretation must be made at least three (3) calendar days before the trial or conference.

§ 19. Section 11-25 of chapter 11 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

§ 11-25 Public Access to Proceedings.

Other than settlement conferences, all proceedings shall be open to the public, in accordance with OATH Rules of Practice § 1-49.

§ 20. The opening paragraph of section 15-01 of chapter 15 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

If a special election to fill a vacancy is [declared] proclaimed, the Board, after considering the date of the election and any other relevant factors, may provide for special requirements and procedures for candidates, including:

§ 21. Subdivisions (b) and (c) of section 15-02 of chapter 15 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York are amended to read as follows:

(b) [Filer] Registration. Candidates who do not wish to participate in the Program are not required to file a Certification, but must file a [Filer] Registration specifically for the special election with the Board.

(c) Candidates raising funds for other elections within the same election cycle. Candidates who have already been raising funds for other elections occurring after the special election, but within the same election cycle, may use their existing committee bank accounts in the special election, provided that they submit a new [Filer] Registration or Certification with the Board to reflect the change in election, and further provided that once such committee and account have been used for the special election, they must not be used for any future election, including any other elections during the same election cycle.

§ 22. Paragraph (i) of subdivision (e) of section 15-03 of chapter 15 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(i) Public funds received for a special election to fill a vacancy may be used only for expenditures made by a candidate to further the candidate's nomination or election to fill such vacancy, and may not be used for any expenditure that is not qualified as defined in § 3-704 of the Code and section 6-02(a). An expenditure made prior to the date on which a vacancy was [declared] proclaimed shall be presumed not to be in furtherance of the candidate's nomination or election, unless the candidate provides evidence demonstrating that the vacancy was reasonably anticipated when the expenditure was made.

§ 23. Paragraph (i) of subdivision (b) of section 15-06 of chapter 15 of title 52 of the rules of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

(i) Candidate elections. For candidates anticipated to be voted on in a special election, the reporting period for the first independent expenditure disclosure statement begins on the day the vacancy is [declared] proclaimed. The reporting period for each subsequent disclosure statement begins on the preceding Monday.