

Citizens Clean Elections Commission

	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 ESTIMATE	FY 2027 BASELINE
FUND SOURCES			
Other Non-Appropriated Funds	12,445,000	13,066,500	13,066,500
TOTAL - ALL SOURCES	12,445,000	13,066,500	13,066,500

AGENCY DESCRIPTION — As authorized by a 1998 ballot initiative, the Citizens Clean Elections Commission provides full public funding to qualified candidates who agree to abide by the commission's guidelines. To qualify for funding, participating candidates must adhere to spending and contribution limits and gather \$5 qualifying contributions from district constituents who are registered voters. Participating candidates also agree to attend required debates. The commission is not subject to legislative appropriation.

Other Issues

Clean Elections Fund Balance

Proposition 200 was approved in the 1998 General Election, creating the Clean Elections Fund. The fund, which helps finance participating candidate campaigns, receives revenue from a 10% surcharge on civil and criminal fines, qualifying contributions from participating candidates, and penalties paid by candidates. A maximum of 10% of the fund's revenues may be used to enforce the Citizens Clean Elections Act, and another 10% may be spent on voter education.

In FY 2025, the fund had revenues of \$6,922,900 which combined with the fund's beginning balance results in total available funds of \$34,706,500. This compared to spending of \$12,455,000 in FY 2025. For FY 2026, the commission estimates annual fund revenue will be \$5,320,000, compared to \$13,066,500 in spending. Along with surpluses from prior years, the commission forecasted the fund will have a balance of \$14,505,000 at the end of FY 2026.

For additional background and a history of Clean Elections Fund transfers to the General Fund, please see the [FY 2022 Appropriations Report](#).

SUMMARY OF FUNDS	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Estimate
Citizens Clean Elections Fund (ECA2425/A.R.S. § 16-949)		Non-Appropriated
Source of Revenue: Election-related civil penalties; civil and criminal fine and penalty surcharges; "qualifying contributions" on behalf of candidates who seek public campaign funding. Prior to FY 2013, the commission also generated revenues from a check-off box on state income tax forms and tax credits. Laws 2012, Chapter 257 repealed those provisions.		
Purpose of Fund: To fund administrative costs of the Citizens Clean Elections Commission, campaigns of candidates who qualify for public campaign funding under A.R.S. § 16-950, and activities pertaining to voter education.		
Funds Expended	12,455,000	13,066,500
Year-End Fund Balance	22,251,500	14,505,000