

# Financing and expenses of an authorized candidate on a recognized ticket

Reference: Act respecting school elections to elect certain members of the boards of directors of English-language school service centres, sections 63, 206.6, 206.18, 206.22, 206.28, 206.30, 206.34, 206.38, 206.39, 206.49 and 206.50

#### **PURPOSE**

The Act respecting school elections to elect certain members of the boards of directors of English-language school service centres (CQLR, c. E-2.3) (ASEESSC) provides candidates with the possibility of joining together in a ticket recognized by the returning officer of English school board. In such cases, the ticket, through its leader, must undertake to submit a written application for recognition to the returning officer (form ES-30) by the prescribed deadline.

However, unlike an elector or a candidate, a ticket recognized by the returning officer cannot obtain authorization to solicit and collect contributions, incur expenses, and take out loans.

Nevertheless, authorized candidates on the same ticket may, under certain conditions, **designate in writing** a single person to solicit and collect contributions, as well as incur joint expenses related to the election campaign. This directive describes how they can do so.

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Section 206.22 of the ASEESSC specifies that only an authorized candidate or persons designated in writing by an authorized candidate can solicit contributions, be they monetary or in the form of goods or services.

Authorized candidates on the same ticket may designate the single person to solicit and collect contributions (see appendix). This person must then ask contributors to specify the authorized candidate they would like their contribution to support, and provide a contribution receipt accordingly. The person must deposit the contributions he or she receives into the election fund of the authorized candidate for whom they are intended. To this end, each candidate must open his or her own separate bank account.

A recognized ticket may not make a contribution of goods or services to an authorized candidate. If it does provide a service or a good, it must issue an invoice to that person for the value of the service or good provided. The candidate must then pay the amount due to settle the invoice from his or her election fund.

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#### **ELECTION-RELATED EXPENSES**

Authorized candidates on the same recognized ticket may incur joint election-related expenses. They may designate a single person to incur expenses on their behalf. In this case, all candidates must complete and sign a power of attorney, and attach it to the various reports (see appendix).

A joint expense is one related to achieving the mission set out by the recognized ticket or to running its election campaign. The amount of such an expense is distributed to all recognized candidates on the ticket or to a group of candidates, based on the joint use of the associated resource.

If a joint expense concerns the authorized candidates on a ticket, they must equally share the joint election expenses.

The corresponding claim must be submitted on behalf of the candidates who authorized the expense. The person designated by all the candidates may pay the claim using the amounts paid to him or her from the election funds of each of the authorized candidates.

All joint advertising must identify both the names of all candidates having authorized the expense and the name of the printer or manufacturer.

#### **ELECTORAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

#### A) Revenues

Authorized candidates on the same recognized ticket may appoint, in writing, a person responsible for organizing an electoral activity or event. This person is responsible for preparing a report on electoral activities and subsidiary revenues (a report template is available on the Élections Québec website).

When the entrance fee for an electoral activity is more than \$60, it must be treated like any other contribution.

When the entrance fee for an electoral activity is equal to or less than \$60, it can either be treated as a contribution or not (for more information on this topic, see the *Guide for the authorized candidate*).

Any contributions collected must be deposited in the election funds of each of the candidates involved. However, any amounts collected without a contribution receipt must be remitted and divided equally among the candidates involved.

Where applicable, this distribution method must also be applied to subsidiary revenues collected during an electoral activity or event (for more information on subsidiary revenues, see the *Guide for the authorized candidate*). Each candidate must ensure that the total amount of activity revenues collected for all of his or her financing activities does not exceed **3%** of the total amount of contributions collected during the period covered by a financial report, as required by section 206.18 (6°).

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#### B) Expenses

All expenses associated with an electoral activity or event must be divided equally among the candidates involved. These expenses must be paid by the authorized person, using the amounts provided to that person from the election funds of each of the candidates. Furthermore, the person responsible for the electoral activity or event may use a petty cash fund to pay out-of-pocket expenses (for more information on using a petty cash fund, see the *Guide for the authorized candidate*).

#### LOANS

A recognized ticket **cannot** take out a loan for the benefit of an authorized candidate on the ticket, nor can it guarantee a loan or lend any amount of money to the candidate. Authorized candidates on a recognized ticket can nevertheless take out loans for the benefit of their own campaign.

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élections Québec		
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