



March 14, 2019
PA-19-02

PROGRAM ADVISORY

FROM: Emory A. Rounds, III
Director

SUBJECT: Presidential Candidate Financial Disclosure

An individual who becomes a candidate¹ for President by April 15, 2019, must file a public financial disclosure report (OGE Form 278e) with the U.S. Federal Election Commission (FEC) no later than May 15, 2019.² An individual who becomes a candidate after April 15, 2019, must file their report within 30 days of becoming a candidate.³ The candidate must thereafter file an OGE Form 278e on May 15 of each successive year that they remain a candidate.⁴ The FEC may grant extensions of the deadline.⁵ Candidates can find a fillable Excel version of the form on the “Forms” page of the OGE website.⁶

Once the U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) has received a candidate financial disclosure report from the FEC, OGE staff will review the report for legal compliance with the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (EIGA). If additional information or an amendment to the report is needed, OGE staff will contact the candidate or the candidate’s representative. OGE strives to resolve all outstanding issues through an informal process within 60 days of OGE’s receipt of the report. After 60 days, OGE may initiate a formal, written information request and amendment request process. OGE will certify the financial disclosure report when it is in compliance with the EIGA and the applicable regulations.

Candidate financial disclosure reports are releasable to the public under requirements set out in the EIGA.⁷ Note that OGE is required to release a candidate’s report 30 days after receipt by OGE pursuant to the release process in the EIGA,⁸ whether or not it has been certified. A list of candidates whose reports have been certified by OGE is available on the OGE website.⁹

¹ For a more detailed legal discussion of when an individual becomes a candidate and the associated public financial disclosure obligation, *see* OGE Legal Advisory LA-11-03 (2011), available [here](#).

² 5 U.S.C. app. § 101(c).

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ 5 C.F.R. § 2634.201(g).

⁶ *OGE Forms*, U.S. OFF. GOV’T ETHICS, <https://www.oge.gov/web/oge.nsf/OGE+Forms> (last visited Mar. 13, 2019).

⁷ 5 U.S.C. app. § 105(b)(2).

⁸ 5 U.S.C. app. § 105(b)(1). To obtain a fillable version of the form to request a report (OGE Form 201), *see* U.S. Office of Government Ethics, Form 201,

[https://www.oge.gov/web/OGE.nsf/Resources/OGE+Form+201+\(fill+and+print+pdf\)](https://www.oge.gov/web/OGE.nsf/Resources/OGE+Form+201+(fill+and+print+pdf)).

⁹ *Presidential Candidates*, U.S. OFF. GOV’T ETHICS,

<https://www.oge.gov/web/oge.nsf/Presidential%20Candidates?OpenView> (last visited Mar. 13, 2019).

