



ARA 13.01 PURPOSE, AUTHORITY, AND CONSTRUCTION

A. Purpose

In 2018, voters amended the City Charter to regulate campaign contributions and expenditures in City candidate elections. [Article 3 of the Charter](#) and [Chapter 2.10 of the Portland City Code](#) (collectively, “the City’s campaign finance regulations”) set contribution and expenditure limits for campaigns relating to the election of City of Portland candidates (Mayor, Commissioners, and City Auditor). The City’s campaign finance regulations also require certain campaign communication disclosures, the registration of certain expenditures with the Secretary of State, and the availability of employee political deductions via payroll. Any person may file a complaint with the Auditor’s Office alleging a violation of the City’s campaign finance regulations, and the Auditor’s Office may initiate a complaint when there is reason to believe that a violation has occurred. The Auditor’s Administrative Rules set forth additional guidance regarding the requirements of City Charter Article 3 and Portland City Code Chapter 2.10.

B. Independence of Auditor’s Administrative Rules

The Auditor’s Administrative Rules are distinct from any administrative rules governing the City of Portland’s voluntary [Open and Accountable Elections](#) program.

C. Authority

[Charter Section 2-506](#) authorizes the Auditor’s Office to adopt, amend, and repeal administrative rules to carry out the Auditor’s Office’s duties.

D. Construction

The Auditor’s Administrative Rules will be construed in conformity with the City Charter and the City Code, and with applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations, all of which supersede any conflicting provisions in this rule.

Auditor’s Office Administrative Rule Information and History

Questions about this administrative rule may be directed to the [City Elections Office](#).

Adopted by the City Auditor on April 6, 2020 as an interim rule effective for not more than 180 days. The interim rule was revised by the City Auditor on April 29, 2020, also as an interim rule.

Adopted by the City Auditor on October 3, 2020, following a notice and comment period of at least 30 days.