

O V E R V I E W

THE DEMOCRACY VOUCHER PROGRAM



Urban League of
Metropolitan Seattle



Seattle
Ethics & Elections
Commission

prepared by | The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

AGENDA

WHAT TO EXPECT

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The ULMS Policy & Civic Engagement Department

The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle (ULMS) Policy & Civic Engagement department works diligently to protect the civil liberties and rights of the black community, advocate for policy reform, serve as a voice for those we serve, and educate the public on civil issues affecting our region of service.

ULMS has partnered with Seattle Ethics & Elections Commission (SEEC) to inform the community on the Democracy Voucher Program.



ABOUT

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What is the Democracy Voucher program?

- **HOW IT WORKS**

Each Seattle resident receives four **\$25 vouchers** they can use to donate to candidates running for office in the City of Seattle.

- **TIMELINE**

Democracy Vouchers will be mailed to registered voters in Seattle and those who applied **beginning February 9, 2021**. (Vouchers will be mailed on a monthly basis to newly registered voters in Seattle.)



A B O U T

What is the purpose of the Democracy Voucher program?

- **Increase** the number of candidates who run for office
- **Increase** the number of Seattle residents who donate and support local campaigns

YOUR PARTICIPATION MAKES AN IMPACT

Since the start of the Democracy Voucher Program:



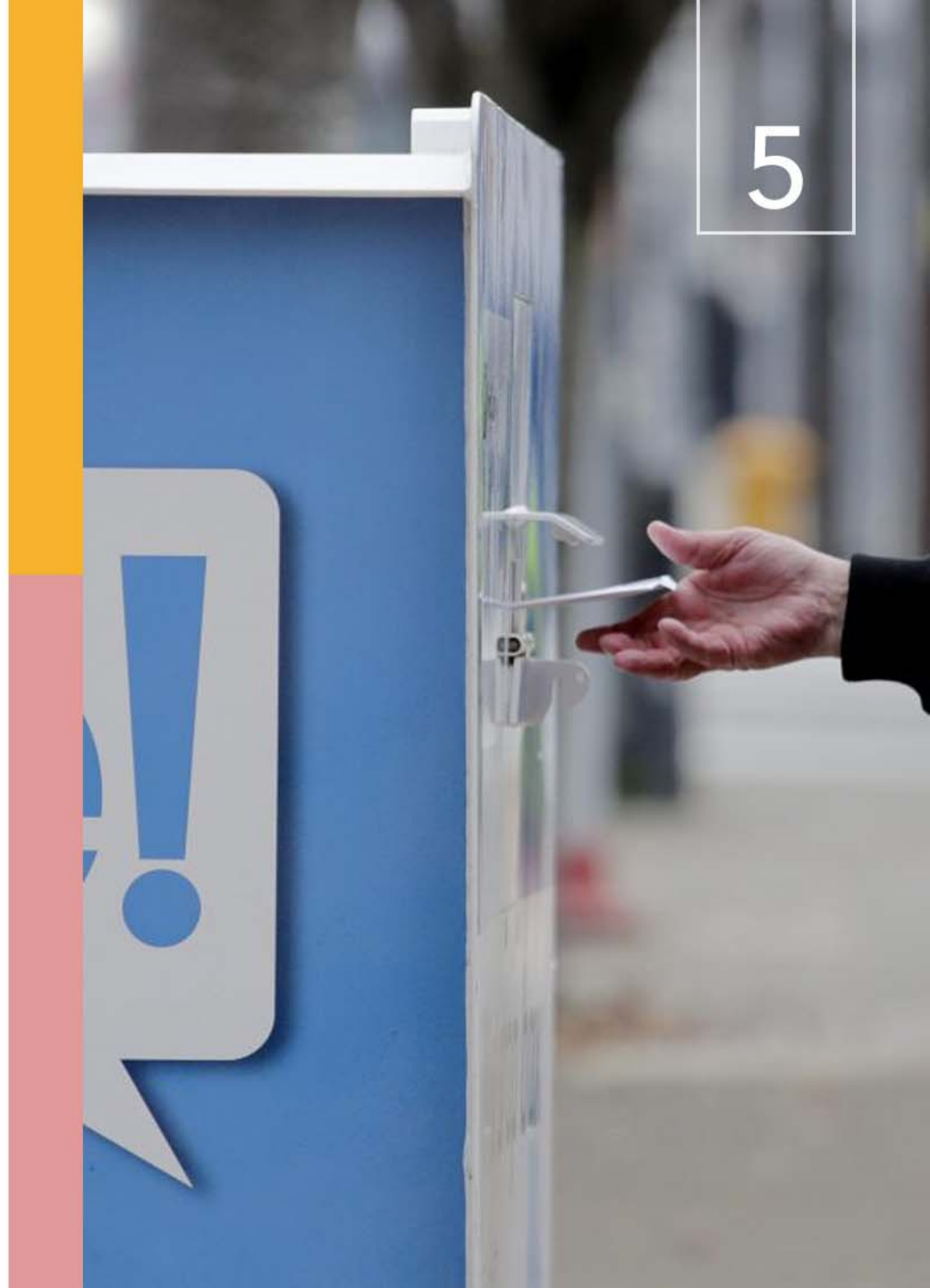
The number of Seattle residents who contributed to campaigns has tripled.

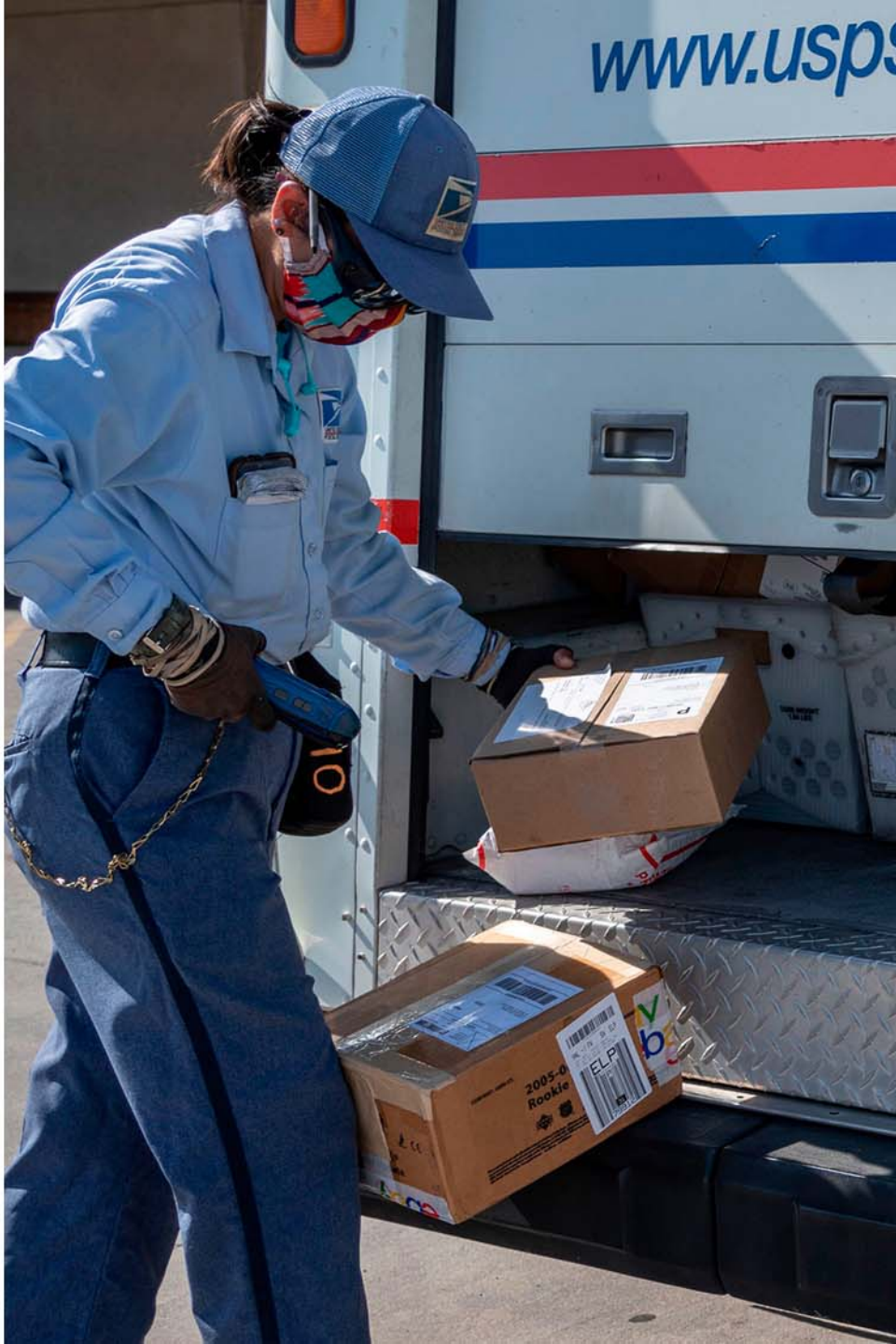


90% of candidates participated in the program.



The program distributed over \$3.5 million to Seattle campaigns.





A B O U T

How do I get my Democracy Vouchers?

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Register to vote in Seattle

- If you are registered to vote in Seattle, you will receive vouchers by mail automatically beginning **February 9, 2021**

Eligibility:

- Must be a Seattle resident;
- Over the age of 18;
- Are either a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or lawful permanent resident (*green card holder*)

Voucher Envelope

WHAT TO EXPECT



City of Seattle

Democracy Voucher Program

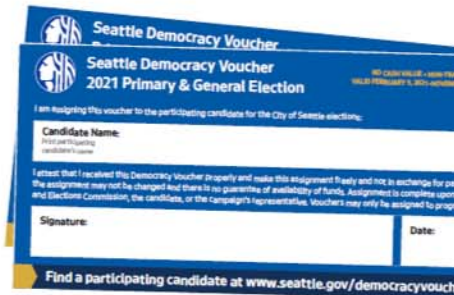
PO Box 35196

Seattle, WA 98124-5196

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE WA
PERMIT 2052

ATTENTION SEATTLE RESIDENT

**Use your Democracy Vouchers
for the 2021 elections.**



ភ្នំពេញ • Cambodian/Khmer • 繁體中文 • 简体中文
Filipino/Tagalog • 한국어 • ພາສາລາວ • Oromiffa
русский язык • af Soomaali • Español • ภาษาไทย
Українська • ትግርኛ • Tiếng Việt

Important Reminders:

- You can use your Democracy Vouchers **beginning February 9, 2021 to November 30, 2021.**
- However, we recommend using them early because candidates can only raise a certain amount of money for their campaign.

Inside the Envelope

WHAT TO EXPECT

Questions about the Democracy Voucher Program?

Democracy Vouchers are used to support participating candidates running for Mayor, City Council, and City Attorney in the 2021 City of Seattle elections.

What is the purpose of the program?

Democracy Vouchers are a way for Seattle residents to donate to local candidates or run for office themselves.

Can I give my Democracy Vouchers to any candidate?

Democracy Vouchers can be given to any participating candidate. Find the list of participating candidates at seattle.gov/democracyvoucher or call 206-727-8855.

When should I use my Democracy Vouchers?

You can use your Democracy Vouchers from February 9, 2021 - November 30, 2021.

However, candidates can only receive a limited number of vouchers. The longer you wait to use your vouchers, the more likely your candidates will have reached their voucher limits.

How should I use my Democracy Vouchers?

You can assign vouchers to a single candidate or to several candidates. Also, you can assign your vouchers all at once or over time.

What happens if I do not use my Democracy Vouchers?

If you do not use your Democracy Vouchers, the funds will carry over to the next election cycle. Please recycle unused vouchers.

Is using my Democracy Vouchers the same as voting?

No, giving your vouchers to a candidate is not the same as voting. If you are eligible, you will still need to vote during the Primary and General Elections.

If I use my Democracy Vouchers, is that information made public?

Yes, when you assign a Democracy Voucher, your name and your selections are reported on our website.

YOUR PARTICIPATION MAKES AN IMPACT

Since the start of the Democracy Voucher Program:



The number of Seattle residents who contributed to campaigns has tripled.



90% of candidates participated in the program.



The program distributed over \$3.5 million to Seattle campaigns.

There are two ways to use your Democracy Vouchers!

Democracy Vouchers can be used to support participating candidates for Mayor, City Council, and City Attorney in 2021.

When you assign a Democracy Voucher, your name and your candidate selection is reported on our website.

Go online Use your Democracy Vouchers online at seattle.gov/democracyvoucher.

Use your paper vouchers



Learn about the candidates.

Learn about the candidates by visiting www.seattle.gov/democracyvoucher or call 206-727-8855 to request information. The list of candidates is updated frequently as candidates enroll in the program.



Complete your vouchers.

Write in the candidate's name, your signature, and the date on each voucher. You can assign one or more vouchers to participating candidates.



Return your vouchers.

There are many ways to return your Democracy Vouchers.

- Give your vouchers directly to a candidate's campaign.
- Use the enclosed pre-paid envelope.
- Find the list of additional drop-off locations on the website.

Questions? See the enclosed information sheet for frequently asked questions.



Seattle Democracy Voucher
2021 Primary & General Election

NO CASH VALUE • NON-TRANSFERABLE
VALID FEBRUARY 9, 2021 - NOVEMBER 30, 2021

\$25
VOUCHER 1 OF 4

I am assigning this voucher to the participating City of Seattle candidate whose name is printed here:

Candidate Name:
Participating candidate's name

I attest that I received this Democracy Voucher properly and make this assignment freely and not in exchange for payment of any kind. I am aware the assignment may not be changed and there is no guarantee of availability of funds. Assignment is complete upon delivery to the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission, the candidate, or the campaign's representative. Vouchers may only be assigned to program candidates.

Signature:

Date:

Find a participating candidate at www.seattle.gov/democracyvoucher



Seattle Democracy Voucher
2021 Primary & General Election

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\$25
VOUCHER 2 OF 4

I am assigning this voucher to the participating City of Seattle candidate whose name is printed here:

Candidate Name:
Participating candidate's name

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Signature:

Date:

Find a participating candidate at www.seattle.gov/democracyvoucher



Seattle Democracy Voucher
2021 Primary & General Election

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\$25
VOUCHER 3 OF 4

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Candidate Name:
Participating candidate's name

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Signature:

Date:

Find a participating candidate at www.seattle.gov/democracyvoucher



Seattle Democracy Voucher
2021 Primary & General Election

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VALID FEBRUARY 9, 2021 - NOVEMBER 30, 2021

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VOUCHER 4 OF 4

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Participating candidate's name

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Signature:

Date:

Find a participating candidate at www.seattle.gov/democracyvoucher

Pre-paid Envelope

WHAT TO EXPECT



Important Reminders:

Seattle residents can return their vouchers using the **pre-paid postage envelope** included in their voucher packet



HIGHLIGHTS

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THE 2021 CITY OF SEATTLE ELECTIONS

- **Key Positions on the Ballot**

The Mayor, City Attorney, and the two City Council At-large (citywide) positions will be on the ballot.

- **Important to Know**

This is the first time the Mayor's race will be eligible for the use of Democracy Vouchers.

- **Budget Estimate**

There is \$6.8 million budgeted for the upcoming Democracy Voucher Program to fund local campaigns.



NEXT STEPS

How Do I Use My Democracy Voucher?

What local resources are available to assist you with completing and submitting your Democracy Voucher?



HIGHLIGHTS

RESOURCES

- **Find the participating candidates**
<http://www.seattle.gov/democracyvoucher/i-am-a-seattle-resident/participating-candidates>
- **Webpages and How to Videos**
- **Replacement Voucher Requests**
Accessible by mid-February
- **Apply for Democracy Vouchers**
<http://www.seattle.gov/democracyvoucher/i-am-a-seattle-resident/apply-now>

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Connect with us!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Urban League

- 105 14th Ave, Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98122
www.UrbanLeague.org
- Phone | 206.461.3792
- Social Media | @SeaUrbanLeague

Democracy Voucher Program

- **www.Seattle.gov/democracyvoucher**
- Phone | 206.727.8855
- Twitter | @Sea_Elections
- Facebook | @DemocracyVoucher
- Instagram | @DemocracyVoucher Program



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QUESTIONS?



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