



NYC's Official 2013 Debate Program Participant Criteria for Comptroller General Election Debates

Citywide candidates who participate in the voluntary matching public funds program and meet the below criteria must attend the Comptroller debates. Debate Program sponsors may invite non-participating candidates who meet the same criteria.

There are two debates per office, per election (Primary Election and General Election). The second of these two debates is reserved for "leading contenders," which are determined by non-partisan, objective, and non-discriminatory criteria agreed upon by the Campaign Finance Board and the Debate Program sponsors. If only one candidate qualifies for a debate, no debate is held.

The following details the non-partisan, objective, and non-discriminatory criteria that candidates must meet in order to participate in the Comptroller debates.

Comptroller – First General Election Debate

NY1 Sponsor Group

Tuesday, October 8, 2013, 7 – 8 pm

NY1 Studio, 75 9th Avenue, New York, NY

- Must be on the ballot as of the date of the Debate¹ AND
- Must meet all other minimum criteria under the Act² AND
 - (a) Must have raised and spent \$25,000 in compliance with the Act by the end of the last disclosure period prior to the Debate, which is Monday, September 30, 2013, and reported the information by the last filing date prior to the Debate, which is Friday, October 4, 2013³ AND
 - (b) Must have achieved at least 5%⁴ in at least one of the following polls:
 - the most recent voter preference poll conducted by Marist, or
 - the most recent voter preference poll conducted by Quinnipiac.

¹ Admin. Code § 3-709.5(1)(a).

² Admin. Code § 3-709.5(5)(b)(i).

³ *Id.*

⁴ A candidate will not be deemed to have achieved this threshold by adding the margin of error to his or her poll result. For example, a candidate who achieves 1.5% in a poll with a margin of error of 3.5% will not be deemed to have met the criteria of this Section (b).

In order to be used in this Section (b), the poll must:

- have a margin of error of 4.5% or less,
- include all of the candidates on the ballot (for the election for which the poll is conducted) at the same time the poll is taken, and
- be conducted between the date of the ballot certification and Tuesday, October 1, 2013.

If no such poll exists, this Section (b) may not be used for Debate eligibility for any candidate and Section (a) will be used to determine Debate eligibility for all candidates on the ballot for the election for which this Debate is being conducted.

Comptroller – Second General Election Debate (for “Leading Contenders”)

CBS Sponsor Group

Thursday, October 24, 2013, 7 – 8 pm

WCBS Studio, 524 West 57th Street, New York, NY

- Must be on the ballot as of the date of the Debate⁵ AND
- Must meet all other minimum criteria under the Act⁶ AND
- Must have met the criteria for the Comptroller First General Election debate AND
 - (a) Must have raised and spent \$200,000 in compliance with the Act by the end of the last disclosure period prior to the Debate, which is Monday, September 30, 2013, and reported the information by the last filing date prior to the Debate, which is Friday, October 4, 2013⁷ OR
 - (b) Must have raised and spent \$25,000 in compliance with the Act by the end of the last disclosure period prior to the Debate, which is Monday, September 30, 2013, and reported the information by the last filing date prior to the Debate, which is Friday, October 4, 2013⁸ and must have achieved at least 10%⁹ in at least one of the following polls:
 - the most recent voter preference poll conducted by Marist, or
 - the most recent voter preference poll conducted by Quinnipiac.

In order to be used in this Section (b), the poll must:

- have a margin of error of 4.5% or less,
- include all of the candidates on the ballot (for the election for which the poll is conducted) at the same time the poll is taken, and
- be conducted between the date of the ballot certification and Thursday, October 17, 2013.

⁵ Admin. Code § 3-709.5(1)(a).

⁶ Admin. Code § 3-709.5(5)(b)(i).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ A candidate will not be deemed to have achieved this threshold by adding the margin of error to his or her poll result. For example, a candidate who achieves 5.5% in a poll with a margin of error of 4.5% will not be deemed to have met the criteria of this Section (b).

If no such poll exists, this Section (b) may not be used for Debate eligibility for any candidate and Section (a) will be used to determine Debate eligibility for all candidates on the ballot for the election for which this Debate is being conducted.