

**Non-Partisan, Objective, and Non-Discriminatory Criteria for
Debate Participation**

- Candidates, who are Participants or Limited Participants in the Campaign Finance Program, are eligible and required to participate in a Debate if they meet the specific criteria listed for that Debate.¹
- The Sponsor may invite Campaign Finance Program Non-Participants to participate in the Debate if they meet the criteria required for Participants or Limited Participants.²

**Mayor – First Primary Election Debate
Wednesday, August 26, 2009**

- Must be on the ballot as of the date of the Debate³ AND
 - (a) Must have raised and spent \$50,000 in compliance with the Campaign Finance Act (“the Act”) by the last filing date prior to Debate,⁴ which is Friday, August 14, 2009, AND
 - (b) Must have achieved at least 5%⁵ in at least one of the following polls:
 - the most recent voter preference⁶ poll conducted by Marist,
 - the most recent voter preference poll conducted by Quinnipiac, or
 - the most recent voter preference poll conducted by NY1 News.

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 time the poll is taken, and
- be conducted between the date of ballot certification and August 19, 2009.

If no such poll exists, this section (b) may not be used for Debate eligibility for any

¹ Admin. Code § 3-709.5(1)(a), (5)(b)(i).

² Admin. Code § 3-709.5(5)(b)(ii).

³ Admin. Code § 3-709.5(1)(a).

⁴ Admin. Code § 3-709.5(5)(b)(i).

⁵ 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% in a poll with a margin of error of 4.5% will not be deemed to have met the criteria of this section (b).

⁶ A voter preference poll is a survey that asks respondents to express a preference among candidates on the ballot for a particular office.

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.