

Guidelines for Use of LWVMC Investment Fund

Principles

1. Investment disbursement thresholds will be set to protect legacy contributions and to allow an evolution of practices.
2. Investment disbursements may support any LWVMC position, including budget balancing, projects, and litigation.
3. Project emphasis will be on voter service, education, and advocacy.
4. Outcomes will be pursued which support League policy positions or League capacity to be successful.

Thresholds

1. \$100,000 minimum Investment Fund balance: Though disbursements from the fund may be made on a regular basis, a “threshold” amount of \$100,000 will be maintained for the time being. This allows significant Fund growth through earnings and appreciation, and establishes a safeguarded holding position that can be exceeded only after another Board review and action.
2. Five Percent for Operating Budget: A maximum of 5% of the 3-year average of the fund will be budgeted each year for operational expenses. If necessary, this may include principal as well as investment earnings.
3. \$10,000 maximum for projects: Up to \$10,000 annually may be committed for Board-approved special projects related to education, voter service, and/or advocacy and litigation in support of a League position. Such projects may be multi-year, with funds disbursed annually until the end of the approved project.

Procedures

1. Project ideas will be considered from any source, including the Board.
2. Projects will be considered to be League sponsored.
3. New proposed projects must be written, and address the following factors:
 - a. A goal, consistent with LWVMC positions and/or objectives.
 - b. Description of the problem or circumstance needing attention.
 - c. Description of public interest qualities that apply (e.g., timeliness, priority, public awareness, gaps to be filled, impacts, benefit to League, etc).
 - d. Activities that will be undertaken.
 - e. Measures of success.
 - f. Income and expense budget, including all sources of income.
 - g. In-kind or other support from other sources.
4. All projects must be approved by the Board.
5. The Board may designate or form a committee to oversee the project.
6. At closure, the project must provide a written report to the LWVMC Board, including total income and expenses and documentation of successes.