

POLITICO



Getty

2016

Jeb Bush to announce 2016 bid on June 15

In a tweet sent Thursday morning, Bush teases “Coming soon.”

By **NICK GASS** | 6/4/15 6:13 AM EDT | Updated 6/4/15 10:23 AM EDT

Jeb Bush will officially enter the presidential race on June 15 in Miami, nearly six months after announcing that he was “actively” exploring running for the Republican nomination.

In a tweet sent Thursday morning, Bush teases “Coming soon,” linking to jebannouncement.com, which features a 06.15.15 date and says it was paid for by “Jeb 2016, Inc.”

The former Florida governor also shared his message in Spanish:

Bush’s announcement will come at a 3 p.m. event at Miami Dade College, one of the United States’ largest institutions of higher education, with an enrollment of 165,000 students. The speech will come at the institution’s Kendall campus, where then-President George W. Bush delivered a 2007 commencement address.

“Gov. Bush is thankful for the support and encouragement he has received from so many Americans during the last several months and looks forward to announcing his decision,” spokeswoman Kristy Campbell said in a statement sent to reporters.

The event will come after a trip to Europe, in which the Republican candidate-in-waiting will visit Germany, Poland and Estonia.

Bush has tested the legal definition of being a presidential candidate, jetting around the country raising millions of dollars without formally declaring his candidacy.

Former President George W. Bush has recently begun headlining events for his brother, including a May 13 reception in San Francisco, POLITICO first reported.

Jeb Bush’s dominance of the 2016 money race masks some early problems attracting the support of the Republican base, especially in Iowa, where he has consistently trailed potential rivals like Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker.

Bush has also had to contend with the rise of his former protege, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, who made his own presidential announcement at Miami’s Freedom Tower in April. Bush came in second to Rubio in a CNN/ORC national poll earlier this week.

Following the news Thursday, Rubio told a New Hampshire radio station that the Republican field is going to be full of credible candidates and Bush is “one of them.”

Bush’s delayed announcement has created some linguistic awkwardness in recent days. In an interview on Sunday, Bush told CBS’ “Face the Nation” that he would “like to run” but had not yet made a decision.

“I hope, I hope I’m a candidate in the near future,” he said.

Bush’s announcement would end six months of his involvement with his well-funded Right to Rise PAC, which was on pace to rake in \$100 million by the end of May, an unprecedented figure that is expected to dwarf his official campaign’s coffers.

Once he formally announces, however, he can no longer coordinate with the super PAC.

Bush alumni received an email on Thursday morning with the subject line “Invitation from Governor Bush,” inviting them to join the “big announcement” on June 15.

He was reportedly shooting a campaign-launch advertisement at a charter school in the Miami area on Wednesday, as four large moving trucks rolled through the streets and two police officers stood guard. A source told POLITICO’s Florida Playbook that the shoot was

for a campaign, saying that parents had to sign waivers for their children to participate. The campaign did not respond to requests for comment.

Marc Caputo contributed to this report.