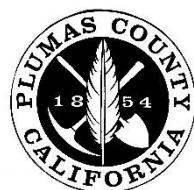


Candidate Handbook



June 2, 2026
Primary Election

Plumas County Elections
520 Main Street, Room 102
Quincy, CA 95971
530-283-6256
elections@countyofplumas.com
www.plumascounty.us/clerkrecorder/elections



PLUMAS COUNTY POSITIONS STANDING FOR ELECTION

ASSESSOR

Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued (Government Code 24001). No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she:

- a) Holds a valid appraiser's certificate issued by the State Board of Equalization pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with section 670) of Chapter 3 of Part 2 of Division 1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code
- b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) a duly elected or appointed person may exercise the powers and duties of assessor, for a period not to exceed one year, if he/she acquires a temporary appraiser's certificate from the State Board of Equalization no later than 30 days after taking office
- c) This section shall not apply to any person holding office of assessor on January 1, 1997

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued (Government Code 24001). No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she meets the requirements. The following provisions shall be in effect upon the Board of Supervisors, by unanimous vote, at a regular meeting, with all members present, enacts an ordinance adopting these provisions (Government Code 26945, 26946 and Plumas County Ordinance 97-892).

No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she MEETS AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

Government Code 26945.1

(a) Any person serving in the capacity of county auditor shall complete at least 40 hours of qualifying continuing education, pursuant to subdivision (b), for each two-year period, beginning January 1, 1998, and completing at least 10 hours in each year of the two-year period. At least 20 of the 40 hours of continuing education shall be obtained in governmental accounting, auditing, or related subjects.

(b) Qualifying continuing education may be obtained in the areas of accounting, auditing, or related subjects. In addition, qualifying continuing education may be obtained in any other subject, if it can be demonstrated that the specific educational program contributes to professional competence.

(c) With respect to a county auditor who is a licensee of the California Board of Accountancy, or of the accountancy licensing authority of any other state, or who possesses a certificate issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors, continuing education obtained for purposes of renewal of the license or certificate may be applied to satisfy the requirements of this section.

Pursuant to Plumas County Code:

Article 6.5. County Auditor - Sec. 2-4.651. Qualifications for office.

No person shall hereafter be elected or appointed to the office of County Auditor of Plumas County unless the person meets at least one of the following criteria:

- (a) The person possesses a valid certificate issued by the California Board of Accountancy under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 5000) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code showing the person to be, and a permit authorizing the person to practice as, a certified public accountant or as a public accountant.
- (b) The person possesses a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university, college, or other four-year institution, with a major in accounting or its equivalent, as described in subdivision (a) of Section 5081.1 of the Business and Professions Code, and has served within the last five (5) years in a senior fiscal management position in a county, city, or other public agency, a private firm, or a nonprofit organization, dealing with similar fiscal responsibilities, for a continuous period of not less than three (3) years.
- (c) The person possesses a certificate issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors showing the person to be a designated professional internal auditor, with a minimum of sixteen (16) college semester units, or their equivalent, in accounting, auditing, or finance.
- (d) The person has served as County Auditor, Chief Deputy County Auditor, or Chief Assistant County Auditor.

(§ 2, Ord. 89-721, eff. January 4, 1990, as amended by § 2, Ord. 97-892, eff. January 15, 1998, operative January 1, 1998; § 1, Ord. No. 06-1041, adopted January 17, 2006)

CLERK-RECORDER-REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued (Government Code 24001). No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she meets the requirement for qualification.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued (Government Code 24001). No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she meets the following requirements pursuant to the Education Code:

1206. Except as provided in this section no person shall hereafter be elected or appointed to office as county superintendent of schools of any county who does not possess a valid credential issued by the State Board of Education of the type designated in Sections 1205 to 1212, inclusive, for each class. Where a county changes from one class to another because of an increase in the average daily attendance in the public schools of such county, the incumbent county superintendent of schools in that county shall not be prohibited from continuing in office and shall be eligible for reelection to the same office regardless of whether he possesses a valid credential otherwise required in a county of that class.

1207. The qualifications of the county superintendent of schools in each county shall be as set forth in Sections 1205 to 1212, inclusive, for that class into which the county falls. The class into which each county falls shall be determined on October 1st of each year based upon the average daily attendance in the public schools of such county for the preceding school year as reported to the State Department of Education. In no case will the salary of the county superintendent be lowered during his term of office.

The salaries set forth in Section 1213 are payable to incumbent county superintendents of schools; provided, however, that the salary of an incumbent shall not be reduced during the term for which he was elected or appointed or for any consecutive new term to which he is elected or appointed.

1208. (a) All county superintendents of schools in counties within classes (1) to (8), inclusive, shall possess a valid certification document authorizing administrative services.

(b) For purposes of this section, the possession of a valid elementary administrative credential and a valid secondary administrative credential are equivalent to the possession of a valid general administrative credential.

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – DISTRICT 3 & DISTRICT 5

Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued (Gov. Code 24001). No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she meets this requirement and resides in the supervisorial district for the office sought.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 25041:

In all other cases each member shall have been a registered voter of the district which he seeks to represent for at least 30 days immediately preceding the deadline for filing nomination documents for the office of supervisor and shall reside in the district during his incumbency. (*Amended by Stats. 1978, Chap. 1287.*)

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued (Government Code 24001). No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she:

Pursuant to CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION - ARTICLE 6 - JUDICIAL,

SEC. 15. A person is ineligible to be a judge of a court of record unless for 10 years immediately preceding selection, the person has been a member of the State Bar or served as a judge of a court of record in this State.

TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

Qualifications: Candidate must be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time nomination papers are issued (Gov. Code 24001). No person shall be eligible for election or appointment unless he/she qualifies. Pursuant to Government Code Section 27000.7 and Plumas County Code Section 2-4.1002, Ordinance 96-855,

(a) No person shall be eligible for election or appointment to the office of county treasurer, county tax collector, or county treasurer-tax collector of any county unless that person meets at least one of the following criteria:

(1) The person has served in a senior financial management position in a county, city, or other public agency dealing with similar financial responsibilities for a continuous period of not less than three years, including, but not limited to, treasurer, tax collector, auditor, auditor-controller, or the chief deputy or an assistant in those offices.

(2) The person possesses a valid baccalaureate, masters, or doctoral degree from an accredited college or university in any of the following major fields of study: business administration, public administration, economics, finance, accounting, or a related field, with a minimum of 16 college semester units, or their equivalent, in accounting, auditing, or finance.

(3) The person possesses a valid certificate issued by the California Board of Accountancy pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 5000) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, showing that person to be, and a permit authorizing that person to practice as, a certified public accountant.

(4) The person possesses a valid charter issued by the Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts showing the person to be designated a Chartered Financial Analyst, with a minimum of 16 college semester units, or their equivalent, in accounting, auditing, or finance.

(5) The person possesses a valid certificate issued by the Treasury Management Association showing the person to be designated a Certified Cash Manager, with a minimum of 16 college semester units, or their equivalent, in accounting, auditing, or finance.

(b) This section shall only apply to any person duly elected or appointed as a county treasurer, county tax collector, or county treasurer-tax collector on or after January 1, 1998.

27000.8. Any duly elected county treasurer, county tax collector, or county treasurer-tax collector serving in that office on January 1, 1996, may serve for his or her remaining term of office during which period of time the requirements of this section shall not apply. After the election of a county treasurer, county tax collector, or county treasurer-tax collector to office, that person shall complete a valid continuing course of study as prescribed in this section, and shall during the person's four-year term of office on or before June 30 of the fourth year, render to the State Controller a certification indicating that the person has successfully completed a continuing education program consisting of, at a minimum, 48 hours, or an equivalent amount of continuing education units within the discipline of treasury management, public finance, public administration, governmental accounting, or directly related subjects, offered by a recognized state or national association, institute, or accredited college or university, or the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission, that provides the requisite educational programs prescribed in this section. The willful or negligent failure of any elected county treasurer, county tax collector, or county treasurer-tax collector to comply with the requirements of this section shall be deemed a violation of this section.

27000.9. Notwithstanding any other requirement of law, any duly appointed county officer serving in the capacity of county treasurer, county tax collector, or county treasurer-tax collector shall, beginning in 2000, complete a valid continuing course of study as prescribed in this section, and shall, on or before June 30 of each two-year period, render to the State Controller, a certification indicating that the county officer has successfully completed a continuing education program consisting of, at a minimum, 24 hours or an equivalent amount of continuing education units within the discipline of treasury management, public finance, public administration, governmental accounting, or directly related subjects, offered by a recognized state or national association, institute, or accredited college or university, or the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission, that provides the requisite educational programs prescribed in this section. The willful or negligent failure of any county officer serving in the capacity of county treasurer, county tax collector, or county treasurer-tax collector to comply with the requirements of this section shall be deemed a violation of this section.

Pursuant to Plumas County Code:

Sec. 2-4.1002. Qualifications.

Qualifications for holding the office of Treasurer-Tax Collector, or for election or appointment to such office, shall be those provided for in California Government Code Sections 27000.7, 27000.8, and 27000.9, as existing

or hereafter amended, and until those sections are repealed. The qualifications prescribe levels of experience, education and continuing education relating to treasury management and public finance. (§ 1, Ord. 96-855, effective February 16, 1996)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that he/she meets all filing requirements and deadlines. All candidates are urged to file the necessary documents as early as possible in order to avoid any last minute rush, confusion, or misunderstanding. It is recommended that the candidate file all documents involved with his or her candidacy personally. If someone else is delegated to obtain documents on behalf of a candidate, a letter with specific wording signed by the candidate will be required.

THE DEADLINE FOR FILING DOCUMENTS IS 5:00 P.M. ON MARCH 6, 2026

FILING EXTENSION

If an incumbent official chooses not to re-file for their elected office, a filing extension will be implemented for that office. This extension will only be open to non-incumbent candidates for that office.

BALLOT DESIGNATION REGULATIONS

The ballot designation of not more than 3 words, will appear on the ballot under the candidate's name, designating the current principal profession, vocation or occupation of the candidate. Guidelines are provided.

PLACEMENT OF NAMES ON THE BALLOT

Elections Code §§13111 and 13112 provides the order in which candidates' names shall be placed on the ballot.

RANDOMIZED ALPHABET DRAWING

Pursuant to Elections Code §13112(b)(1)(B), at 11:00 a.m. on the 82nd day (March 12, 2026) before the election, the Secretary of State's office, by the random drawing of each letter of the alphabet prepares the list determining the order of all candidates' names to appear on the ballot.

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

The "Code of Fair Campaign Practices" pertaining to libel and slander in campaign advertising and communications may be voluntarily subscribed to by candidates for public office. A form is provided in your Candidates Packet.

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Should you wish to receive voter registration information for campaigning purposes, you may submit a Plumas County Voter Registration File Request. Applications can be found online, on our website, at <https://plumascounty.us/142/Elections-Division-Home>

Permissible usage of Voter Registration data includes direct election campaigning, surveys in conjunction with an election campaign and distribution of information of a political nature. Data obtained from voter

registration files may not be sold, leased, loaned or reproduced. Prohibited usage includes commercial purposes and solicitation of contributions or services for any purpose other than on behalf of a candidate or political party, or in support of or opposition to a ballot measure. Data is in a “raw-data” format and may be utilized by saving the document into a spreadsheet format of your choosing.

To complete your application:

- Read and fill out the request completely, with as much detail as possible. There are several pages, front and back.
- The signature on the form must be original.
- Bring in or mail the completed form to Plumas County Elections Office at 520 Main St, Room 102, Quincy, CA 95971. Emailed and faxed forms will NOT be accepted.
- Include a clear copy of the applicant’s driver’s license or state ID AND payment for the application fee.
- The fee is \$5.00 for a selected district under 1,000 voters; \$10.00 for a selected district over 1,000 voters; and \$50.00 for a county-wide voter database.
- Once your request has been received, we may take up to 7-14 business to review and process. If approved, we will have your voter data available to you in CD form. The data will be in raw form, it is the applicant’s responsibility to convert it using their software of choice (Excel, etc.). Per your request, you may pick up the CD from the elections office or we can mail it to you.
- If denied, all materials will be returned to you (application, fee, copy of ID) with a letter explaining why.
- Relevant codes, authorized uses, and prohibited uses are included in the form. It is the applicant’s responsibility to read all relevant information to properly handle voter data.

All transactions are nonrefundable, and there are no exchanges on ordered reports.

GENERAL RULE FOR MASS MAILINGS

The Act states, “No newsletter or other mass mailing shall be sent at public expense.” The Act defines mass mailing as “over 200 substantially similar pieces of mail” not including a “form letter or other mail which is sent in response to an unsolicited request, letter or other inquiry.”

The prohibitions on mass mailings at public expense include both of the following:

1. Mailings that feature or include the name, office, photograph, or other reference to an elected official affiliated with the agency producing or sending the mailer, and
2. Campaign related mailings.

See the FPPC website for more information on mass mailings that feature or reference an elected official.

RETURN OF VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS

We suggest voters vote their ballots and return them early by mail or drop them off in the convenient Ballot Return Box located at the front entry of the Courthouse. Postage is pre-paid. Replacement ballots may be obtained in the Election Department in room 102 at the Courthouse in Quincy.

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES & SIGNS

CAMPAIGNING ON COUNTY PROPERTY

Universal Citation: [CA Govt Code § 3201-3209 \(2022\)](#)

3204. No one who holds, or who is seeking election or appointment to, any office or employment in a state or local agency shall, directly or indirectly, use, promise, threaten or attempt to use, any office, authority, or influence, whether then possessed or merely anticipated, to confer upon or secure for any individual person, or to aid or obstruct any individual person in securing, or to prevent any individual person from securing, any position, nomination, confirmation, promotion, or change in compensation or position, within the state or local agency, upon consideration or condition that the vote or political influence or action of such person or another shall be given or used in behalf of, or withheld from, any candidate, officer, or party, or upon any other corrupt condition or consideration. This prohibition shall apply to urging or discouraging the individual employee's action.

3205. (a) An officer or employee of a local agency shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit a political contribution from an officer or employee of that agency, or from a person on an employment list of that agency, with knowledge that the person from whom the contribution is solicited is an officer or employee of that agency.

(b) A candidate for elective office of a local agency shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit a political contribution from an officer or employee of that agency, or from a person on an employment list of that agency, with knowledge that the person from whom the contribution is solicited is an officer or employee of that agency.

(c) This section shall not prohibit an officer or employee of a local agency, or a candidate for elective office in a local agency, from requesting political contributions from officers or employees of that agency if the solicitation is part of a solicitation made to a significant segment of the public which may include officers or employees of that local agency.

(d) Violation of this section is punishable as a misdemeanor. The district attorney shall have all authority to prosecute under this section.

(e) For purposes of this section, the term "contribution" shall have the same meaning as defined in Section 82015.

3205.5. No one who holds, or who is seeking election or appointment to, any office shall, directly or indirectly, offer or arrange for any increase in compensation or salary for an employee of a state or local agency in exchange for, or a promise of, a contribution or loan to any committee controlled directly or indirectly by the person who holds, or who is seeking election or appointment to, an office. A violation of this section is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for a period not exceeding one year, a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by both that imprisonment and fine.

3206. No officer or employee of a local agency shall participate in political activities of any kind while in uniform.

3207. Any city, county, or city and county charter or, in the absence of a charter provision, the governing body of any local agency and any agency not subject to Section 19251 by establishing rules and regulations, may prohibit or otherwise restrict the following:

(a) Officers and employees engaging in political activity during working hours.

(b) Political activities on the premises of the local agency.

3208. Except as provided in Section 19990, the limitations set forth in this chapter shall be the only restrictions on the political activities of state employees.

3209. Nothing in this chapter prevents an officer or employee of a state or local agency from soliciting or receiving political funds or contributions to promote the passage or defeat of a ballot measure which would affect the rate of pay, hours of work, retirement, civil service, or other working conditions of officers or employees of such state or local agency, except that a state or local agency may prohibit or limit such activities by its employees during their working hours and may prohibit or limit entry into governmental offices for such purposes during working hours.

Plumas County Personnel Rule 22.07: Political Activities

No officer or employee shall engage in political activity during working hours, or on County premises, unless the Board has specifically opened those premises for political activity by the public. (Reference: California Government Code Section 3207) All officers and employees shall be subject to the restriction on political activity in California Government Code Sections 3201 and 3202. Any officer or employee who is paid with Federal grant money or loans, or whose principal employment is in connection with a program financed in whole or in part by a Federal agency, is subject to the political restrictions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501-1508, interpreted at 5 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 151). All officers and employees may be informed by County Counsel memorandum issued from time to time, of prohibited political activities under State and Federal law.

CAMPAIGN SIGNS

State Requirements

(State Outdoor Advertising Act §5405.3)

The California Department of Transportation, Right of Way Program-Outdoor Advertising Branch, has specific requirements pertaining to political signs placed within their areas of jurisdiction.

Local sign placement within the City Limits of Portola may have special requirements. Please check with the City Clerk at 530-832-4216.

PRIVATE PROPERTY

Universal Citation: [CA Civ Code § 799.10 \(2022\)](#)

799.10. A resident may not be prohibited from displaying a political campaign sign relating to a candidate for election to public office or to the initiative, referendum, or recall process in the window or on the side of a

manufactured home or mobile home, or within the site on which the home is located or installed. The size of the face of a political sign may not exceed six square feet, and the sign may not be displayed in excess of a period of time from 90 days prior to an election to 15 days following the election, unless a local ordinance within the jurisdiction where the manufactured home or mobile home subject to this article is located imposes a more restrictive period of time for the display of such a sign. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this section and the provisions of Part 5 (commencing with Section 4000) of Division 4, relating to the size and display of political campaign signs, the provisions of this section shall prevail.

Universal Citation: CA Civ Code § 1940.4 (2022)

1940.4. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (c), a landlord shall not prohibit a tenant from posting or displaying political signs relating to any of the following:

- (1) An election or legislative vote, including an election of a candidate to public office.
- (2) The initiative, referendum, or recall process.
- (3) Issues that are before a public commission, public board, or elected local body for a vote.

(b) Political signs may be posted or displayed in the window or on the door of the premises leased by the tenant in a multifamily dwelling, or from the yard, window, door, balcony, or outside wall of the premises leased by a tenant of a single-family dwelling.

(c) A landlord may prohibit a tenant from posting or displaying political signs in the following circumstances:

- (1) The political sign is more than six square feet in size.
- (2) The posting or displaying would violate a local, state, or federal law.
- (3) The posting or displaying would violate a lawful provision in a common interest development governing a document that satisfies the criteria of Section 1353.6.

(d) A tenant shall post and remove political signs in compliance with the time limits set by the ordinance for the jurisdiction where the premises are located. A tenant shall be solely responsible for any violation of a local ordinance. If no local ordinance exists or if the local ordinance does not include a time limit for posting and removing political signs on private property, the landlord may establish a reasonable time period for the posting and removal of political signs. A reasonable time period for this purpose shall begin at least 90 days prior to the date of the election or vote to which the sign relates and end at least 15 days following the date of the election or vote.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any changes in the terms of a tenancy that are made to implement the provisions of this section and are noticed pursuant to Section 827 shall not be deemed to cause a diminution in housing services, and may be enforced in accordance with Section 1161 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

STATE OUTDOOR ADVERTISING ACT SECTION 5405.3

Nothing in this chapter, including, but not limited to, Section 5405, shall prohibit the placing of temporary political signs, unless a federal agency determines that such placement would violate federal regulations. However, no such sign shall be placed within the right-of-way of any highway or within 660 feet of the edge of and visible from the right-of-way of a landscaped freeway.

A temporary political sign is a sign which:

- (a) Encourages a particular vote in a scheduled election.
- (b) Is placed not sooner than 90 days prior to the scheduled election and is removed within 10 days after that election.
- (c) Is no larger than 32 square feet.
- (d) Has had a statement of responsibility filed with the department certifying a person who will be responsible for removing the temporary political sign and who will reimburse the department for any cost incurred to remove it.

Visit www.dot.ca.gov for more information

ELECTION NIGHT ACTIVITIES

Election day is June 2, 2026. Unofficial election results and reports will be available on our website on election day at approximately 9 pm. Election results will be available at www.plumascounty.us. Cumulative results will be posted. Local radio stations will also have information available.

Keep in mind:

Ballots that are postmarked June 2, 2026 and received within 7 days after the election will be accepted and counted per California law.

Additionally, and per California law, we perform verification on the signatures and addresses written on the Ballot Return Envelopes by the voters. If we receive a ballot postmarked by June 2, 2026, within the + 7 day postmark period, the voter will have an additional 8 days to verify their signature and/or address. This means we may not complete the ballot processing period until June 17, 2026.

Official reports will be available once the canvass period closes. This means the results may change between election day and the canvassing period. This is why the results received on election night are "Unofficial". We will update results as we get them in.

BALLOT PROCESSING

Ballots will be processed at the Elections Department located at the Courthouse at 520 Main Street, Room 102, in Quincy, CA. This process is open to the public.

OFFICIAL CANVASS

After votes have been counted on election night, an audit process called an official canvass is conducted. The process is open to the public for viewing.

ALL ELECTION PROCESSES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND DATES WILL BE POSTED IN THE QUINCY COURTHOUSE, ON THE ELECTIONS WEBSITE, AND ON THE ELECTIONS FACEBOOK PAGE

RECOUNT

Following the completion of the official canvass, any voter may request a recount for local races/measures within 5 days. Any voter requesting a recount is required to deposit (\$200) for costs for recount and will be responsible to pay the costs daily to continue. If the recount reverses the results of the official canvass, all deposits shall be returned.

PLUMAS COUNTY VOTES BY MAIL!

Official Vote by Mail ballots are sent out on May 4, 2026 for the June Primary Election. Voters that are away from their Plumas County mailing address during this time and would like a ballot to be mailed elsewhere are urged to complete a Seasonal Address Request by March 20, 2026. This form is available on our website at <https://www.plumascounty.us/3278/Seasonal-Address-Requests>. Should they miss the deadline, voters should contact our office immediately to help their ballot arrive in a timely manner. They may contact us at 530-283-6256 or 844-676-VOTE or elections@countyofplumas.com.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Is there a filing fee for a Declaration of Candidacy?

Yes; depending on office which is being filed for determines the amount.

2. Is your office open during the lunch hour?

Yes. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; excluding holidays.

3. What happens if I am the only candidate to file for an office?

In most cases if there is only one qualified candidate for a position, that person will take office at the beginning of the new term, upon qualification and after taking the official oath of office.

4. What if I change my mind about being a candidate after filing nomination papers?

You may withdraw as a candidate at any time prior to the close of the nomination period, which is March 6, 2026. After that date you are not permitted to officially withdraw and your name will appear on the ballot. (EC 10510)

5. How soon will a list of qualified candidates be available after the close of the nomination period?

A listing of qualified candidates will be prepared following any extension of filing and should be available for distribution on March 12, 2026.

6. May someone else file my nomination papers, or can I mail them to you?

Election law does not specifically prohibit another person from filing nomination papers for candidate; however, candidates are urged to file in person. The reasons are:

A. The oath or affirmation, which is a part of the declaration of candidacy form, must be administered by a member of the Registrar of Voters' staff, a qualified public officer, or a notary public. It is much easier for a candidate to file in person and have the oath administered at the time he or she files; and,

B. The signature of the candidate (as well as other data) is required on many documents involved in the nomination process.

C. If documents need to be corrected and/or additional documents filed with the candidate's signature, all matters may be remedied at the time of filing.

7. I am unable to complete and file my campaign disclosure statement by the filing deadline. May I obtain an extension?

No. There is no provision in the Political Reform Act, which permits any filing officer to extend a filing deadline. Statements that are filed late are subject to a fine of \$10.00 per day until the statement is filed.

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION (FPPC)

CANDIDATE FINANCIAL FORMS

Form 700

Where to File?

With your local elections office

When to File?

At the time you file your Declaration of Candidacy packet.

Form 501

Where to File?

With your local elections office or with the FPPC (They will send us a copy)

When to File?

Prior to receiving or soliciting contributions or at the time you file your Declaration of Candidacy packet.

Form 410

Where to File?

With your local elections office or with the FPPC (They will send us a copy)

When to File?

Once \$2,000 or more has been raised/spent or at the time you file your Declaration of Candidacy packet.

Form 470

Where to File?

With the FPPC.

When to File?

Without raising/spending \$2,000 or more: In most cases, July 31 is the filing deadline for the first campaign statement, but always double check with the FPPC

Or

At the time of raising/spending \$2,000 or more.

Form 460

Where to File?

With the FPPC.

When to File?

At the time of raising/spending \$2,000 or more.

ID Number

Once you have submitted your Form 410 to the Secretary of State (SOS) and it has been approved, you can visit their website to find your committee ID number. Enter the name of your committee in the search bar of the [Cal-Access database](#). If your ID number has been issued, the search results will show it next to your committee name. If you would like to receive a copy of your approved Form 410 from the Secretary of State, send a self-addressed stamped envelope with your original Form 410.

Campaign Disclosure Manuals

The campaign disclosure manuals are user-friendly handbooks prepared to assist candidates, committees, treasurers and others in understanding the Act's numerous and often detailed rules. The manuals contain examples of common fact patterns, answers to frequently asked questions, and "Quick Tips" to highlight important information. If your question is not answered in the applicable manual, you can [ask the FPPC for Advice](#).

Use of Campaign Funds

Candidates must deposit personal funds into the campaign bank account before making expenditures for the campaign. ([Regulation 18524](#))

Exceptions: Candidates may use personal funds to pay filing fees, ballot statements fees, and the \$50 annual committee fee without depositing them into the campaign bank account first. Campaign funds may be used to reimburse the candidate for these fees.

24 Hour Reporting Requirement

If the committee receives contributions totaling \$1,000 or more from a single source during the 90 days before the election, or on the date of the election, the Form 497 must be filed within 24 hours.

If the committee makes contributions totaling \$1,000 or more to another committee to support or oppose a candidate or measure during the 90 days before the election, or on the date of the election, the Form 497 must be filed within 24 hours.

The Form 497 is filed with the committee's regular filing officer.

If the committee makes independent expenditures totaling \$1,000 or more during the 90 days before the election, or on the date of the election, the Form 496 must be filed within 24 hours.

These contributions or independent expenditures must also be reported on your next pre-election or semi-annual Form 460. For the dates included in the 24-hour reporting period, please refer to the filing schedule.

CAMPAIGN RULES

IMPORTANT!

- Candidates MUST declare which office they are seeking before beginning their campaign.
- Candidates MUST set up and register their committee, and disclose information about their personal income and assets.
- Candidates MUST file Form 501 before soliciting or accepting contributions.
- Candidates MUST deposit funds into the campaign bank account before spending money on the campaign. Candidates who spend money out of pocket for campaign expenses are subject to fines.

Who is Subject to Political Reform Act?

A candidate's campaign committee, a general purpose committee, a political party committee, a slate mailer organization, a major donor, and a person or entity making independent expenditures on candidates or ballot measures in California are all types of committees subject to the campaign rules under the Act.

Who Qualifies as a Committee?

There are three ways in which a person or entity qualifies as a committee:

1. **Recipient Committee:** Receives contributions of \$2,000 or more per year for political purposes. This includes candidate controlled committees; committees primarily formed to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures; political party committees; and other general purpose committees (generally formed to support or oppose more than one candidate or ballot measure).
2. **Independent Expenditure Committee:** Makes independent expenditures of \$1,000 or more per year on California candidates or ballot measures. An expenditure is independent if it is not made in consultation, cooperation or coordination with the affected candidate or committee. These committees do not receive contributions.
3. **Major Donor Committee:** Makes contributions of \$10,000 or more per year to or at the request of California candidates or ballot measures. A business, individual, or multi-purpose organization (including a nonprofit organization) may qualify as a major donor committee. These committees do not receive contributions.

Do the Campaign Rules Apply to Both State and Local Elections?

Campaign finance and disclosure laws under the Act apply to both state and local candidates and committees. Many cities and counties have adopted local campaign ordinances that contain additional restrictions and requirements. Local candidates and committees should check with their local elections office or ethics agency to determine if there are additional local requirements and restrictions, such as contribution limits. For more information specific to local candidates and committees, see the [FPPC's campaign disclosure manual for local candidates](#) and committees.

Where Can I Find More Information about Campaign Rules?

The FPPC offers valuable resources for candidates, political committees, treasurers, and filing officers. Questions about specific campaign finance activities should be directed to the FPPC toll free at (866) 275-3772 or www.fppc.ca.gov.

For more information, resources, or advice regarding campaign related finances visit www.fppc.ca.gov

FILING IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CANDIDATE AND/OR COMMITTEE

It is the responsibility of candidates to be aware of and to file the required campaign disclosure statements in a correct and timely manner. As a courtesy, we mail reminder notices to candidates who, based on nomination documents, appear to have a campaign disclosure filing requirement. Penalties are assessed on late filings. If you do not receive a reminder, you are still obligated to file your forms or possibly pay a late fine pursuant to FPPC requirements.

FPPC FAQ'S

Where can I get information about Nonmonetary Contributions?

Refer to the "Finances and Recordkeeping" chapter of the applicable Campaign Disclosure Manual.

Where can I get information about Intermediaries?

Refer to the "Contributions" chapter of the applicable Campaign Disclosure Manual.

Where can I get information about Campaign Credit Cards?

Refer to the "Finances and Recordkeeping" chapter of the applicable Campaign Disclosure Manual.

Where can I learn about Loans to the campaign?

Refer to the "Finances and Recordkeeping" chapter of the applicable Campaign Disclosure Manual.

If a contributor donates \$100 and PayPal (or any vendor) takes a fee, how should I report this transaction?

Report the contributor and all of the required information for contributions received of \$100 or more, and report the fee as an expenditure. Do not deduct the fee from the contribution amount.

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 19, 2025

Petition for Signatures-in-Lieu of filing fees opens

Jan. 26, 2026

Judicial Notice of Intention to run for office opens

Feb. 2, 2026

FPPC 460/470 SEMI-ANNUAL DUE

Feb. 4, 2026

Petition for Signatures-in-Lieu of filing fees closes

Feb. 4, 2026

Judicial Notice of Intention to run for office closes

Feb. 9, 2026

Candidate filing and Nomination period opens.

Mar. 6, 2026

Candidate filing and Nomination period closes at 5:00 pm.

Mar. 11, 2026

Potential filing extension for non-incumbent candidates closes at 5:00 pm.

Apr. 3, 2026

Military and Overseas ballots mailed / RAVBM issued

Apr. 6, 2026

Write-In candidate filing period opens.

Apr. 23 – May 12, 2026

State Voter Information Guides are mailed by the state.

Apr. 23, 2026

FPPC 460/470 1st Pre-Election Form DUE

May 4, 2026

Vote by Mail Ballots and local voter guides are mailed.

May 18, 2026

Last day to register to vote, change your political party, or change your residential address for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

May 19, 2026

Write-In candidate filing period closes at 5:00 pm.

May 21, 2026

FPPC 460/470 2nd Pre-Election Form DUE

Jun. 2, 2026

Election Day

Jun. 9, 2026

Election Day + 7 Day Postmark

Jun. 17, 2026

Ballot Return Envelope – 8 Day Signature Cure

Jun. 17, 2026 – Continuing Until Complete (Excluding Weekends)

Canvass Process

Jul. 7, 2026

Certification Complete

Jul. 31, 2026

FPPC 460/470 SEMI-ANNUAL DUE

COUNTY HOLIDAYS

Elections Office is Closed:

Dec. 24-25, 2025	May 25, 2026
Jan. 1, 2026	June 19, 2026
Jan. 19, 2026	Jul. 3, 2026
Feb. 16, 2026	