



A Candidate's Guide to Running for County Office San Miguel County - 2022

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on taking an interest in County elected office. This publication will guide you through the general requirements for each of the offices and accessing the ballot either by Assembly, Petition or Write-In. It will also provide you with information regarding the Colorado Secretary of State TRACER system for filing your financial paperwork and answer commonly asked candidate questions. Last, it summarizes some key features of Colorado's new open primary.

As a candidate, you are also encouraged to become familiar with the requirements of Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution (Campaign and Political Finance), Title 1, Article 45, C.R.S. (Fair Campaign Practices Act), Title 1, Article 4, C.R.S. (Access to Ballot by Candidates), as well as the Colorado Secretary of State Election Rules. Information for Campaign Finance for candidates may be found on the Colorado Secretary of State website at <https://coloradosos.gov/pubs/elections/Candidates/CandidateHome.html>

If you have any additional questions regarding your candidate qualifications, access to the ballot or other requirements for running for a county office, please contact our Elections Division at (970) 728-3954 Monday through Friday 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. or by e-mail at elections@sanmiguelcountycogov.

The San Miguel County Clerk & Recorder has prepared this summary to outline County elected official candidate qualifications and access to the ballot. Special thanks go to the Jefferson County Clerk and Recorder and other members of the Colorado County Clerks Association for their assistance.

This document provides a general overview of candidate qualifications and should be used as a reference guide only. Always refer to the Colorado Constitution and Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) for applicable laws.

General Requirements for County Offices

County Commissioner

County Commissioner seats are voted on at-large by all eligible San Miguel County voters.

Number of County Commissioner Seats

[Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 6; 1-4-205(3) C.R.S.]

- San Miguel County has three Commissioners.
- The terms of Commissioner Districts 1 & 3 expire next in January, 2025. These seats will be open for Election in November, 2024.
- The term of Commissioner District 2 expires in January, 2023. This seat will be open for Election November, 2022.

Term of Office

4 years [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 6; 1-4-205(1)(a) C.R.S.]

Minimum Age Requirement

18 years of age [1-4-501(1) C.R.S.]

Residency Requirement

Registered elector and resident of the BOCC District from which he or she is elected for at least one year prior to the election [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 10; 1-4-205(1)(b) C.R.S.]

Citizenship

U.S. Citizen [1-2-101(1)(a) C.R.S.]

County Clerk and Recorder

Term of Office

4 years [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 8; 1-4-206 C.R.S.; 30-10-401 C.R.S.]

Minimum Age Requirement

18 years of age [1-4-501(1) C.R.S.]

Residency Requirement

Registered elector and resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 10]

Citizenship

U.S. Citizen [1-2-101(1)(a) C.R.S.]

County Treasurer

Term of Office

4 years [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 8; 1-4-206 C.R.S.; 30-10-701 C.R.S.]

Minimum Age Requirement

18 years of age [1-4-501(1) C.R.S.]

Residency Requirement

Registered elector and resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 10]

Citizenship

U.S. Citizen [1-2-101(1)(a) C.R.S.]

County Sheriff

Term of Office

4 years

[Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 8; 30-10-501 C.R.S.; 1-4-206 C.R.S.]

Minimum Age Requirement

18 years [1-4-501(1) C.R.S.]

Residency Requirement

Registered elector and resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election

[Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 10; 30-10-501.5(a) C.R.S.]

Citizenship

U.S. Citizen [1-2-101(1)(a) C.R.S.]

Education Requirement

Possess a high school diploma, or its equivalent, or a college degree [30-10-501.5(b) C.R.S.]

Other Requirements

- Complete set of fingerprints taken by a qualified law enforcement agency and submission of **proof to the County Clerk and Recorder when filing a written acceptance or candidate affidavit.** [30-10-501.5(c) C.R.S.]
- A person who has been convicted of or pled guilty to or entered a plea of nolo contendere to any felony charge under federal or state law is unqualified for the office of sheriff unless pardoned. [30-10-501.5(1)(c) C.R.S.]

County Coroner

Term of Office

4 years

[Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 8; 1-4-206 C.R.S.; 30-10-601(b) C.R.S.]

Minimum Age Requirement

18 years [1-4-501(1) C.R.S.]

Residency Requirement

Registered elector and resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election

[Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 10]

Citizenship

U.S. Citizen [1-2-101(1)(a) C.R.S.]

Education Requirement

Possess a high school diploma or its equivalent or a college degree [30-10-601.5(b) C.R.S.]

Other Requirements

- Complete set of fingerprints taken by a qualified law enforcement agency and submission of **proof to the County Clerk and Recorder when filing a written acceptance or candidate affidavit.** [30-10-501.5(c) C.R.S.]
- A person who has been convicted of or pled guilty to or entered a plea of nolo contendere to any felony charge under federal or state law is unqualified for the office of coroner unless pardoned. [30-10-601.5(3)(b) C.R.S.]

County Assessor

Term of Office

4 years

[Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 8; 1-4-206 C.R.S.; 30-10-801 C.R.S.]

Minimum Age Requirement

18 years of age [1-4-501(1) C.R.S.]

Residency Requirement

Registered elector and resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election

[Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 10]

Citizenship U.S. Citizen [1-2-101(1)(a) C.R.S.]

County Surveyor

Term of Office

4 years [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 8; 1-4-206 C.R.S.; [30-10-901 C.R.S.]

Minimum Age Requirement

18 years [1-4-501(1) C.R.S.]

Residency Requirement

Registered elector and resident of the county for at least one year prior to the election [Colorado Constitution Article XIV, Section 10]

Citizenship

U.S. Citizen [1-2-101(1)(a) C.R.S.]

Education Requirement

Professional land surveyor [30-10-901 C.R.S.]

Access to the Ballot

This guide is provided for informational purposes only and should not be your only source of legal information. If you are considering running for public office, you should also become familiar with the requirements of Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution (Campaign and Political Finance), Title 1, Article 45 (Fair Campaign Practices Act), Title 1, Article 4, C.R.S. (Access to Ballot by Candidates), Colorado Secretary of State Election Rules and the Candidate Comparison Chart located as Appendix A of this information packet. These resources, as well as others, are available online at www.coloradosos.gov under the Elections & Voting heading.

**All candidates for nominations to be made at any primary election shall be placed on the primary election ballot either by Certificate of Designation by Party Assembly or by Petition.
[1-4-102 C.R.S.]**

By Certificate of Designation by Party Assembly This is the most common method of access to the ballot

Major Political Party

- No person is eligible for Designation by Assembly as a candidate for nomination at any primary election unless the person has been affiliated with the political party holding the assembly, as shown on the registration books of the County Clerk and Recorder, no later than the first business day of the January (January 3, 2022) immediately preceding the primary election, unless otherwise provided by party rules. [1-4-601(4)(a) C.R.S.].
- Precinct Caucuses must be held no earlier than the first Tuesday in March and no later than the first Sunday in March (March 1-5, 2022). Delegates to the County Assembly are selected at Precinct Caucuses. Contact Party Chairs for locations and times.

- County Assembly for selection of county candidates of major political parties shall be held no later than 73 days preceding the primary election [1-4-601(1)(a) C.R.S.].
- A candidate must receive 30% or more of the votes cast by the assembly. The candidate receiving the highest vote shall be placed first on the ballot, followed by the candidate receiving the next highest vote [1-4-103 C.R.S.].
- If no candidate receives 30% or more of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be cast on all the candidates for that office by the assembly. If on the 2nd ballot no candidate receives 30% or more of the votes cast, the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be certified as candidates for that office by the assembly [1-4-601(2) C.R.S.].
- A person who receives between 10% and 30% of the votes cast at the Assembly may petition on to the Primary Ballot. See By Political Party Petition below.
- The Party Chair or Secretary must file the notarized Certificate of Designation by Assembly for County office with the County Clerk & Recorder no later than 4 days after the adjournment of the Assembly [1-4-604(3) C.R.S.]. This form may be found at www.coloradosos.gov. Type: Certificate of Designation by Assembly in the Search box.
- Each designated candidate must file his or her original notarized Acceptance of Designation by Assembly for County office with the County Clerk & Recorder no later than 4 days after the adjournment of the assembly. [1-4-601(3)(a) C.R.S.] This form may be found at www.coloradosos.gov. Type: Acceptance of Designation by Assembly in the Search box.
- The Designation and Acceptance of Designation are quite separate from the required Campaign Finance registration and reporting. See Campaign and Political Finance section below. The Campaign Finance Affidavit must be filed within ten days of becoming a candidate, which could be before Designation and Acceptance.

Minor Political Party

- Assembly of minor political parties shall be held no later than 73 days preceding the Primary Election (by April 16 in 2022). [1-4-1304(1.5)(b)(I) C.R.S.]
- The Candidate must not have been registered as a member of a major political party at any time after the first business day of the January (January 3, 2022) immediately preceding the general election for which the person was nominated, unless otherwise provided in the constitution or bylaws of the minor political party. [1-4-1304(2)(c) C.R.S.]
- Minor Party Candidates nominated by assembly are placed on the General Election ballot unless there is more than one candidate for that office nominated by assembly and/or petition; then the candidates for that office are placed on the Primary Election Ballot. [1-4-1304(1.5)(c) C.R.S.]
- See notes under Major Political Party regarding Certificate of Designation by Assembly and Acceptance of Designation filing deadlines, sample forms and Campaign Finance.

By Political Party Petition for Major Party Candidates *Petition Requirements*

- A person who receives between 10% and 30% of the votes cast at the Assembly may petition on to the Primary Ballot.
- Nomination petition formats for a County Office must be approved by the designated election official before circulation. For most County offices this is the County Clerk & Recorder but see Appendix A [1-4-903 C.R.S.].

- Petition information can also be found on the Secretary of State website.
<https://www.coloradosos.gov/pubs/elections/Candidates/CandidateHome.html>
- If you are running for a City Office, you should contact your local City Clerk's Office regarding any additional petition requirements.

Signature Requirements

- Candidate petitions may be signed by electors eligible to vote for the office designated in the petition [1-4-801(2)(a) C.R.S.]. Petition signers must be affiliated with the major party named in the petition for at least 22 days as shown in the statewide voter registration system, and may not sign any other petition for another candidate for the same office [1-4-904(2)(a)]
- Valid signatures must equal at least 10% of the votes cast in the political subdivision at the contested or uncontested primary election for the political party's candidate for the office for which the petition is being circulated or, if there was no primary election, at the last preceding general election for which there was a candidate for the office. [1-4-801(2) (a) C.R.S.]
- In the 2018 Democratic Primary Election, (there were no Republican candidates) 1481 votes were cast for the Commissioner District Two seat and 1145 votes were cast for the Clerk and Recorder seat, hence 148 and 115 valid signatures must be obtained, respectively, in order to petition a place on the 2022 Democratic Primary ballot for these positions. Please contact the Clerk and Recorder to verify the number of valid signatures required for any particular office.
- There were no Commissioner District Two or Clerk and Recorder candidates on the 2018 Republican Primary Ballot. In the 2018 General Election, there were 3,276 votes cast in the uncontested Commissioner District Two race and 3,243 in the uncontested Clerk and Recorder race, hence 328 and 324 valid signatures, respectively, must be obtained to petition on to the 2018 Republican Primary ballot.

Additional Information

- No person shall be placed in nomination by petition on behalf of any political party unless the person was affiliated with the political party, as shown on the registration books of the county clerk and recorder, no later than the first business day of the January (January 3, 2022) immediately preceding the election for which the person desires to be placed in nomination [1-4-801(3) C.R.S.].
- No person who attempted and failed to receive at least 10% of the votes for the nomination of a political party assembly for a particular office shall be placed in nomination by petition on behalf of the political party for the same office [1-4-801(4) C.R.S.].
- Party petitions shall not be circulated nor any signatures be obtained prior to the first Monday in February. Petitions shall be filed no later than 85 days before the primary election [1-4-801(5) C.R.S.].
- Candidates by petition follow assembly candidates and are placed on the primary election ballot in an order established by lot [1-4-103 C.R.S.].
- Petitions for County Offices must be approved by and then filed with the County Clerk and Recorder [1-4-907 C.R.S.].

By Petitions for Minor Party or Unaffiliated Candidates ***Petition Requirements – All Petitions***

- Nomination petition formats must be approved by the designated election official prior to circulation [1-4-903 C.R.S.]. For most County offices this is the County Clerk and Recorder. **See Appendix A.**
- A Candidate Acceptance of Petition Nomination form should accompany the completed petitions delivered to the County Clerk and Recorder. This form may be found at www.coloradosos.gov. Type: Acceptance of Petition Nomination in the Search box.

Signature Requirements

- Only eligible electors registered as affiliated with the political party for at least 22 days and residing within the district for which the petition is being circulated may sign the petition. [1-4-904(2)(a); 1-4-801(2)(b) C.R.S. **Per the SOS staff, though the statute on this is poorly written, the intent is that any elector eligible to vote for the office (hence resident in any commissioner district) may sign any eligible elector who has not signed another petition. [1-4-801(2)(a) C.R.S.]**
- Number of required signatures: The lesser of 1,000 or 2% of the votes cast for all candidates for THAT office in the most recent general election for any county office. [1-4-802(1) (c)(VII) C.R.S.] In the 2018 General Election, there were 3,276 votes cast in the contested Commissioner District Two race and 3243 in the uncontested Clerk and Recorder race, hence 66 and 65 valid signatures, respectively, must be obtained to petition on to the 2022 General Election ballot for those offices.

Additional Information

Minor Political Party

- No petition to nominate a minor political party candidate shall be circulated nor any signatures obtained thereon earlier than the first Monday in February in the general election year. [1-4-802(1)(d)(II) C.R.S.]
- Petitions to nominate candidates of minor political parties shall be filed no later than 85 days before the primary election as specified in section 1-4-101. [1-4-802(1)(f)(II) C.R.S.] For 2022 this is April 4.
- For general elections, no person shall be placed in nomination by petition unless the person is an eligible elector of the political subdivision or district in which the officer is to be elected and unless the person was registered as affiliated with a minor political party or as unaffiliated, as shown on the registration books of the county clerk and recorder, no later than the first business day of the January immediately preceding the general election for which the person desires to be placed in nomination; except that, if such nomination is for a nonpartisan election, the person shall be an eligible elector of the political subdivision or district and be a registered elector, as shown on the registration books of the County Clerk and Recorder, on the date of the earliest signature on the petition. [1-4-802(1)(g)(II) C.R.S.]
- If an assembly designates more than one candidate for an office, or if an assembly designates one or more candidates and one or more candidates qualifies by petition, the candidate of the minor political party for that office shall be nominated at a primary election held in accordance with this code. [1-4-1304(1.5)(c) C.R.S.]
- Petitions for County Office are approved by and filed with the County Clerk and Recorder. [1-4-907 C.R.S.]

Unaffiliated

- Nomination petition formats must be approved by the designated election official prior to circulation [1-4-903 C.R.S.]. For most County offices this is the County Clerk and Recorder. See Appendix A.
- No petition to nominate an unaffiliated candidate shall be circulated or any signatures obtained thereon earlier than 173 days before the general election. [1-4-802(1)(d)(I) C.R.S.]

- Petitions (for unaffiliated candidates) shall be filed no later than 3:00 p.m. on the 117 day before the general election. [1-4-802(1)(f)(I) C.R.S.]
- For general elections, no person shall be placed in nomination by petition unless the person is an eligible elector of the political subdivision or district in which the officer is to be elected and unless the person was registered as affiliated with a minor political party or as unaffiliated, as shown on the registration books of the County Clerk and Recorder, no later than the first business day of the January immediately preceding the general election for which the person desires to be placed in nomination; except that, if such nomination is for a nonpartisan election, the person shall be an eligible elector of the political subdivision or district and be a registered elector, as shown on the registration books of the County Clerk and Recorder, on the date of the earliest signature on the petition. [1-4-802(1)(g)(II) C.R.S.]
- Petitions are approved by and filed with the County Clerk and Recorder. [1-4-907 C.R.S.]

As Write-In Candidates

- A notarized Affidavit of intent shall be filed stating candidate desires the office and is qualified to assume duties, if elected. [1-4-1101(1) C.R.S.] This form may be found at www.coloradosos.gov. Type: Affidavit of Intent for Write-in in the Search box. Alter the position sought as appropriate.
- Affidavit of intent shall be filed with County Clerk and Recorder if it is for a county office. [1-4-1101(1) C.R.S.]
- Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the affidavit of intent shall be filed by the close of business on the sixty-seventh day before a primary election and by the close of business on the one hundred tenth day before any other election. [1-4-1102(1) C.R.S.] For 2022 this is April 21 for the Primary and July 21 for the General.
- Write-in candidates may file his/her affidavit to run as a write-in candidate for either the Primary or General Election.

Campaign and Political Finance

Filing Campaign Finance Information – using the TRACER System

How to become an official candidate for campaign finance purposes.

You officially become a candidate after making a public announcement and thereafter receiving a contribution or making any expenditure in support of your candidacy. At www.coloradosos.gov locate Campaign Finance under Programs and Services on the Home page. The most detailed reference is the Campaign Finance Manual and the quickest way to locate it is to type: “Campaign Finance Manual” in the Search Box. Filing your intention to run with the SOS office does NOT, however, place you on the ballot. You must still be nominated by a party or petition.

- Follow the guidelines regarding candidate qualifications and ballot access filings.

- Meet the qualification of the office for which you are running.
- Understand and comply with the Colorado Campaign and Political Finance Rules from the Secretary of State, Colorado Constitution Article XXVIII, Title 1, Article 4 and Title 1, Article 45.
- Publically announce your intent to run for office.
- **Set up a Candidate Committee before you receive or spend money.**
- If you are a candidate and you will only be spending money and not receiving money you may qualify as a standalone candidate. Check the

Secretary of State's website regarding this type of candidate at www.coloradosos.gov.

- Always check the Secretary of State website for additional qualifications, rules and laws pertaining to your candidacy at www.coloradosos.gov.

Candidate Affidavit

Your Candidate Affidavit is the first step and will need to be filed with the Secretary of State within 10 days of you becoming a candidate. This form shall be filed electronically. At www.coloradosos.gov, search for "Candidate Affidavit form" and Select "County Candidates – Colorado Secretary of State." Then select "Candidate Affidavit Form" far down the page. This form must be filed via the Tracer Campaign Finance Reporting system. A notarized form is no longer in use.

Campaign Finance Filings

After you have filed your Candidate Affidavit, the Campaign Finance section of the SOS office will contact you about how to complete the filings that will need to be completed online with the Secretary of State. If you have any questions regarding your filing you can e-mail the Secretary of State Campaign Finance Support Team at cpfhelp@coloradosos.gov or by telephone at (303) 894-2200, extension 6383.

Timeline for Campaign Finance Filings

A calendar for Campaign Finance filings can be obtained from the Secretary of State website at www.coloradosos.gov. You can locate the calendar from the Campaign Finance section of the website.

Current Officeholder seeking re-election to the same office.

Please refer to Colorado Secretary of State Rule 2.2.4 (b)(1),(2)&(3).
www.coloradosos.gov

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When are the 2022 County Office Elections?

A: The Primary Election is June 28, 2022. This Election determines each party's nominees for the General Election. The General Election is November 8, 2022.

Q: Can I file my paperwork at the County Clerk and Recorder's Office.

A: The following forms will need to be filed at the San Miguel County Elections Division.

- Candidate Acceptance Forms (This form will be provided by the political party at the County assembly.)
- Designation of Assembly (This form will be provided by the political party at the County assembly.)
- Candidate Petition Forms (Contact the San Miguel County Clerk for this form @ (970) 728-3954 or elections@SanMiguelCountyCo.gov.)
- Write-In Affidavits (Contact the San Miguel County Clerk for this form @ 970-728-3954 or elections@SanMiguelCountyCo.gov.)

Candidate Affidavit and Campaign Finance Forms will need to be filed electronically with the Secretary of State. www.coloradosos.gov

Candidates for municipal office need to file with their Municipal Clerk in the city/town where they reside.

Q: Is there a timeline regarding when I file my Campaign finance reports?

A: Yes, refer to the Secretary of State website for the Campaign and Political Finance calendar. www.coloradosos.gov (when available)

Q: Is there a timeline regarding when I file my Ballot Access filings with the County Clerk & Recorder?

A: Yes, refer to Title 1 Article 4 of the Colorado Revised Statutes. Specifically, C.R.S. 1-4-604(3), 1-4-601(3)(a), 1-4-801(5), 1-4-802(1)(f)(II), 1-4-802(1)(f)(I), 1-4-1304(3)(4), 1-4-1102(1), also refer to the 2022 Election Calendar (when available). The calendar will be located on the Secretary of State website at www.coloradosos.gov.

Q: How do I verify my status and affiliation as a registered voter?

A: You may review your voter registration record at the Colorado Secretary of State’s website www.GOVoteColorado.gov. From the Voting Information page, “My Registration” section, click on “Manage my registration.” The San Miguel County Elections Division can also verify your registration status, affiliation, affiliation date, etc. at (970) 728-3954 or www.SanMiguelCountyCo.gov.

Q: Who do I contact with questions pertaining to candidate qualifications, assembly paperwork, petition format, write-in affidavit, access to the ballot or general questions regarding requirements for running for County Office?

A: Contact the San Miguel County Elections Division at (970) 728-3954 Monday through Thursday 8:15 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. or by e-mail at elections@SanMiguelCountyCo.gov.

Q: How do I get in contact with my political party?

A: San Miguel County Democratic Party

Website: www.coloradodems.org

Phone: (970) 708-1596 or (970) 369-4663

San Miguel County Republican Party

Website: www.cologop.org

Phone: (970) 729-0799

American Constitution Party

Website: www.americanconstitutionparty.com

Libertarian Party of Colorado

Website: www.lpcolorado.org

Green Party of Colorado Website www.coloradogreenparty.org Phone: (970) 708-7412

Q: Who can vote in a Primary Election?

A: First, if as of 22 days before the Primary, you are affiliated with a party that is operating a Primary, you will get the ballot of that party.

If, as of 22 days before the Primary, you are registered as Unaffiliated but have indicated a preference for a party operating a Primary, you will the ballot for that party but will not have been able to participate in the petition, caucus or assembly process.

If, as of 22 days before the Primary, you are registered as Unaffiliated without a preference, you will be sent ballots for all parties operating a Primary. You must be very careful to only mark one ballot. If you mark choices on more than one ballot, none of those you return will count.

Affiliated voters may not change affiliations after the 22nd day. Unaffiliated voters (and newly registering voters) may affiliate or declare a preference up until Election Day but, once the ballots have been mailed, must go to a Voter Service and Polling Center to do so.

Q: How can I get a list of voters in the district for which I am a candidate?

A: During general election years the State Party organizations commonly make voter information, with updates, available to candidates at a reduced price. Alternatively you may call the San Miguel County elections department with your request and a price and method of delivery can be set.

Q: How can I find out who the other candidates are?

A: You can visit the Secretary of State website at <http://tracer.sos.colorado.gov/PublicSite/Search.aspx>

This option allows you to search by several different options. In order to search for a candidate, click on “Candidate Search” then enter the following information:

Last Name First Name Party Election Year Jurisdiction Office District Status

Q: Where can I find results on Election night?

A: A link to the results will be posted beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Election night on the County web site www.SanMiguelCountyCo.gov.

Contact Information:

San Miguel County Elections Division

*Ballot access, Candidate qualifications,
petition format, write-in affidavit
or general questions regarding requirements for running for office.*

Website: www.SanMiguelCountyCo.gov

Phone: (970) 728-3954

E-Mail: elections@SanMiguelCountyCo.gov

Colorado Secretary of State

*Filing Candidate Affidavit, filing Campaign and
Political Finance Paperwork.*

Website: www.coloradosos.gov

Phone: (303) 894-2200 x 6383

E-Mail: cpfhelp@coloradosos.gov

Candidate Comparison Chart

	Unaffiliated candidates	Minor Party candidates (primary and general)	Major party candidates (primary only)	School Board candidates
Qualifications for office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible elector of the political subdivision or district in which the officer is to be elected. <input type="checkbox"/> Registered as unaffiliated, as shown on the registration books of the county clerk and recorder, no later than the first business day of the January immediately preceding the general election for which the person desires to be placed in nomination <input type="checkbox"/> Exception: if nomination is for nonpartisan election, the candidate must be an eligible elector of the political subdivision/district and be a registered elector, as shown on the registration books of the county clerk, on the date of earliest signature on the petition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible elector of the political subdivision or district in which the officer is to be elected. <input type="checkbox"/> Registered with the minor party, as shown on the registration books of the county clerk and recorder, no later than the first business day of the January immediately preceding the general election for which the person desires to be placed in nomination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible elector of the political subdivision or district in which the officer is to be elected. <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliated with the political party, as shown on the registration books of the county clerk and recorder, no later than the first business day of the January immediately preceding the election for which the person desires to be placed in nomination. <input type="checkbox"/> Received at least 10% of the votes for the nomination of a political party assembly for a particular office, may petition (if he/she chose to participate in the assembly.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A registered elector of the school district, as shown on the books of the county clerk and recorder, for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the date of the election.
Type of Election	General Election only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Minor parties typically do not have primary elections. If they do, a minor party candidate can petition on the primary ballot. <input type="checkbox"/> Minor parties send one nominee straight to the general election ballot. 	Major party candidates may only petition on to the primary ballot. This is generally the method used when a candidate doesn't think he or she can get 30% of the delegate vote at the party assembly.	Coordinated

Candidate Comparison Chart

	Unaffiliated candidates	Minor Party candidates (primary and general)	Major party candidates (primary only)	School Board candidates
Filing Official	County clerk	County clerk	County clerk	School District DEO. Sometimes IGA specifies that the county checks signatures on petitions.
What goes on the petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Warning <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate name <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate Address <input type="checkbox"/> Office running for <input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy committee names and addresses (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Designate in not more than three words the political or other name selected by the signers to identify an unaffiliated candidate. No name of any political party shall be used, in whole or in part, to identify an unaffiliated candidate.	<input type="checkbox"/> Warning <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate name <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate Address <input type="checkbox"/> Office running for <input type="checkbox"/> Name of the minor political party	<input type="checkbox"/> Warning <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate name <input type="checkbox"/> Candidate Address <input type="checkbox"/> Office running for <input type="checkbox"/> Designate in not more than three words the name of the political party which the candidate represents.	<input type="checkbox"/> If a school district has an at-large method of representation and if terms of different lengths are to be filled at a district election, candidates must designate on the nomination petition the term for which they are running. <input type="checkbox"/> Shall not run as a candidate of any political party
Can begin to circulate	Petition can't be circulated and no signatures obtained earlier than 173 days before the general election.	Petition can't be circulated and no signatures obtained prior to the first Monday in February in the general election year.	Petitions can't be circulated and no signatures obtained prior to the first Monday in February in the general election year.	Can begin circulating a petition 90 days before the election.
Deadline to file	Filed no later than 3 p.m. on the 117 th day before the general election.	Filed no later than 85 days before the primary election.	Filed no later than 85 days before the primary election.	Filed no later than 67 days before the election date.

Candidate Comparison Chart

	Unaffiliated candidates	Minor Party candidates (primary and general)	Major party candidates (primary only)	School Board candidates
How many signatures are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> For county offices: The lesser of seven hundred fifty or 2% of the votes cast for all candidates for that office in the most recent general election. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> For county offices: The lesser of seven hundred fifty or 2% of the votes cast for all candidates for that office in the most recent general election. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> For county offices: Signatures equal to 20% of the votes cast in the contested or uncontested primary election for the political party's candidate. If no primary election, at the last preceding general election for which there was a candidate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> District with less than 1000 students enrolled: Petition signed by at least 25 eligible electors from throughout the school district. <input type="checkbox"/> District with 1000 or more students enrolled: Petition signed by at least 50 eligible electors from throughout the school district.
Who May Sign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signed by eligible electors in the district or political subdivision in which the officer is to be elected. <input type="checkbox"/> Elector must not have signed any other petition for another candidate for the same office. <input type="checkbox"/> There are no party requirements for signers. Signers may be affiliated with a political party or unaffiliated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signed by eligible electors in the district or political subdivision in which the officer is to be elected. <input type="checkbox"/> Elector must not have signed any other petition for any other candidate for the same office. <input type="checkbox"/> There are no party requirements for signers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signed by eligible electors in the district or political subdivision in which the officer is to be elected. <input type="checkbox"/> Each signer shall be affiliated with the major political party named in the petition for at least 29 days as shown on the registration books. <input type="checkbox"/> Elector must not have signed any other petition for any other candidate for the same office. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Signed by eligible electors in the district or political subdivision in which the officer is to be elected. <input type="checkbox"/> An eligible elector may sign as many petitions as candidates for whom that elector may vote. (If the position is "vote for three", an elector may sign up to three petitions.)
Who May Circulate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen of the United States. <input type="checkbox"/> At least 18 years of age. <input type="checkbox"/> There are no party affiliation requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen of the United States. <input type="checkbox"/> At least 18 years of age. <input type="checkbox"/> Registered to vote and affiliated with the political party mentioned in the petition at the time the petition is circulated, as shown by the registration books of the county clerk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen of the United States. <input type="checkbox"/> At least 18 years of age. <input type="checkbox"/> Registered to vote and affiliated with the political party mentioned in the petition at the time the petition is circulated, as shown by the registration books of the county clerk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen of the United States. <input type="checkbox"/> At least 18 years of age.

Candidate Comparison Chart

	Unaffiliated candidates	Minor Party candidates (primary and general)	Major party candidates (primary only)	School Board candidates
Cure period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Petition may be amended once no late than 3 p.m. on the 85th day before the general election. <input type="checkbox"/> If amended, the designated election official shall notify the candidate whether sufficient or insufficient no later than the 75th day before the general election. 	No cure period.	No cure period.	No cure period.
Notice of Suffic. Or insuffic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Notify the candidate of the number of valid signatures and whether the petition appears to be sufficient of insufficient. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of sufficiency or insufficiency to candidate no later than 96 days before the general election. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Notify the candidate of the number of valid signatures and whether the petition appears to be sufficient of insufficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Notify the candidate of the number of valid signatures and whether the petition appears to be sufficient of insufficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Notify the candidate of the number of valid signatures and whether the petition appears to be sufficient of insufficient.
Protest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Petition declared sufficient is deemed valid unless a petition for a review is filed with the district court within 5 days after the statement of sufficiency is issued. <input type="checkbox"/> If insufficient, the candidate may petition the district court within 5 days for a review of the determination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Petition declared sufficient is deemed valid unless a petition for a review is filed with the district court within 5 days after the statement of sufficiency is issued. <input type="checkbox"/> If insufficient, the candidate may petition the district court within 5 days for a review of the determination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Petition declared sufficient is deemed valid unless a petition for a review is filed with the district court within 5 days after the statement of sufficiency is issued. <input type="checkbox"/> If insufficient, the candidate may petition the district court within 5 days for a review of the determination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Petition declared sufficient is deemed valid unless a petition for a review is filed with the district court within 5 days after the statement of sufficiency is issued. <input type="checkbox"/> If insufficient, the candidate may petition the district court within 5 days for a review of the determination