

2022 PCO Candidate Guide

CHELAN COUNTY

Chelan County Elections
350 Orondo Ave Ste 306, Wenatchee, WA 98801
509.667.6808
www.elections.chelancountywa.gov
elections@co.chelan.wa.us

Letter to Candidates:

Dear Candidate:

Congratulations on your decision to run for office. This guide contains information that you may find helpful, including important election dates, filing information, voter information requests and more.

Our office has a variety of information you may find useful. Precinct maps are available online or may be purchased in our office. We also have voter registration lists available. The data request form used to order voter information is included in your packet.

If you have questions concerning the election process, please contact your Elections Office at (509)667-6808. Good luck with your campaign.

Sincerely,

Skip Moore
Chelan County Auditor

Now that you have filed for PCO

Elections for Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) are conducted in the following manner:

PCO candidate filing

- Candidates for PCO must file during Candidate Filing Week.
- Each precinct will have two positions open; one for the Democratic Party and one for the Republican Party.
- PCO candidates affiliate with a major political party when filing.
- There is no filing fee
- Candidates may unintentionally list the wrong precinct on the PCO declaration. Because a PCO candidate only qualifies for the precinct in which he/she is registered, the filing officer will accept a PCO declaration as if submitted for the candidate's correct precinct. The candidate will be notified if the precinct was corrected.
- Candidates who file for PCO may also file for one other position on the ballot.
- If a PCO position is void at the close of Candidate Filing Week, that office is lapsed and is not placed on the ballot. The political party may fill the position by appointment. (RCW 29A.80.031)
- Special 3-Day filing periods will not be held for PCO positions.
- If, after the last day to withdraw, only one candidate has filed for a party position, that candidate is considered elected immediately and the County Auditor must issue a certificate of election.
- Write-in candidates have been eliminated from PCO elections. A candidate cannot file as a declared write-in.
- The term of office for PCO is two years. There is no short term or unexpired term elections conducted for this office.

Withdrawal

A Declaration of Candidacy may be withdrawn until the close of business on the Monday following the last day of the regular filing period.

All withdrawals must be submitted in writing, signed by the candidate, and received by the filing officer prior to the Monday deadline.

A withdrawal form is available from the Election's Department.

Appearing on the ballot

- PCO races appear on the even-year Primary ballot only.
- Only contested races appear on the ballot. For example, if two candidates file for a Democratic Party position, but only one candidate files for the Republican Party position, only the Democratic PCO race will appear on the ballot.
- When both party positions qualify to appear on the ballot, the order is determined by the statewide results of the last Presidential Election.
- Candidate order within each party is determined by lot.

Counting the Votes

- The candidate receiving the most votes in the Primary is elected. PCOs do not appear on the General Election ballot.

2022 Calendar

Filing Calendar

Filing for office by mail	May 2 – May 20	(RCW 29A.24.081)
Filing for office online or in person	May 16 – May 20	(RCW 29A.24.040, & 050)
Lot Drawing	May 20; 5:00pm	(RCW 29A.36.131)
Last day for candidate withdrawal	May 23; 5:00pm	(RCW 29A.24.131)

Primary Key Dates

Last day to file resolutions	May 13	(RCW 29A.04.330)
Voter registration deadlines:		(RCW 29A.08.140)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Last day applications for new voter registrations or updates by mail, over the phone, email or online must be received by Chelan County Elections• Last day to register or update your existing registration in-person no later than 8 p.m.	July 25	
	August 2	
Primary military ballots mailed	June 18	
Primary ballots available /mailed	July 15	(RCW 29A.40.070)
Primary Election Day	August 2	(RCW 29A.04.311)
County certifies Primary Election	August 16	(RCW 29A.60.190)
State certifies Primary Election	August 19	(RCW 29A.60.240)

Campaign Guidelines

Ballot Drop Box Sites

Chelan County is a vote-by-mail county and has ballot drop box sites throughout the county. Voting Center regulations regarding campaign electioneering apply to drop box sites from the time they are opened (18 days before the election) until boxes are closed at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Electioneering is forbidden within 25 feet of a drop box site or voting center (the County Courthouse is a voting center and adheres to the same restrictions). Electioneering also includes the wearing of campaign T-Shirts and buttons.

RCW 29A.84.510 ACTS PROHIBITED . . .

(1) During the voting period that begins eighteen days before and ends the day of a special election, general election, or primary, no person may:

(a) Within a voting center:

(i) Suggest or persuade or attempt to suggest or persuade any voter to vote for or against any candidate or ballot measure;

(ii) Circulate cards or handbills of any kind;

(iii) Solicit signatures to any kind of petition; or

(iv) Engage in any practice which interferes with the freedom of voters to exercise their franchise or disrupts the administration of the voting center;

(b) Obstruct the doors or entries to a building in which a voting center or ballot drop location is located or prevent free access to and from any voting center or ballot drop location.

(2) Any sheriff, deputy sheriff, or municipal law enforcement officer shall stop the prohibited activity, and may arrest any person engaging in the prohibited activity.

(3) Any violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor, punishable to the same extent as a gross misdemeanor that is punishable under RCW 9A.20.021, and the person convicted may be ordered to pay the costs of prosecution.

Campaign Materials

Campaign materials cannot be placed in or on top of mailboxes without paying postage (U.S. Postal Service, Private Express Statute), nor should campaign materials be placed in newspaper delivery tubes. Please be courteous to these agencies.

Campaign Signs

Washington state and local jurisdictions have strict rules regarding campaign signs. The Washington State Department of Transportation (www.wsdot.wa.gov) provides guidance for campaign signage along state highways. For local highway and city street rules, contact the applicable County Public Works or City Clerk's Office.

The Hatch Act and Federal Employees

Permitted Activities for Employees

- May be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections
- May register and vote as they choose
- May assist in voter registration drives
- May express opinions about candidates and issues
- May contribute money to political organizations
- May attend political fundraising functions
- May attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- May join and be an active member of a political party or club
- May sign nominating petitions
- May campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, or municipal ordinances
- May campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- May make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan Elections.
- May distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- May hold office in political clubs or parties including serving as a delegate to a convention

Prohibited Activities for Employees

- May not use their official authority or influence to interfere with an election
- May not solicit, accept or receive political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
- May not knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business before the agency
- May not engage in political activity while on duty
- May not engage/ in political activity in any government office
- May not engage in political activity while using a government vehicle
- May not be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- May not wear political buttons while on duty

For additional questions, contact:

US Office of Special Counsel

1730 M Street NW, Suite 218

Washington, DC 20036-4505

Phone 1-800-85-HATCH

Federal Relay Service

1-800-877-8339 www.osc.gov

Rules on Political Activity

Under the law, State and Local Employees in Federally Aided Programs **may not**:

- (1) use their official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the results of an election or a nomination for office;
- (2) directly or indirectly coerce, attempt to coerce, command or advise State or local officer or employee to pay, lend, or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency, or person for partisan political purposes; or
- (3) be a candidate for public office in a partisan election.

Caution: Activity permitted by Federal law may be restricted or prohibited by State or local law or regulation.

Voter Registration Information



Voter data request form

350 Orondo Ave, STE 306 Level 3, Wenatchee WA 98801
Phone 509.667.6806 Email elections@co.chelan.wa.us

1. print your contact information

Name: _____ Candidate/Campaign: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Email: _____

2. tell us about the data you are requesting

Voter list: Includes the following data: state voter ID, voter name, birthdate, gender, home and mailing address, precinct, registration date, and last election voted. The data list comes in .csv format.

Voter lists can be requested **countywide** or for a **specific district or precinct**.

A: district (circle one)

countywide

district or precinct(s) _____

B: format (circle one)

Email (free)

paper (\$5.00+\$0.15 / pg after 34 pgs)

3. acknowledgment

Allow five business days for processing request for data.

I have read and understand the legal statutes on the back of this request form that describes the limits on how this data may be used. I will not use this data for commercial purposes. I understand that any violation of RCW 29A.08.720 relating to the misuse of lists of registered voters is a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment for a period of not more than five years and/or a fine of not more than five thousand dollars.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Official use only

date received _____ date completed _____ completed by _____

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how cost is determined and collected

Base cost + media cost (if applicable) + mailing cost (if applicable)

Upon receipt of a request, Elections staff will contact you to discuss report requirements and arrange for payment. Reports can be paid for by cash or check.

legal limits of the availability and use of voter registration data

RCW 29A.08.720 Registration, voting records – As public records – Information furnished – Restrictions, confidentiality.

(1) In the case of voter registration records received through the department of licensing or an agency designated under RCW [29A.08.310](#), the identity of the office or agency at which any particular individual registered to vote is not available for public inspection and shall not be disclosed to the public. Any record of a particular individual's choice not to register to vote at an office of the department of licensing or a state agency designated under RCW [29A.08.310](#) is not available for public inspection and any information regarding such a choice by a particular individual shall not be disclosed to the public.

(2) Subject to the restrictions of RCW [29A.08.710](#) and [40.24.060](#), poll books, precinct lists, and current lists of registered voters are public records and must be made available for public inspection and copying under such reasonable rules and regulations as the county auditor or secretary of state may prescribe. The county auditor or secretary of state shall promptly furnish current lists of registered voters in his or her possession, at actual reproduction cost, to any person requesting such information. The lists shall not be used for the purpose of mailing or delivering any advertisement or offer for any property, establishment, organization, product, or service or for the purpose of mailing or delivering any solicitation for money, services, or anything of value. However, the lists and labels may be used for any political purpose. The county auditor or secretary of state must provide a copy of RCW [29A.08.740](#) to the person requesting the material that is released under this section.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "political purpose" means a purpose concerned with the support of or opposition to any candidate for any partisan or nonpartisan office or concerned with the support of or opposition to any ballot proposition or issue. "Political purpose" includes, but is not limited to, such activities as the advertising for or against any candidate or ballot measure or the solicitation of financial support.

RCW 29A.08.740 Violations of restricted use of registered voter data -- Penalties -- Liabilities.

(1) Any person who uses registered voter data furnished under RCW [29A.08.720](#) for the purpose of mailing or delivering any advertisement or offer for any property, establishment, organization, product, or service or for the purpose of mailing or delivering any solicitation for money, services, or anything of value is guilty of a class C felony punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for a period of not more than five years or a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars or both such fine and imprisonment, and is liable to each person provided such advertisement or solicitation, without the person's consent, for the nuisance value of such person having to dispose of it, which value is herein established at five dollars for each item mailed or delivered to the person's residence. However, a person who mails or delivers any advertisement, offer, or solicitation for a political purpose is not liable under this section unless the person is liable under subsection (2) of this section. For purposes of this subsection, two or more attached papers or sheets or two or more papers that are enclosed in the same envelope or container or are folded together are one item. Merely having a mailbox or other receptacle for mail on or near the person's residence is not an indication that the person consented to receive the advertisement or solicitation. A class action may be brought to recover damages under this section, and the court may award a reasonable attorney's fee to any party recovering damages under this section.

(2) Each person furnished data under RCW [29A.08.720](#) shall take reasonable precautions designed to assure that the data is not used for the purpose of mailing or delivering any advertisement or offer for any property, establishment, organization, product, or service or for the purpose of mailing or delivering any solicitation for money, services, or anything of value. However, the data may be used for any political purpose. Where failure to exercise due care in carrying out this responsibility results in the data being used for such purposes, then such person is jointly and severally liable for damages under subsection (1) of this section along with any other person liable under subsection (1) of this section for the misuse of such data.

Precincts/District Maps

Large area maps and individual precinct maps are found on our website. You may contact Chelan County Elections office to have maps printed for your campaign or project (prices listed below). A \$10.00 base fee will be charged for custom maps.

Small	8.5 x 11	\$1.00
	11 x 17	\$1.00
Large	36 x 48	\$15.00
Email		Free

Stephanie Wilder

Elections Director

stephanie.wilder@co.chelan.wa.us

509-667-6806

Use the menu on the left of our home page. Click on Research and Data and select Precinct Maps. From there they are organized by area maps or school districts. Once you select a school district, the precincts for that school district will appear.

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Voter Qualifications

To register to vote you must be:

1. **U.S. Citizen**

Having a green card or permanent residency status is not citizenship.

2. **A legal resident of Washington State.**

A person must establish a residential address in Washington at least 30 days before Election Day.

3. **At least 16 years old (qualify for Future Voters Program).**

To qualify for the Future Voter Program, a U.S. citizen must be at least 16 and a Washington resident. When they turn 18, Future Voters become automatically registered.

New in 2022: a voter who turns 18 between the August Primary and the November General Election can vote in the Primary. However, a voter must be 18 by the August Primary in order to vote for PCO.

4. **Not disqualified from voting due to a court order.**

Only a Superior Court Judge can declare a person unable to vote due to mental incompetency. Do not assume that a person under guardianship is ineligible to vote.

5. **Not serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the department of corrections for a Washington felony conviction or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state conviction.**

Once the right to vote is restored, a person must re-register to vote. If a person has questions about their status with DOC, they can call (800) 430-9674.

The Chelan County Auditor's Office has voter registration forms if you are conducting a voter registration drive. Please review the [Guide to Registering Voters](#) for all laws and rules. Contact our office for assistance at 509.667.6808 or email us at elections@co.chelan.wa.us

Voters can register to vote or update their voter registration at: www.VoteWA.gov
They must have a Washington State ID or Driver License when registering online. If they are currently registered in Chelan County, they do not need any ID to update their registration (excluding name changes).

Registration Deadlines:

Registrations by mail or online / Updates by phone or email

The deadline for voters to register by mail or online (including address updates by phone or email) is 8 days before Election Day. Mailed registration forms must be physically received, not postmarked, by the deadline. Voters also have the option to register at a county elections department no later than 8:00pm on Election Day.