



## Candidate Filing Guide

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**2024 Edition**

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## **About This Guide**

This guide should be used in conjunction with state and local laws, not in place of them. The Revised Code of Washington (RCW), the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) and other references are provided as sources for additional research. The material contained herein may change due to new legislation, judicial determination or rule changes.

The requirements described in this guide serve as the Local Voters' Pamphlet Administrative Rules for Chelan County as required by RCW 29A.32.230.

# Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Information is current as of January 31, 2024. Visit [elections.chelancountywa.gov](https://elections.chelancountywa.gov) for updates.

## Filing Fee

If the annual salary of the position is \$1,000 or less, the filing fee is \$10.00. If the annual salary is more than \$1,000, the filing fee is one percent of the annual salary at the time of filing. If there is no annual salary, there is no filing fee.

**New in 2024:** All single-county Legislative, Superior Court, and Court of Appeals positions now file with the Office of the Secretary of State.

All offices listed below are Partisan unless notated. (A) = Appointed

## Chelan County Open Offices For 2024

Positions Open	Incumbent	Term Length	Filing Fee	File With:
Federal (Partisan)				
U.S. Senator	Maria Cantwell	6 yrs	\$ 1,740.00	OSOS
Washington State (Partisan)				
Governor	Jay Inslee	4 yrs	\$ 1,982.57	OSOS
Lt. Governor	Denny Heck	4 yrs	\$ 1,241.27	OSOS
Secretary of State	Steve Hobbs	4 yrs	\$ 1,457.14	OSOS
State Treasurer	Mike Pellicciotti	4 yrs	\$ 1,625.55	OSOS
State Auditor	Pat (Patrice) McCarthy	4 yrs	\$ 1,457.14	OSOS
Attorney General	Bob Ferguson	4 yrs	\$ 1,875.43	OSOS
Commissioner of Public Lands	Hilary Franz	4 yrs	\$ 1,619.05	OSOS
Superintendent of Public Instruction (nonpartisan)	Chris Reykdal	4 yrs	\$ 1,457.14	OSOS
Insurance Commissioner	Mike Kreidler	4 yrs	\$ 1,457.14	OSOS
Congressional District 8 (Partisan)				
U.S. Representative	Kim Schrier	2 yrs	\$ 1,740.00	OSOS
Legislative District 7 (Partisan)				
Representative Position 1	Jacquelin Maycumber	2 yrs	\$601.91	OSOS
Representative Position 2	Joel Kretz	2 yrs	\$601.91	OSOS
Legislative District 12 (Partisan)				
State Senator	Brad Hawkins	4 yrs	\$ 601.91	OSOS
Representative Position 1	Keith Goehner	2 yrs	\$ 601.91	OSOS
Representative Position 2	Mike Steele	2 yrs	\$ 601.91	OSOS

Supreme Court (Nonpartisan)				
Justice Position 2	Susan Owens	6 yrs	\$ 2,398.68	OSOS
Justice Position 8	Steve Gonzalez	6 yrs	\$ 2,398.68	OSOS
Justice Position 9	Sheryl Gordon McCloud	6 yrs	\$ 2,398.68	OSOS
Court of Appeals, Division 3, District 3				
Judge Position 2	Robert Lawrence- Berrey	6 yrs	\$ 2,283.38	OSOS
Chelan County (Partisan)				
Commissioner District 1	Kevin Overbay	4 yrs	\$ 1,108.69	County
Commissioner District 3	Tiffany Gering	4 yrs	\$ 1,108.69	County
Superior Court Judge Position 1 (Nonpartisan)	Robert E. Jourdan	4 yrs	\$ 2,173.91	OSOS
Superior Court Judge Position 2 (Nonpartisan)	Travis Brandt	4 yrs	\$ 2,173.91	OSOS
Superior Court Judge Position 3 (Nonpartisan)	Kristin Ferrera	4 yrs	\$ 2,173.91	OSOS
District Court Judge Position 2	Allen F Blackmon	2 Yrs Unexpired	\$ 2,069.88	County
Public Utility District (Nonpartisan)				
Commissioner District 2	Randy Smith	6 yrs	\$ 388.56	County
Commissioner District A	Steve McKenna	4 yrs	\$ 388.56	County
Precinct Committee Officer (Partisan)				
Each precinct has 2 positions open (R)&(D)		2 yrs	None	County

## Terms of Office

A term is a length of time when an elected official is in office. Most terms begin on or shortly after January 1, after the official is elected. Exception: school district directors take office at the next scheduled meeting after the election results are certified.

**Regular (full) term** lengths vary based on the type of district and the rules that govern the district. Common term lengths are 1 year, 2 years, 4 years, or 6 years.

When a vacancy occurs in an elected office, it can create the need to elect a person to either a short and full term or an unexpired term.

A **short and full term** is designated when the vacancy occurs in an office that is already scheduled for election at the next General Election. The winning candidate takes office immediately following the certification of the election to serve the “short term” until their “full term” begins, typically on, or shortly after January 1.

An **unexpired term** is designated when a vacancy occurs in an office not scheduled to be on the ballot at the next General Election, but still in a year in which the district elects other offices. The winning candidate takes office immediately following certification of the election for the remainder of the term that was vacated.

# 2024 Elections Calendar for Candidates

## Candidate Filing

Declarations of candidacy will be accepted:

By mail (received date, regardless of postmark) April 22 through 5:00 p.m. May 10

In person or online 8:00 a.m. May 6 through 5:00 p.m. May 10

Lot drawing for order of candidates on the ballot May 10 (shortly after 5:00 p.m.)

Deadline to withdraw declaration of candidacy May 13 (5:00 p.m.)

Local Voters' Pamphlet information submission deadline May 21 (5:00 p.m.)

Declared Primary write-in Local Voters' Pamphlet submission deadline August 13 (5:00 p.m.)

Unopposed primary candidates revise Local Voters' Pamphlet submission deadline (if a write-in candidate for the same position files a declaration of candidacy in the Primary) August 13 (5:00 p.m.)

## Primary

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Ballots mailed July 16

**Election Day** **August 6**

Election certification August 20

## General Election

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Ballots mailed October 15

**Election Day** **November 5**

Election certification November 26

# Filing for Office Overview

## Where to file

Refer to pages 3-4 for the appropriate filing officer to file with.

## RCW 29A.24.070

For additional filing information visit [elections.chelancountywa.gov](https://elections.chelancountywa.gov) or call (509) 667-6808.

## How to file in Chelan County

Candidates in Chelan County may file online at [elections.chelancountywa.gov](https://elections.chelancountywa.gov), by mail, in person at the Chelan County Elections Office or by email (if there is no filing fee).

Candidate must:

- Be a registered voter of the district and meet the residency requirements for the office for which they are filing (see “Guidelines for Candidate Filing”)
- Complete a Declaration of Candidacy form
- Provide an email address if filing online (see “Guidelines for Candidate Filing: Campaign Contact Information”)
- Pay filing fee by credit card if filing online
- Pay filing fee by cash or check if filing in person or by mail payable to: Chelan County Auditor’s Office

If a candidate needs to file a petition in lieu of the filing fee because they lack sufficient assets or income, contact our office.

## When to file in Chelan County

### File online

8:00 a.m. Monday, May 6 to 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 10, 2024

## RCW 29A.24.081, RCW 29A.24.050, RCW 29A.24.040

The online filing tool at [elections.chelancountywa.gov](https://elections.chelancountywa.gov) will provide step-by-step instructions, email a confirmation notice to the candidate, alert the candidate when other candidates file in their race, and provide a link to submit Local Voter’s Pamphlet information.

### File in Person

8:00 a.m. Monday, May 6 to 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 10, 2024

Chelan County Elections, 350 Orondo Ave STE 306, Wenatchee, WA 98801

### File by mail

Mail must arrive in our office no earlier than April 22 and no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 10, 2024. Check made payable to: Chelan County Auditor’s Office.

Mail to: Chelan County Elections, 350 Orondo Ave STE 306, Wenatchee, WA 98801

**Campaign Contact  
Information  
RCW 42.52.180**

It is highly recommended that candidates provide a campaign mailing address, phone number, email address and website address when filing for office.

If a candidate does not provide a campaign mailing address, the address in his or her voter registration record will be published online in the list of candidates who have filed.

Make certain that phone numbers, email addresses and website addresses are accurate, functional, and not confidential or private. The use of government email accounts for the purpose of assisting a campaign is considered improper use of public resources and therefore not allowed as campaign or candidate contact information.

**Withdrawal of filing  
RCW 29A.24.131**

A candidate may withdraw his or her candidacy in writing no later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, May 13, 2024. There is not a withdrawal period when filing for office during the special three-day filing period. **Filing fees are not refundable.**

**Order of appearance  
on ballots and in Local  
Voters' Pamphlet  
RCW 29A.36.131,  
RCW 29A.36.170**

The order of candidates' names on the Primary ballot and in the Primary Local Voters' Pamphlet is determined by lot draw. The lot draw occurs after the close of filing week on Friday, May 10, 2024. The process is open to the public and begins shortly after 5:00 p.m., after the candidate filing forms have been processed.

For the General Election, the candidate with the most votes in the Primary will be listed first on the ballot in the Local Voters' Pamphlet. If no Primary is held for an office, candidates will appear on the General Election ballot in lot draw order.



# Local Voters' Pamphlet

## Submit Local Voters' Pamphlet Information

The deadline to submit Local Voters' Pamphlet information is **5:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, 2024.**

The Local Voters' Pamphlet provides an opportunity for every candidate running for a position to have his or her biographical information, candidate statement, contact information and photo published.

After a candidate files for office, he or she will receive an email with a link. The link can be used to submit the information listed above for publication in the Local Voters' Pamphlet. A candidate may also submit his or her information by email to [elections@co.chelan.wa.us](mailto:elections@co.chelan.wa.us) or in person at 350 Orondo Ave STE 306, Wenatchee, WA 98801. The Elections Office cannot accept information submitted on a flash drive.

To meet the deadline, candidates should submit their information as soon as possible after they file for office. There is no benefit in delaying. Local Voters' Pamphlet submissions are kept confidential until the submittal deadline has passed and all submissions have been approved by the Elections Office.

Any candidate who experiences technical problems while submitting his or her information online should call the Elections Office immediately at (509) 667-6808. Technical difficulties will not excuse candidates from meeting the deadline.

All submissions for the Local Voters' Pamphlet must be received in the Elections Office by **5:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, 2024.**

Offices that file with the state must make sure to submit voters' pamphlet information to the state within their deadline.

**Once submitted, all biographical information, statements, photos and contact information are final. Submissions cannot be revised by the candidate.**

Candidates may **NOT** submit a new statement for the General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet. The information submitted for the Primary pamphlet will also be used for the General Election pamphlet.

Chelan County publishes an official Local Voters' Pamphlet for the Primary and General Election. It is available in printed and electronic formats. The electronic version is published at [elections.chelancountywa.gov](http://elections.chelancountywa.gov).

A declared Primary write-in candidate may submit voters' pamphlet materials to the Elections office by the Tuesday following the Primary. Any previously unopposed candidates on the Primary ballot may submit a revised pamphlet statement when a write-in candidate for the same position files a declaration of

candidacy; the revision must be received by the Tuesday following the Primary. ([WAC 434-381-120](#))

\*Superior Court Judge Positions – follow OSOS LVP Guidelines

## Candidate Biographical Information and Statement

### Biographical information length

Biographical information must be **100** words or less allocated between the four section headings below. Section headings are not included in the word count.

- Elected Experience or Legal/Judicial Experience
- Professional/Work Experience
- Education
- Community Service

If a candidate does not submit a response to a section heading, the heading will appear in the Local Voters' Pamphlet and "No information submitted" will appear in the corresponding section.

### Statement length (RCW 29A.32.121)

The word limit for a candidate's statement is **200** words and may have up to four paragraphs.

### Format for biographical information and statements

Each part of a slashed or hyphenated word will be counted as a separate word. For example, "and/or" will be counted as two words and "around-the-corner" will be counted as three words.

Biographical information and statements exceeding word limits will be shortened by the Elections Office in consultation with the candidate. If attempts to reach the candidate are unsuccessful within 48 hours, the Elections Office will shorten the submissions by deleting full sentences from the end until the word limit is reached.

*Italics* may be used to emphasize specific words or sentences. Any other formats such as **bold font**, underlined font, or ALL CAPS will be changed to *italics*.

Lists and bullets are not allowed. Lists or bullets will be converted by the Elections Office to a block paragraph, with semicolon to separate each item and a period at the end.

If a section of the submission is not received by the deadline, the text "No photo submitted" and/or "No information submitted" will appear in the applicable sections. If no submission is received for a candidate, the text "No photo submitted" and/or "No information submitted" will appear along with the candidate name and office being sought.

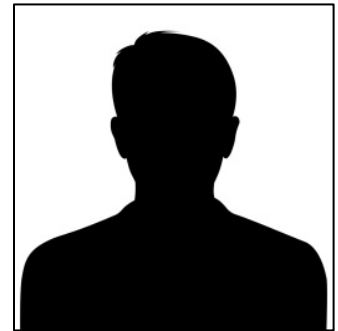
## Content

Pursuant to RCW 29A.32.230 and by administrative rule by the county Auditor, the Elections Office may reject certain materials submitted for publication. This includes, without limitation, biographical information, candidate statements, photos or contact information that:

- Are obscene and libelous.
- Contain an advertisement.
- Contain content prohibited by law from distribution through the mail.
- Contain content not limited to the candidate himself or herself or political office.
- Contain content that is otherwise inappropriate or that does not comply with the law.
- Materials received after the submittal deadline.

Digital or printed photo must be:

- Good quality and original.
- Current (taken within five years).
- Head and shoulders portrait, forward facing, containing no other people or animals.
- If printed: no smaller than 4x5 inches.
- If digital: JPEG or TIFF format, at least 1200 x 1500 pixels, 300 DPI resolution.



### Candidate Photo Rules

**RCW 29A.32.110,  
WAC 434-381-130,  
WAC 434-381-140,  
WAC 434-381-150**

Photos may not:

- Show clothing or insignia suggesting the holding of a public office. Examples of such clothing or insignia include, but are not limited to, judicial robes, law enforcement or military uniforms, official seals or similar symbols other than the flag of the State of Washington, or similar indicia of public office.
- Be digitally altered.

Photo guidelines:

- Color photos are preferred, but black and white photos are acceptable. Photos should be light colored, with a plain, but not white background.

**Photos that do not meet the statutory and administrative criteria outlined will be rejected.**

Candidate photos from previous Local Voters' Pamphlets are not available from the Elections Office for reuse. Candidates must submit a new photo.

**Campaign Contact Information**  
**RCW 42.52.180**

A candidate's phone number, email address and website address may be printed in the Local Voters' Pamphlet. At least one form of contact information is required. A candidate's mailing address will not be printed.

Make certain that phone numbers, email addresses and website addresses are accurate, functional, and not confidential or private. The use of government email accounts for the purpose of assisting a campaign is considered improper use of public resources and therefore not allowed as campaign or candidate contact information.

**General Provisions Applicable to All Submissions**

The contents of biographical information, statements, photos and contact information are the sole responsibility of the candidate.

Submissions do not represent the position of the Elections Office or of Chelan County. The Elections Office and Chelan County are not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the submissions.

Submissions should be prepared and edited as carefully as one would prepare and edit a resume. Spelling, grammar and punctuation errors will **not** be corrected. Submissions will be printed exactly as received, provided that they comply with the specifications and rules for format and content.

**Once submitted, all biographical information, statement, photo and contact information are final. Submissions cannot be revised by the candidate.**

All submissions for inclusion in the Local Voters' Pamphlet are due by **5:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, 2024**. No exceptions are allowed.

**Rejection of Statements**  
**RCW 29A.32.090,**  
**RCW 29A.32.230**

**Rejection**

Pursuant to RCW 29A.32.090, RCW 29A.32.230 and by administrative rule by the county Auditor, the Elections Office may reject certain materials submitted for publication in the Local Voters' Pamphlet. This includes, without limitation, biographical information, candidate statements, photos and contact information.

If the biographical information, candidates' statement, photo or contact information is rejected by the Elections Office, a notice of rejection will be emailed to the submitter not more than five business days after the submittal deadline for the Local Voters' Pamphlet and will identify the grounds for the rejection.

**Appeal**

Any candidate whose submission is rejected may issue an appeal. A notice of appeal must be emailed to the Auditor at [elections@co.chelan.wa.us](mailto:elections@co.chelan.wa.us), not more than two business days after the notice of rejection was sent and must state the specific grounds for appeal. The Auditor will email a decision granting or denying

the appeal not more than two business days after receiving the notice of appeal. The decision of the Auditor to grant or deny an appeal will be final.

Material that has been rejected will not be published in the Local Voters’ Pamphlet.

**Public Inspection of Statements**  
**RCW 29A.32.100**

Local Voters’ Pamphlet submissions are not available for public inspection or copying until **Friday, June 7, 2024**.

## Local Voters’ Pamphlet Submissions – At a Glance

Section	Word Limit	Formatting
Biographical information	100 <i>Section headings are not included in the word count.</i>	Allowed: <i>Italics.</i> Not allowed: <b>Bold font</b> , <u>underlined font</u> , ALL CAPS, lists and bullets.
Candidate statements	200	Allowed: Up to four paragraphs, <i>italics.</i> Not allowed: <b>Bold font</b> , <u>underlined font</u> , ALL CAPS, lists and bullets.
Contact information  <i>At least one method of contact must be provided.</i>	<i>Contact information is not included in the word count.</i>	Allowed: Candidate phone number, candidate email address, and candidate website address. Not allowed: Titles (Dr., President, Ph.D.)
<p>Material submitted for publication in the Local Voters’ Pamphlet may be rejected if it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is obscene or libelous</li> <li>• Contains an advertisement or content prohibited by law from distribution through the mail</li> <li>• Contains content not limited to the candidate himself or herself or political office</li> <li>• Contains content that is otherwise inappropriate or that does not comply with the law</li> <li>• Contains a photo that does not meet statutory or administrative criteria</li> <li>• Was received after the submittal deadline</li> </ul>		

# Public Disclosure Commission

## Washington State Public Disclosure Commission

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) provides public access to accurate information about the financing of political campaigns, the expenditures of lobbyists, and the financial affairs of public officials and candidates. The commission ensures compliance and enforcement of Washington's disclosure and campaign finance laws.

**Note: The information contained in this section is for informational purposes only. Candidates are advised to verify that they are following all state, county and local laws. Candidates must contact the PDC directly with any questions or concerns.**

*The following information is stated on the PDC website:*

Several actions make you a candidate in the eyes of the law and prompt the requirement for filing reports with the PDC. For candidates who did not previously announce their candidacy, raise funds or spend money on their campaigns, the declaration of candidacy is the triggering event.

Within two weeks of filing that declaration, most candidates must register their campaigns (C-1 report) and disclose personal financial affairs (F-1 report). **All reports must be filed electronically.**

Registered voter totals by district can be obtained by calling the Elections Office at (509) 667-6808.

## Forms, Instruction Manuals and Brochures Available Online

For reporting options, limits and deadlines, please refer to the additional PDC handout enclosed with the candidate filing guide at the time of filing or visit the PDC website, [pdc.wa.gov](http://pdc.wa.gov), email [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov) or call PDC at (360) 753-1111 or at (877) 601-2828. Forms and instruction manuals are not available at the Elections Office.

# Guidelines for Candidate Filing

## Office Information and Residency Requirements

**Supreme and District Court Judges:** Candidates must be resident electors of their district and admitted to practice law in the courts of record of the State of Washington. (Reference State Constitution, Article IV, Section 17)

**Superior Court Judges:** Candidates must be resident electors of the State of Washington and admitted to practice law in the courts of record of the State of Washington. (Reference State Constitution, Article IV, Section 17)

**County Offices:** Candidates must be US citizens, residents and registered voters of Chelan County. (RCW 29A.24.075) County Commissioners Candidates must be registered voters of Chelan County and a resident of the internal district in which he or she files for the Primary. (RCW 36.32.050)

**Port Districts:** Candidates must be registered voters of Chelan County and a resident of the internal district in which he or she files for the Primary. (Reference RCW 53.12.010, 29A.24.075)

**Public Utility Districts:** Candidates must be registered voters of Chelan County and a resident of the internal district in which he or she files for the Primary. (Reference RCW 54.12.010)

**School Districts (Cascade, Cashmere, Entiat, Lake Chelan and Manson):** Candidates must be registered voters of the district and a resident of the internal director district in which he or she files. (Reference RCW 28A.343.350, 29A.24.075)

**Stehekin School District:** Candidates must be registered voter of the district at the time of filing. (Reference RCW 29A.24.075)

**Wenatchee School District No. 246:** Candidates for school board director shall be qualified electors (registered voters) and residents of the director district for which they are filing. The qualified electors of each voting district, and they only, shall nominate from among their number of candidates for the office of school board member of such voting district to be voted for at the next general election. Such candidates shall be nominated in the same manner as other candidates at the primary election. In addition, one school board director, designated school board director-at-large, shall be nominated from among all districts within the school district. Boundary changes to existing voting districts are subject to election at the next regular election. (Reference RCW 35A.12.030, RCW 35A.12.180)

**Cities:** Candidates must be registered voters at the time of filing and residents for a year on Election Day. (Reference RCW 35A.12.030, 35A.13.020, 29A.24.075)

**City of Wenatchee:** Candidates for Council shall be qualified electors (registered voters) and residents of the city at the time of filing and has been a resident of the city for a period of at least one year next preceding his or her election. The qualified electors of each voting district, and they only, shall nominate from among their number of candidates for the office of council member of such voting district to be voted for at the next General Election. Such candidates shall be nominated in the same manner as other candidates at the Primary Election. In addition, two council members, designated council members-at-large, shall be nominated from among all districts within the City. Boundary changes to existing voting districts are subject to election at the next regular election. (Reference RCW 35A.12.030, RCW 35A.12.180)

**Fire Districts:** Candidates must be qualified electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 52.14.010)

**Hospital Districts:** Candidates must be resident electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 70.44.040, 29A.24.075)

**Cemetery Districts:** Candidates must be resident electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 68.52.155, 29A.24.075)

**Water and Sewer Districts:** Candidates must be qualified electors (registered voters) of district. Fewer than one hundred residents see RCW 57.12.035. (Reference RCW 57.12)

**Park and Recreation Districts:** Candidates must be resident electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 36.69, 29A.24.075)

**Precinct Committee Officer:** Be a registered voter in the precinct where you live. (Reference 29A.80.041)

**No Double Filings  
RCW 29A.36.201**

A candidate's name shall not appear for more than one office on the ballot with the exception of the offices of Precinct Committee Officer.

**Candidates Who Cannot  
Pay the Filing Fee  
RCW 29A.24.091,  
RCW 29A.24.101,  
RCW 29A.24.111,  
WAC 434-245-025**

Candidates or candidate committees who cannot pay the filing fee may submit a filing fee petition. The petition must be presented with the Declaration of Candidacy form at the time of filing. The filing fee petition is available on the Elections Office website at [elections.chelancountywa.gov](http://elections.chelancountywa.gov). It must contain one valid signature for each dollar of the filing fee. For example, if the filing fee for the office is \$200.00, the petition must contain 200 valid signatures. A signature is valid if the signer is a registered voter who resides in the district/jurisdiction of the office the candidate is seeking. It is recommended that a candidate gather 25% more signatures than necessary as it is not uncommon for signatures to be invalid (duplicate signatures or the signer is not a registered voter). All signatures



must be submitted at the same time. No signatures may be submitted after **5:00 p.m. Friday, May 10, 2024**. The filing fee must be either paid in full or the sufficient number of valid signatures must be provided. State law does not allow for a combination of the two.

**Write-in Candidates**  
**RCW 29A.24.311,**  
**RCW 29A.24.320,**  
**RCW29A.60.021,**  
**WAC 434-215-015,**  
**WAC 434-215-180**

Write-in candidates must file a write-in declaration to have votes tallied for a race. The write-in declaration must be filed by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. If the write-in declaration is filed 18 days prior to an election, no filing fee is required.

Write-in candidates that file 18 days or less before an election must pay a filing fee. For offices with a fixed annual salary of more than \$1,000, the filing fee is 1% of the annual salary. For offices with a fixed annual salary of \$1,000 or less, the filing fee is \$25. Candidates for offices without a fixed annual salary must also pay the \$25 filing fee, including those paid on per diem or per meeting basis.

Candidates may submit a filing fee petition in lieu of the filing fee.

No candidate may file as a write-in candidate:

**Sore Loser Law**  
**RCW 29A.24.311**  
**RCW 29A.60.021**

- If the candidate loses a race in the Primary, either as a regular candidate printed on the ballot or as a declared write-in, that candidate cannot file in the General Election as a write-in candidate for the same race. (Sore Loser Law) RCW 29A.24.311 & RCW 29A.60.021
- If the candidate has filed a valid write-in declaration for another office.
- If the candidate already appears on the ballot for another office with the exception of the offices of Precinct Committee Officer.

According to RCW 29A.24.311, no write-in candidate will be included in any voters' pamphlet unless that candidate qualifies to have his or name printed on the General Election ballot.

**Stickers**  
**RCW29A.60.100**

Votes cast by stickers or printed labels are not valid for any purpose and election officials must reject those votes. Votes cast by sticker or label shall not affect the validity of other offices or issues on the voter's ballot. RCW 29A.60.100.

**Vacancy in Office**  
**RCW 29A.24.171**

When an incumbent resigns, passes away, or is disqualified mid-term, and a candidate filing's have not been held for the office, one of the following occurs:

- If the Elections Office is notified of a vacancy before the first day of regular candidate filing for that office, the office will be included in the regular filing.
- If the vacancy in office occurs on or after the first day of regular candidate filing, no election is held for that office until the next General Election that the office is allowed by law to have an election. The jurisdiction will fill the vacant position with an appointment until the next election for that office.

**Voids in Candidacy**  
**RCW 29A.24.131,**  
**RCW 29A.24.141,**  
**RCW 29A.24.181**

A void in candidacy occurs if, after the regular filing week but prior to the day of the Primary:

- No candidate has filed for an office,
- All candidates who have filed have withdrawn, or
- All candidates who have filed have passed away or have been disqualified.

There is no void in candidacy as long as there is at least one viable candidate for an office.

If a void in candidacy for an office exists, a special 3-day filing period will be opened. The Elections Office will provide notice of the special 3-day filing period by notifying the media. There is no withdrawal period when filing for office during the special 3-day filing period.

If a void in candidacy is filled as a result of the special 3-day filing period, no Primary will be held. All candidates who file during the special 3-day filing period will appear on the General Election ballot.

**Lapsed Elections**  
**RCW 29A.24.191,**  
**RCW 29A.24.201**

If no candidate files for an office during the regular filing period and subsequent special 3-day filing period, an election for that office will not be held until the next election for that office. The incumbent continues to serve until a successor is elected at the next election when such positions are voted upon.

# Guidelines for Primary

**Partisan Offices**  
**RCW 29A.52.112,**  
**WAC 434-215-120,**  
**WAC 434-230-045,**  
**WAC 434-230-055**

A partisan office is an office for which a candidate may choose to indicate a political party preference or no party preference on his or her Declaration of Candidacy form. Federal, state, legislative and precinct committee officer positions are partisan offices.

A Primary will be held for each open partisan office, regardless of the number of candidates filing, with the exception of an unexpired term for which only one candidate files a Declaration of Candidacy.

Each candidate for partisan office may state a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate. Changes to party preferences will not be accepted after the deadline for withdrawal of candidacy.

In the Primary, the name of a candidate for a county commissioner position will appear on the ballot for his or her district only.

On the Primary ballot, candidates shall be listed in the order determined by the lot drawing.

The two candidates who receive the greatest number of votes in the Primary will advance to the General Election regardless of their party preferences. The candidate who received the most votes in the Primary will appear first on the General Election ballot.

**Nonpartisan Offices**  
**RCW 29A.52.220,**  
**RCW 29A.52.231,**  
**RCW 35.61.050,**  
**RCW 36.69.090**

A nonpartisan office is an office for which candidates do not indicate a party preference. All judicial, port, public utility district, city, school, hospital, fire, cemetery, water, sewer and parks & recreation district offices are nonpartisan offices.

A Primary will be held if three or more candidates filed for a nonpartisan office. The two candidates with the most votes continue on to the General Election. The candidate who received the most votes in the Primary will appear first on the ballot in the General Election.

In the Primary, if three or more candidates file for a port or public utility district commissioner position, this race will appear on the ballot for his or her district only.

A Primary will not be held for park and recreation district positions and cemetery district positions. All candidates will advance directly to the General Election and will appear on the ballot in lot draw order.

**Election of Precinct  
Committee Officers  
(Even-Numbered Years  
Only)**

Anyone who is a registered voter and a member of a major political party may become a candidate for Precinct Committee Officer (PCO). A candidate may file a Declaration of Candidacy Precinct Committee Officer form in person, by mail or online. Since voters do not register by political party in Washington, a candidate declares himself or herself to be a member of a political party at the time of filing.

**PCOs will be elected during the Primary.**

**If only one person files for office, he or she is deemed elected.** Only PCO races with two or more candidates will appear on the ballot and write-in candidates are not allowed. Order will be determined by lot draw. Democratic PCO's are listed first on the ballot. State law requires the major political party that received the highest number of votes from the electors of this state for the office of President of the United States at the last presidential election to be listed first. If no one files for office, the position is filled by the chairperson of the County Central Committee of the appropriate political party.

**PCOs are not included in the Local Voters' Pamphlet.**

**Term of office and vacancies:**

The term of office is two years. Should a vacancy occur in the office (caused by death, disqualification, resignation or failure to elect), the chairperson of the County Central Committee fills the vacancy by appointment.

**Duties of a PCO:**

Each officer is a member of the County Central Committee. The committee has the authority to nominate candidates or fill vacancies for state, legislative or county offices. The committee may also elect members to the State Central Committee. PCOs participate in party activities and represent the party.

## Judicial Offices

Judicial candidates only appear on the Primary ballot when three or more candidates file for the office. The candidates' names appear on the ballot in lot draw order.

See the chart below for more judicial office information.

Judicial Elections in Washington State - Appearance on the Ballot				
Number of Candidates	Municipal Court District Court Court of Appeals Supreme Court		Superior Court (county population 100,000 or more)	
	Primary	General	Primary	General
1	No <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No Certificate of election is issued after candidate filing <sup>3</sup>	No
2	No <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>
3 or more	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> RCW 29A.52.220

<sup>2</sup> RCW 29A.36.170

<sup>3</sup> Washington Constitution, Article IV, Section 29

An election to fill a vacancy in District Court may not occur in an odd-numbered year, per AGLO 1973 No. 76 and RCW 29A.04.321.

# Guidelines for General Election

## Partisan Offices

On General Election ballots, the name of the candidate who received the greatest number of votes for the position in the Primary will be listed first, followed by the name of the candidate who received the next greatest number of votes.

A candidate for partisan office may state the political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's party preference does not mean that the candidate is endorsed by the party. Changes to party preferences will not be accepted after the deadline for withdrawal of candidacy.

Candidates for county commissioner will appear countywide in the General Election.

## Nonpartisan/Judicial Offices RCW 29A.36.170

On General Election ballots, the name of the candidate who received the greatest number of votes for the position in the Primary will be listed first, followed by the name of the candidate who received the next greatest number of votes. If a Primary was not required for a nonpartisan office, the candidates' name will appear in lot draw order.

# Prohibited Activities

## Acts Prohibited in the Vicinity of a Voting Center or a Ballot Deposit Site

WAC 434-250-100,  
RCW 29A.84.510,  
RCW 29A.84.530,  
RCW 29A.84.540

During the voting period, no person may, within a voting center:

- Suggest, persuade, or attempt to suggest or persuade any voter to vote for or against any candidate or ballot measure
- Circulate cards or handbills of any kind
- Solicit signatures for any kind of petition
- Engage in any practice which interferes with the freedom of voters to exercise their right to vote or disrupts administration of the voting center

No person may:

- Interfere with a voter attempting to vote at a voting center or a ballot deposit site
- Without lawful authority, remove any ballot from a voting center or a ballot deposit site
- Within 25 feet of a ballot drop box not located within a voting center, electioneer, circulate campaign material, solicit petition signatures, or interfere or impede the voting process

# Recounts

## **Mandatory/Automatic Recounts RCW 29A.64**

An automatic machine recount will be conducted if the difference in the number of votes cast for the apparent winner and the closest apparently defeated opponent is less than 2,000 votes and also less than one-half of one percent of the total number of votes cast for both candidates. The recount is applicable only to the candidate apparently nominated or elected to office and the closest apparently defeated opponent. The automatic recount will tally only votes for the position in question and will be conducted without charge to any candidate.

For statewide elections, if the difference in the number of votes cast for apparent winner and the closest apparently defeated opponent is less than 1,000 votes and also less than one-quarter of one percent of the total number of votes cast for both candidates, the votes shall be recounted manually.

For all other elections, if the difference in the number of votes cast for the apparent winner and the closest apparently defeated opponent is less than 150 votes and also less than one-quarter of one percent of the total number of votes cast for both candidates, the votes shall be recounted manually. An alternative counting may be used if both candidates agree to it in writing and if the procedure is suited to the balloting system that was used for casting the votes for the office.

If a mandatory recount is required for a candidate in a jurisdiction, the cost of the recount is billed as a direct cost to the jurisdiction.

### Local Measure, Question or Issue

Automatic recounts do not apply to non-statewide ballot measures, such as levies, bonds, and other question or issues.

### Request for Recounts

All requests for recounts must be submitted no later than two business days after the certification of the election. A deposit equal to 15 cents (machine recount) or 25 cents (manual recount) per ballot by certified check or cash is required. The final cost of the recount will be determined by the canvassing board and may be less or more than the deposit.

At any time before the ballots from all of the precincts listed in the application for the recount have been recounted, the applicant may file with the board a written request to stop the recount.

## Voter Data

Information contained in voter registration records or files regarding a voter or a group of voters is available for public inspection and copying, except as provided in RCW 40.24.060: The voter's name, address, political jurisdiction, gender, date of birth, voting record, date of registration, and registration number. No other information from voter registration records or files is available for public inspection or copying. RCW 29A.08.710 (Change in 2023 - Originals and automated files - public disclosure see 5112-S2.SL and 5153.SL)

All data requests are now made available through the Secretary of State's Office.

To request voter registration data or data from past elections visit the Secretary of State's Office website at this address for more information:

<https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/data-research/election-data-and-maps/reports-data-and-statistics>

State law determines the rules and restrictions on the use of registered voter data. Voter information may not be used for commercial or other nonpolitical purposes.

### **Restricted Use of Voter Data RCW29A.08.740**

RCW 29A.08.740 states: "Any person who uses registered voter data 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."

### **Precinct Maps**

Precinct maps are found on our website. Use the menu on the left of our home page. Click on Research and Data and select Precinct Maps. Large area maps are listed first. Individual precinct maps are organized by school district. Contact our office for a list of precincts within your district or copies of maps.



## Election Results

Election night results are available online at approximately 8:15 p.m. at [www.Elections.ChelanCountyWA.gov](http://www.Elections.ChelanCountyWA.gov)

### After Election Day

Elections office staff will continue to count ballots and update election results until the election is certified.

## Resources for Newly Elected Officials

**Oath of Office**  
**RCW 29A.04.133,**  
**RCW 36.16.040,**  
**RCW 36.16.050,**  
**RCW 36.16.060**

Candidates are elected to office when the General Election results have been certified. Oaths and Certificates of Election will be mailed to the jurisdiction's office following certification. In order to become "qualified" for the office, winning candidates must post any required bond and take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the duties of their office to the best of their ability. Candidates elected to an unexpired or short term take office upon certification of the election.

### Official Bonds

Information regarding official bond requirements can be found in the RCW references for each office on page 13. For more specific information, candidates may contact the jurisdiction of the office for which they have been elected.

### Administration of Oath

Winning candidates may have their oaths administered to them by a judge, county auditor, county councilor, court clerk, notary public, or any other officer authorized to administer oaths. School and educational service district superintendents are also authorized to administer oaths for school board directors. Please see the table on next page for more information regarding oaths of office and the timelines for assuming office.

### Filing Oath of Office

Once a candidate takes the oath of office for a local or county office, the Oath of Office form must be filed with the Elections Office. Elected officials may wish to complete a second Oath of Office form to keep or to display.

### Additional Resources

#### To Learn More about Public Office

Newly elected officials may wish to contact their local city or town clerk, school superintendent or councilors to learn more about their jurisdiction and the duties required of their position.

Timeline of Assuming Office, Administration and Repository of Oath, and Application Citation			
President/Vice President	January 20	Traditionally administered by Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.	U.S. Constitution, Article II, Section 1 and 20 <sup>th</sup> Amendment
U.S. Senator and Representative	January 3 or on alternate day designated by Congress	Senate: As the President of the Senate, the Vice President administers the oath to new Senators on the first day of a new Congress.  House: Administered by the Speaker of the House on the first day to new representatives.	U.S. Constitution, Article VI, Section 3 and 20 <sup>th</sup> Amendment
State Executive Officers Governor Lt. Governor Secretary of State State Treasurer State Auditor Attorney General Commissioner of Public Lands Superintendent of Public Instruction Insurance Commissioner	Wednesday following the second Monday in January	Administered by a Supreme Court Justice at the capital. Except for the oath of the Secretary of State, all are filed with the Secretary of State.  The oath of the Secretary of State is filed with the state Auditor.	RCW 43.01.010; RCW 43.01.020; RCW 43.08.020; RCW 43.09.010 and 4 USC Section 101
Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeals Judge, Superior Court Judge	Second Monday in January	Oath retained by Secretary of State.	Washington State Constitution, Article IV, Sections 5 and 28; RCW 2.04.080; RCW 2.06.070; RCW 2.06.085; RCW 2.08.080
State Legislature Senator Representative	Second Monday in January	Oath is administered by a Supreme Court Justice on the first day of session. Oaths retained by the House and Senate.	U.S. Constitution, Article VI; RCW 29A.04.133
County Officials, Executive Officers	January 1	No earlier than 10 days prior to assuming office, or at last regularly scheduled meeting. Oath retained by county Auditor.	RCW 29A.60.280; RCW 36.16.040; RCW 36.16.060

Timeline of Assuming Office, Administration and Repository of Oath, and Application Citation (continued)			
District Court Judge, Municipal Court Judge	Second Monday in January	Prior to entering the duties of the office. Oath filed with the county Auditor.	RCW 3.34.070; RCW 3.34.080; RCW 35.20.150; RCW 3.50.097
City and Town Officials, Executive Officers	January 1	No earlier than 10 days prior to assuming office, or at last regularly scheduled meeting. Oath filed with county Auditor.	RCW 29A.60.280; RCW 35.27.120; RCW 35.23.081; RCW 35A.12.040; RCW 35A.12.080; RCW 35A.13.160
Port District Commissioners	January 1	No earlier than 10 days prior to assuming office, or at last regularly scheduled meeting. Oath retained by county Auditor.	RCW 29A.60.280; RCW 53.12.172
Public Utility District Commissioners	January 1	Administered by an officer of the county in which the district is situated. No earlier than 10 days prior to assuming office, or at last regularly scheduled meeting. Oath retained by county Auditor.	RCW 29A.60.280; RCW 54.12.100
School Directors	Begins at first official meeting after certification of election	School officials are authorized to administer all oaths or affirmations. Oath retained by county Auditor.	RCW 28A.343.360
Fire Protection, Sewer, Water, Cemetery, and Park and Recreation District Commissioners, Fire Protection District Secretary	January 1	No earlier than 10 days prior to assuming office, or at last regularly scheduled meeting. Oath retained by county Auditor.	RCW 29A.60.280; RCW 52.14.070; RCW 52.14.080; RCW 57.12.030; RCW 68.52.260; RCW 35.61.050
Jurisdictions requiring land ownership (diking/flood control districts)	Upon certification of election	No statutory reference available.	RCW 85.24.070; RCW 85.38.070; RCW 86.09.301
Charter Review Commissioners	January 1	No statutory reference available.	Clark County Home Rule Charter, Article 9, Section A
Precinct Committee Officers	Commencing the first day of December following the Primary	No statutory reference available.	RCW 29A.80.051