



RUNNING FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE IN NEW YORK STATE

PREPARED BY:

NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
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RUNNING FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE
IN NEW YORK STATE

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NOTE: Please refer to the official Political Calendar of the New York State Board of Elections for all filing dates.

This packet has been prepared as an aid to those persons preparing to run for public office or party position. Additional information may be obtained by calling the New York State Board of Elections at (518) 474-6220 or your county board of elections.

REQUIREMENTS TO HOLD FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICES

OFFICE	U.S. CITIZENSHIP	AGE	RESIDENCY	STATUTE
President of the United States	Born a Citizen	35 years	14 years in country	U.S. Constitution Art. II § 1
U.S. Senator	Citizen 9 years	30 years	Resident of State when elected	U.S. Constitution Art. I § 2
NYS Governor NYS Lt. Governor NYS Attorney General NYS Comptroller	Citizen	30 years	Resident of State 5 years immediately preceding election	NYS Constitution Art. IV § 2 and Art. V § 1
Representative in Congress	Citizen 7 years	25 years	Resident of State when elected	U.S. Constitution Art. I § 3
NYS Senator NYS Assembly	Citizen	18 years	Resident of state for 5 years and resident of district for 12 months immediately preceding election. (In a redistricting year, may be a resident of county for 12 months immediately preceding the election)	NYS Constitution Art. III § 7 Public Officers Law § 3

GENERAL INFORMATION ON PETITIONS

NOTE: The information contained here is intended to provide guidance for those who are preparing to circulate petitions, and is not to be used as a substitute for consulting the Election Law for specific petition requirements.

Persons wishing to run for elective office may be nominated either by a political party or through the filing of an independent nominating petition. Party members may also circulate petitions to create the opportunity to write in the name of an unspecified person for an office in which there is no contest for the party endorsement. The current political parties are; Democratic, Republican, Independence, Conservative and Working Families parties. Any person who is not nominated by one of these parties must file an independent nominating petition. The requirements for all petitions are contained in Article 6 of the New York State Election Law. The provisions for village elections vary slightly, and the reader is directed to Article 15 of the New York State Election Law for specifics.

PARTY NOMINATIONS

Party nomination of candidates for elective office is made at either a party caucus or at a primary election.

Caucuses

A caucus is an open meeting of a town or village's political party at which candidates are nominated for elective office. Only residents of the town or village who are enrolled members of the party may participate in the caucus. For further information on caucuses see, New York State Election Law § 6-108 (towns) and § 15-108 (villages).

Designating Petitions

If a party nominates its candidates through the primary election process, party designations for this primary are made on a designating petition. The New York State Election Law sets forth the form of this petition; § 6-132 (state, county and town offices) and § 15-108 (village offices). Only enrolled members of a party qualified to vote for an office may sign designating petitions of the party.

Nomination of Non-Party Members

Political parties may nominate a candidate who is not an enrolled member of the political party. Such parties must file a certificate of authorization, signed and acknowledged by the presiding officer and the secretary of the meeting at which the authorization is given. A certificate of authorization is not needed for nominations resulting from a caucus or for a candidate for a judicial office. Candidates not enrolled in the party nominating them must file an acceptance.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON PETITIONS

INDEPENDENT NOMINATIONS

To run for office on a line other than an official party line, one must file an independent nominating petition. The New York State Election Law sets forth the form of this petition; § 6-140 (state, county and town offices) and § 15-108 (village offices). Any registered voter who has not already signed a designating petition, and who is qualified to vote for an office, may sign an independent nominating petition for that office. For Village offices if you participated in a caucus, you cannot sign an independent nominating petition.

FORM OF PETITIONS

The statute requires that all petitions be *substantially* in the form set forth in the law. See New York State Election Law § 6-132 (party designating petitions), § 6-140 (independent nominating petitions) and § 15-108 (village designating and independent petitions). Deviations or slight rearrangements of the form of petition are not fatal defects, provided that the petition contains all of the required information.

Each sheet of the petition must correctly set forth:

- ▶ the date of the election;
- ▶ the name of the candidate and the office or position sought;
- ▶ the candidate's residence, and if different, their mailing or post office address;
- ▶ information about the signer: date of signing, voter's residence address, town or city; and,
- ▶ information relating to the person who witnesses the signatures.

A petition may include a committee on vacancies. Failure to provide such a committee, or naming a committee of fewer than three persons, will not invalidate the petition.

The voter need only sign the appropriate line on the petition sheet. All other information may be filled in by someone else. Corrections may be made to any information on the signature line. However, corrections or alterations in the date or signature MUST be initialed by the person making the correction.

Voters may not sign a petition for more candidates than there are openings for an office. For example, if there is one council seat open, then the voter may only sign one petition for a candidate for that office. If there are 2 seats open, the voter may sign petitions for 2 candidates.

The pages of a petition must be sequentially numbered and securely fastened.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON PETITIONS

WITNESSES TO A PETITION

Anyone who is qualified to sign a petition may witness a petition. The information required for the witness statement is mandatory. Omissions, errors, or unexplained alterations/corrections, may invalidate the entire page. When the witness signs the statement of witness, they are making an oath that subjects them to the penalties for perjury if any of the information preceding their signature is false. The information preceding the signature includes the name and residence of the witness; the number of signatures on the page; a statement that each person signed in their presence; and the date they are signing the statement. Witness identification information, which follows the witness's signature, may be completed by anyone, at any time before the petition is filed. This information includes the town or city, and the county of the witness's registration.

COVER SHEETS

If there are 10 or more pages in a petition, there must be a cover sheet. In New York City, and in other counties where identification numbers are used, only one cover sheet is required, regardless of the number of volumes in the petition. In all other instances, a multi-volume petition requires a cover sheet for each volume.

Cover sheets **must** contain the following information:

- ▶ Name, residence address, and mail address if different, of the candidate.
- ▶ The public office or party position sought.
- ▶ The name of the party or independent body making the nomination.
- ▶ A statement that the petition contains a number of signatures equal to or in excess of the number required by statute.
- ▶ The volume number OR identification number of that volume.
- ▶ The total number of volumes in each petition OR the identification number of each volume of the petition.

The following information is **optional**:

- ▶ The name, residence address, (and mailing address if different) telephone number, and fax number of the person designated to receive notice of deficiencies in binding or cover sheet requirements.

There are additional requirements if the petition contains candidates for county committee, and if there are different candidates on the several pages of the petition. Those requirements are contained in *Part 6215* of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Elections.

Pursuant to *Part 6215* of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Elections, the Board will provide notice of any correctable errors in cover sheet(s) and binding.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON PETITIONS

FILING OF PETITIONS, ACCEPTANCES, AUTHORIZATIONS, AND DECLINATIONS

All filings must be filed timely and filed in the proper manner at the appropriate board of elections. Pursuant to section 1-106(1) of the New York State Election Law, all papers are required to be filed between the hours of nine A.M. and five P.M. If the last day for filing shall fall on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the next business day shall become the last day for filing. All papers sent by mail in an envelope postmarked prior to midnight of the last day of filing shall be deemed timely filed and accepted for filing when received, **except** any documents that are required to be filed with the board of elections of the City of New York must be actually received by such city board of elections on or before midnight of the last day to file any such document. Failure to do so shall be a fatal defect.

No filings will be accepted by facsimile or e-mail.

Candidates must file a certificate of acceptance for nominations made by independent nominating petitions, or if they are named in a designating petition but are not enrolled members of that party. Neither an authorization nor an acceptance is required if the individual is a candidate for a judicial office. A declination must be filed should the candidate decide not to accept the designation or nomination.

OBJECTIONS

Every petition is presumed to be valid when filed, if, on its face, it appears to be in proper form and to contain enough signatures. However, a registered voter may challenge the validity of a petition. Written objections must be filed within 3 days after the petition is filed (1 day in a village election). Specifications of objections must be filed within 6 days of filing the general objections (2 days in a village election). For petitions filed with the State Board of Elections, objectors must deliver a copy of the specifications of objections to the candidate and file proof of such delivery with the State Board. For further details see Election Law § 6-154 and §15-108 and *Part 6204* of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Elections.

RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES

An independent candidate for president is someone who is running on a line other than an official party line. Petitions for independent candidates must include the names of the presidential and vice-presidential candidates, as well as the names of person(s) running for the electoral college. Each state is permitted to have one elector for each congressional district, plus two at-large electors.

Independent petitions for president must contain 15,000 signatures. At least 100 signatures must come from each of one-half of the congressional districts in the state. {Election Law §6-142(1)} Each candidate named in an independent petition for president is required to file an acknowledged acceptance of the nomination no later than the third day after the last day to file the petition. {Election Law §6-146(1)}

If there are 10 or more pages in a petition, there must be a cover sheet. A multi-volume petition requires a cover sheet for each volume. Cover sheets must contain the following information:

- ▶ Name, residence address, and mailing address if different, of the candidate.
- ▶ Office sought.
- ▶ Name and emblem of the independent body making the nomination.
- ▶ A statement that the petition contains a number of signatures equal to or in excess of the number required by statute.
- ▶ The volume number of that volume.
- ▶ The total number of volumes in the petition.

Additional information on cover sheets is contained in *Part 6215* of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Elections.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

To run as a write-in candidate for president, you are required to file a certificate of candidacy with the State Board of Elections no later than the third Tuesday prior to the general election. The certificate must be signed by the presidential candidate and must contain the following information:

- ▶ Name and address of the presidential candidate.
- ▶ Name and address of any vice-presidential candidate, and a signed certificate of acceptance from such candidate.
- ▶ Name and address of at least one elector, with an acceptance certificate and pledge of support signed by each such candidate for elector.

See Election Law §6-153 for further information.

PETITION SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

DESIGNATING AND OPPORTUNITY TO BALLOT PETITONS, (§6-136)

5% of the enrolled voters of the political unit (excluding voters in inactive status) or the following, whichever is **less**:

For any office to be filled by all the voters of:

the entire state <small>(with at least 100 or 5% of enrolled voters from each of one-half of the congressional districts)</small>	15,000
New York City	7,500
any county or borough of New York City	4,000
a municipal court district within New York City	1,500
any city council district within New York City	900
cities or counties having more than 250,000 inhabitants	2,000
cities or counties having more than 25,000 but not more than 250,000	1,000
any other city, county, councilmanic or county legislative district other than New York City	500
any congressional district	1,250
any state senatorial district	1,000
any assembly district	500

any political subdivision, except as herein provided, contained within another political subdivision, requirement is not to exceed the number required for the larger subdivision;

a political subdivision containing more than one assembly district, county or other political subdivision, requirement is not to exceed the aggregate of the signatures required for the subdivision or parts of subdivision so contained.

For Village offices refer to section 15-108 of the New York State Election Law.

**Any of the above numbers may be changed by legislation in any given year.
Check with the State or County Board of Elections for current requirements.**

PETITION SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS

INDEPENDENT PETITIONS, (§6-142)

5% of the total number of votes, excluding blank and void, cast for the office of governor at the last gubernatorial election in such unit, except that not more than 3,500 signatures shall be required on a petition for any office to be filled in any political subdivision wholly outside the City of New York, and not more than the following for any office to be voted for by all the voters of:

the entire state (with at least 100 from each of one-half of the congressional districts)	15,000
any county or portion thereof outside the city of New York	1,500
New York City	7,500
any county or borough or any two counties or boroughs within the City of New York	4,000
any municipal court district	3,000
any city council district in New York City	2,700
any congressional district	3,500
any state senatorial district	3,000
any assembly district	1,500
the office of trustee of the Long Island Power Authority	500

any political subdivision, contained within another, except as provided otherwise herein, the number required is not to exceed the number required for the larger subdivision.

For Village offices refer to section 15-108 of the New York State Election Law.

**Any of the above numbers may be changed by legislation in any given year.
Check with the State or County Board of Elections for current requirements.**

For Samples of Village Election Petitions, refer to Section 15-108, Election Law

Designating Petition Sec. 6-132, ELECTION LAW

I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I am a duly enrolled voter of the _____ Party and entitled to vote at the next primary election of such party, to be held on _____, 20____; that my place of residence is truly stated opposite my signature hereto, and I do hereby designate the following named person (or persons) as a candidate (or candidates) for the nomination of such party for public office or for election to a party position of such party.

Name(s) of Candidate(s)	Public Office or Party Position	Place of Residence (also Post Office address if not identical)

I do hereby appoint (here insert the names and addresses of at least three persons, all of whom shall be enrolled voters of said party),

as a committee to fill vacancies in accordance with the provisions of the election law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, the day and year placed opposite my signature.

Date	Name of Signer (signature required) (printed name may be added)	Residence	Enter Town or City (Except in NYC enter County)
1. / / Printed Name	→		
2. / / Printed Name	→		
3. / / Printed Name	→		

(You may use fewer or more signature lines - this is only to show format.)

Complete ONE of the following

1) STATEMENT OF WITNESS

I, (name of witness) _____ state: I am a duly qualified voter of the State of New York and am an enrolled voter of the _____ Party.

I now reside at (residence address) _____.

Each of the individuals whose names are subscribed to this petition sheet containing (fill in number) _____ signatures, subscribed the same in my presence on the dates above indicated and identified himself or herself to be the individual who signed this sheet.

I understand that this statement will be accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an affidavit and, if it contains a material false statement, shall subject me to the same penalties as if I had been duly sworn.

Date Signature of Witness

WITNESS IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION: The following information for the witness named above must be completed prior to filing with the board of elections in order for this petition to be valid.

Town or City _____ County _____

2) NOTARY PUBLIC OR COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS

On the dates above indicated before me personally came each of the voters whose signatures appear on this petition sheet containing (fill in number) _____ signatures, who signed same in my presence and who, being by me duly sworn, each for himself or herself, said that the foregoing statement made and subscribed by him or her was true.

Date Signature and Official Title of Officer Administering Oath

Opportunity to Ballot Petition Sec. 6-132 and 6-166, ELECTION LAW

I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I am a duly enrolled voter of the _____ Party and entitled to vote at the next primary election of such party, that my place of residence is truly stated opposite my signature hereto, and I do hereby request an opportunity to write in the name of an undesignated candidate or candidates for nomination to the public office or offices or for election to the party position or positions, in the political unit or units of representation hereinafter set forth, of such party to be voted on the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Public Office or Party Position	Political Unit or Unit of Representation

I do hereby appoint (here insert the names and addresses of at least three persons, all of whom shall be enrolled voters of said party),

as a committee to receive notices in accordance with the provisions of the election law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, the day and year placed opposite my signature.

Date	Name of Signer (signature required) <small>(printed name may be added)</small>	Residence	Enter Town or City <small>Except in NYC enter County</small>
1. / / <small>Printed Name</small>			
	→		
2. / / <small>Printed Name</small>			
	→		
3. / / <small>Printed Name</small>			
	→		

(You may use fewer or more signature lines - this is only to show format.)

Complete ONE of the following

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

I, (name of witness) _____ state: I am a duly qualified voter of the State of New York and am an enrolled voter of the _____ Party.

I now reside at (residence address) _____.

Each of the individuals whose names are subscribed to this petition sheet containing (fill in number) _____ signatures, subscribed the same in my presence on the dates above indicated and identified himself or herself to be the individual who signed this sheet.

I understand that this statement will be accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an affidavit and, if it contains a material false statement, shall subject me to the same penalties as if I had been duly sworn.

_____ Date _____ Signature of Witness

WITNESS IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION: The following information for the witness named above must be completed prior to filing with the board of elections in order for this petition to be valid.

Town or City _____ County _____

2) NOTARY PUBLIC OR COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS

On the dates above indicated before me personally came each of the voters whose signatures appear on this petition sheet containing (fill in number) _____ signatures, who signed same in my presence and who, being by me duly sworn, each for himself or herself, said that the foregoing statement made and subscribed by him or her was true.

_____ Date _____ Signature and Official Title of Officer Administering Oath

Designating and Independent Petitions

[*Place Name of Party or Independent Body Here*]

Name of Candidate	Public Office or Party Position	Residence Address (also mailing address if different)
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Volume Number _____

Total Number of Volumes in Petition _____

The petition contains the number, or in excess of the number, of valid signatures required by the Election Law.

Contact Person to Correct Deficiencies:

Name: _____
(please type or print)

Residence Address: _____

(also mailing address if different)

Phone: _____

Fax: _____
(include if notice by fax desired)

I hereby authorize that notice of any determination made by the Board of Elections be transmitted to the person named above.

Candidate or Agent

SAMPLE COVER SHEET

**Designating and Independent Petitions
Filed in New York City
and Counties which Utilize Petition Identification Numbering
Systems**

_____ *[Place Name of Party or Independent Body Here]*

Name of Candidate	Public Office or Party Position	Residence Address (also mailing address if different)
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Total Number of Volumes in Petition _____

Identification Numbers _____

The petition contains the number, or in excess of the number, of valid signatures required by the Election Law.

Contact Person to Correct Deficiencies:

Name: _____
(please type or print)

Residence
Address: _____

(also mailing address if different)

Phone: _____

Fax: _____
(include if notice by fax desired)

I hereby authorize that notice of any determination made by the Board of Elections be transmitted to the person named above.

Candidate or Agent

CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE

(Section 6-146, Election Law)

I, _____, residing at
(Candidate's Name)

(Address)

having been designated/nominated by the _____ Party,
(Name of Party)

as a candidate for the office of _____,
(Title of Office and Political Subdivision)

_____ district, do hereby ACCEPT such designation/nomination
(District Number if any)

and consent to be such candidate of such party at a _____
(Special/Primary/General)

election to be held on _____, 20 _____.

(Date)

(Signature of Candidate)

State of New York :
County of _____ : ss:

On this _____ day of _____, 20_____, before me personally
appeared _____, to me known and known to me to be
the individual described therein, and who executed the foregoing instrument, and
acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same.

Notary Public

(SAMPLE PREPARED BY STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS)

CERTIFICATE OF DECLINATION

(Section 6-146, Election Law)

I, _____, residing at
(Candidate's Name)

(Address)

having been designated/nominated by the _____ Party,
(Name of Party)

as a candidate for the office of _____,
(Title of Office and Political Subdivision)

_____ district, at a _____ election to be
(District Number if any) (Special/Primary/General)

to be held on _____, 20 _____, do hereby DECLINE such
(Date of Election)

designation/nomination.

(Date)

(Signature of Candidate)

State of New York :
County of _____ : ss:

On this _____ day of _____, 20_____, before me personally
appeared _____, to me known and known to me to be
the individual described therein, and who executed the foregoing instrument, and
acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same.

Notary Public

(SAMPLE PREPARED BY STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS)

CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTITUTION BY COMMITTEE TO FILL VACANCIES AFTER DECLINATION, DEATH OR DISQUALIFICATION

(Section 6-148, Election Law)

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the designation/nomination for the office of _____
(title of office and political subdivision)

in the _____ district by the _____ Party caused by the
(district number, if any) (name of party)

declination/death/disqualification of _____.
(name of original candidate)

THEREFORE, WE, the undersigned, constituting a majority of the duly authorized Committee to Fill Vacancies, do hereby certify that we have designated/nominated the following person to fill the above mentioned vacancy:

Name of new candidate: _____

Place of residence: _____

DATED: _____

Signature of vacancy committee member

AFFIDAVIT

We, the undersigned, hereby affirm that we constituted a majority of the vacancy committee referred to in the above certificate and that the statements in such certificate are true:

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20 _____
Notary Public

CONSENT BY SUBSTITUTED CANDIDATE

I, _____ hereby accept the above designation/nomination of the
(name of substituted candidate)
_____ Party, for the office of _____,
(name of party) (title of office & political subdivision) (district #, if any)

Signature of Candidate

On this _____ day of _____, 20 _____, before me personally appeared _____ to me known and known to me to be the individual described in, and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledge to me that he/she executed the same.

Notary Public

CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY
FOR WRITE-IN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
(Section 6-153, Election Law)

This form shall be filed not later than the third Tuesday before the General Election.

I hereby give notice of my intent to be a write-in candidate in the State of New York, for the office President of the United States in the General Election to be held on _____.

Name of Presidential Write-In Candidate: _____

Address: _____

Signature of Presidential Write-In Candidate: _____

I have named the following person to be my Vice-Presidential candidate:

Name of Vice-Presidential Candidate: _____

Address: _____

CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE
OF VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

I, _____, residing at _____
(name of Vice-Presidential candidate)

hereby accept being named as the Vice-Presidential candidate for _____
(name of Presidential Write-in Candidate)
at the General Election to be held on _____.

Signature of Vice-Presidential Candidate

NOTARY: On this _____ day of _____, 20 _____, before me personally appeared _____
therein, and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same.

Notary Public

**PLEASE ATTACH THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE CANDIDATES FOR ELECTORS
PLEGGED TO SUCH CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT, TOGETHER WITH A CERTIFICATE OF
ACCEPTANCE AND PLEDGE OF SUPPORT SIGNED BY EACH SUCH CANDIDATE FOR
ELECTOR.**

SAMPLE PREPARED BY STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS (3-09)

WHERE TO FILE PETITIONS

PUBLIC OFFICE ONLY

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

- 1 - Suffolk Co. Board of Elections
- 2 & 3 - **State Board of Elections**
- 4 - Nassau Co. Board of Elections
- 5 - **State Board of Elections**
- 6 thru 15 - New York City Board of Elections
- 16 thru 24 - **State Board of Elections**
- 25 - Monroe Co. Board of Elections
- 26 & 27 - **State Board of Elections**

SENATORIAL DISTRICTS

- 1 thru 4 - Suffolk Co. Board of Elections
- 5 - **State Board of Elections**
- 6 & 7 - Nassau Co. Board of Elections
- 8 - **State Board of Elections**
- 9 - Nassau Co. Board of Elections
- 10 thru 33 - New York City Board of Elections
- 34 - **State Board of Elections**
- 35 - Westchester Co. Board Elections
- 36 - **State Board of Elections**
- 37 - Westchester Co. Board Elections
- 38 thru 55 - **State Board of Elections**
- 56 - Monroe Co. Board of Elections
- 57 thru 59 - **State Board of Elections**
- 60 - Erie Co. Board of Elections
- 61 & 62 - **State Board of Elections**
- 63 - Erie Co. Board of Elections

ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

- 1 thru 8 - Suffolk Co. Board of Elections
- 9 - **State Board of Elections**
- 10 thru 12 - Suffolk Co. Board of Elections
- 13 thru 22 - Nassau Co. Board of Elections
- 23 thru 87 - New York City Board of Elections
- 88 thru 93 - Westchester Board of Elections
- 94 & 95 - **State Board of Elections**
- 96 & 97 - Rockland Board of Elections
- 98 thru 104 - **State Board of Elections**
- 105 - Dutchess Co. Board of Elections
- 106 thru 108 - **State Board of Elections**
- 109 - Albany Co. Board of Elections
- 110 thru 122 - **State Board of Elections**
- 123 - Broome Co. Board of Elections
- 124 thru 126 - **State Board of Elections**
- 127 thru 129 - Onondaga Board of Elections
- 130 thru 133 - **State Board of Elections**
- 134 thru 138 - Monroe Co. Board of Elections
- 139 & 140 - **State Board of Elections**
- 141 thru 143 - Erie Co. Board of Elections
- 144 thru 148 - **State Board of Elections**
- 149 - Erie Co. Board of Elections
- 150 - Chautauqua Board of Elections

FOR ALL OTHER OFFICES CONTACT YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHERE TO FILE PETITIONS

MEMBER OF STATE COMMITTEE

- **DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN , INDEPENDENCE and GREEN** Party State Committee petitions are filed with the county boards of elections.
- **WORKING FAMILIES** Party State Committee petitions are filed in the same manner as those for the office of Member of Assembly (see chart for Assembly).
- **CONSERVATIVE** Party State Committee petitions are filed in the same manner as those for the office of Representative in Congress (see chart for Congressional).

Republican State Committee elections are held at the “Fall” primary in odd numbered years. All other parties elect state committee at the “Fall” primary in even numbered years.

To run for any party position such as member of state committee, national or judicial delegate or alternate, you must be a duly enrolled member of the party from which you are seeking the designation. You also must be a resident of the jurisdiction from which you are running.

The office of judicial delegate and alternate judicial delegate are elected at the “Fall” primary. (National delegate and alternate national delegate are elected at the “Spring” primary, held in a presidential election year).

WHERE TO FILE PETITIONS

JUDICIAL DISTRICT CONVENTION DELEGATE AND/OR ALTERNATE DELEGATE

First Judicial District	New York County
Second Judicial District	Kings County
Eleventh Judicial District	Queens County
Twelfth Judicial District	Bronx County
Thirteenth Judicial District	Richmond County

All petitions and nominations for these judicial district delegates and alternate delegates are filed at the New York City Board of Elections

NOTE: The following chart for Judicial Delegates and Alternate Delegates applies ONLY to Democratic, Independence, Conservative, Working Families and Green Party candidates.

Republican Party candidates for this office file their petitions in the county which contains their portion of the assembly district.

Third Judicial District:	Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Schoharie, Sullivan and Ulster
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100 th AD	Sullivan County Board of Elections
101st AD	State Board of Elections
102nd AD	State Board of Elections
103 rd AD	Ulster County Board of Elections
104 th AD	Ulster County Board of Elections
106 th AD	Columbia County Board of Elections
107th AD	State Board of Elections
108th AD	State Board of Elections
109 th AD	Albany County Board of Elections
110 th AD	Albany County Board of Elections
111 th AD	Albany County Board of Elections

WHERE TO FILE PETITIONS

Fourth Judicial District: Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Montgomery, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren & Washington

107 th AD	Washington County Board of Elections
108 th AD	Saratoga County Board of Elections
110 th AD	Schenectady County Board of Elections
111th AD	State Board of Elections
112th AD	State Board of Elections
113th AD	State Board of Elections
114th AD	State Board of Elections
115th AD	State Board of Elections
116 th AD	St. Lawrence County Board of Elections
117 th AD	St. Lawrence County Board of Elections
118th AD	State Board of Elections

Fifth Judicial District: Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Onondaga, & Oswego

101 st AD	State Board of Elections
116 th AD	Jefferson County Board of Elections
117 th AD	State Board of Elections
118 th AD	State Board of Elections
119 th AD	State Board of Elections
120 th AD	State Board of Elections
121 st AD	Oneida County Board of Elections
126 th AD	Onondaga County Board of Elections
127 th AD	Onondaga County Board of Elections
128 th AD	Onondaga County Board of Elections
129 th AD	Onondaga County Board of Elections
130 th AD	Oswego County Board of Elections

Sixth Judicial District: Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Madison, Otsego, Schuyler, Tioga & Tompkins

101st AD	State Board of Elections
102nd AD	State Board of Elections
121st AD	State Board of Elections
122nd AD	State Board of Elections
123 rd AD	Broome County Board of Elections
124th AD	State Board of Elections
125th AD	State Board of Elections
126th AD	State Board of Elections
132nd AD	State Board of Elections

WHERE TO FILE PETITIONS

Seventh Judicial District:	Cayuga, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne & Yates
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126 th AD	Cayuga County Board of Elections
130th AD	State Board of Elections
131th AD	State Board of Elections
132nd AD	State Board of Elections
133rd AD	State Board of Elections
134 th thru 139 th AD	Monroe County Board of Elections
148 th AD	Steuben County Board of Elections

Eighth Judicial District:	Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans & Wyoming
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139th AD	State Board of Elections
140th AD	State Board of Elections
141 st thru 143 rd AD	Erie County Board of Elections
144th AD	State Board of Elections
145th AD	State Board of Elections
146th AD	State Board of Elections
147th AD	State Board of Elections
148th AD	State Board of Elections
149 th AD	Erie County Board of Elections
150 th AD	Chautauqua County Board of Elections

Ninth Judicial District:	Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland & Westchester
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88 th thru 93 rd AD	Westchester County Board of Elections
94th AD	State Board of Elections
95th AD	State Board of Elections
96 th & 97 th AD	Rockland County Board of Elections
98th AD	State Board of Elections
99th AD	State Board of Elections
100 th & 101 st AD	Orange County Board of Elections
103 rd	Dutchess County Board of Elections
104th AD	State Board of Elections
105 th & 106 th AD	Dutchess County Board of Elections

Tenth Judicial District:	Nassau & Suffolk
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1 st thru 8 th AD	Suffolk County Board of Elections
9th AD	State Board of Elections
10 th thru 12 th AD	Suffolk County Board of Elections
13 th thru 22 nd AD	Nassau County Board of Elections

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§ 6201.2 Use of Public Opinion Polls

No candidate, political party or committee shall attempt to promote the success or defeat of a candidate by directly or indirectly disclosing or causing to be disclosed the results of a poll relating to a candidate for such an office or position, unless within 48 hours after such disclosure, they provide the following information concerning the poll to the board or officer with whom statements or copies of statements of campaign receipts and expenditures are required to be filed by the candidate to whom such poll relates:

- (a) The name of the person, party or organization that contracted for or who commissioned the poll and/or paid for it.
- (b) The name and address of the organization that conducted the poll.
- (c) The numerical size of the total poll sample, the geographic area covered by the poll and any special characteristics of the population included in the poll sample.
- (d) The exact wording of the questions asked in the poll and the sequence of such questions.
- (e) The method of polling – whether by personal interview, telephone, mail or other.
- (f) The time period during which the poll was conducted.
- (g) The number of persons in the poll sample: the number contacted who responded to each specific poll question; the number of persons contacted who did not so respond.
- (h) The results of the poll.

§ 6204.1 Specification of objections to designating and independent nominating petitions

(a) Any person filing general objections to any designating or independent nominating petition filed with the State Board of Elections who thereafter files specifications of his objections to any such petition with such board shall do so in accordance with the provisions of Section 6-154 of the Election Law. All such specifications shall substantially comply with the following requirements:

- (1) The volume number, page number, and line number of any signature objected to on any petition shall be set forth in detail. In addition, any portion of any petition or any signature line or witness statement objected to shall be specifically identified and reasons given for any such objection;
- (2) The total number of signatures objected to shall be set forth and all objections relating to a single signature line should be grouped together;
- (3) Symbols and/or abbreviations may be used to set forth objections, provided that a sheet explaining the meaning of any such symbols and/or abbreviations is attached to the specifications.

(b) No specifications of objections to any petition will be considered by the Board unless the objector filing the specifications personally delivers or mails by registered or certified mail a duplicate copy of the specifications to each candidate for public office named on the petition. In the case of a petition containing candidates for party position, service of the specifications shall be made on either the named candidates or the first person named on the petition's committee to fill vacancies. Service shall be made on or before the date of filing of any specifications with the Board.

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Proof of service shall accompany the specifications or be received by the end of business two days following the filing of the specifications, whichever is later.

(c) Any notice and/or determination relating to a petition for which specifications of objections have been filed shall be transmitted by the Board to the objector filing the specifications, provided that any such objector may designate an attorney or agent to receive any such notice and/or determination on his behalf. Any such designation shall be in writing and include the name, address and telephone number of any such attorney or agent, and any such attorney and/or agent shall be eligible to represent any such objector in any proceeding conducted by the Board relating to the specifications.

§6215.1	Rules for filing designating and nominating petitions
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- a. The sheets of a petition shall be numbered sequentially at the foot of each sheet.
- b. All petitions containing ten or more sheets shall be accompanied by a cover sheet.
- c. Any two or more petition sheets shall be securely fastened together by any means which will hold the pages together in numerical order.
- d. Petition sheets may be fastened together to form one or more volumes.
- e. Individual volumes of a petition shall be filed in the following manner:

(1) With respect to petitions which are filed with the Board of Elections in the City of New York, or petitions which are filed with other boards of elections containing candidates for more than one public or party office which are not coterminous, each volume of each petition shall bear an identification number, to be obtained in accordance with Section 6215.3, *infra*. The assigned identification number shall be inscribed on the front of the volume. If an identification number has not been inscribed by the person or persons filing the petition, and the petition consists of multiple volumes, then each volume of the petition shall be separately numbered on the front thereof. Only one identification number may be used to identify a petition volume.

(2) Any Board of Elections outside the City of New York may adopt a petition filing system for all petitions utilizing identification numbers as provided for in Section 6215.3. The Board may adopt such system through the approval of a rule at least two months prior to the first day to circulate petitions. The rule shall be filed at the county board of elections and the State Board of Elections.

(3) With respect to all other petitions which contain ten or more sheets, each volume of the petition shall have a cover sheet secured to the front of such volume.

§6215.2	Cover Sheets
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(a) A cover sheet shall contain the following information:

1) The office and district number (where appropriate) for which each designation and nomination is being made, the name and residence address of each candidate, and the number of volumes comprising the petition. The names and addresses of candidates for the county committee may be set forth, by assembly district (or, in the City of New York, by election district) on a schedule to be annexed to the cover sheet. Cover sheets for the positions of County Committee in the City of New York shall include, in addition to such schedule a list by election district of the identification numbers

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(if known) or the volume number, and page number where such signatures appear for each election district.

2) An identification of the volumes comprising the petition. When multiple volumes are filed pursuant to Section 6215.1 (e)(1) or (2) of these rules, a single cover sheet may be filed with volumes identified by listing the identification number of each volume either individually or cumulatively, and the total number of volumes in the petition. With respect to all other petitions filed in multiple volumes, each volume shall have a coversheet which shall indicate the volume number; such volumes shall be numbered sequentially and the cover sheet from the first volume shall set forth the total number of volumes comprising petition.

3) A statement that the petition contains the number, or in excess of the number, of valid signatures, required by the Election Law.

4) A place for the optional designation of a contact person other than the candidate(s) to be notified to correct noncompliance with these regulations.

(a) Cover sheets shall be substantially in the form set forth in Section 6215.8, *infra*.

(c) Where a designating petition involves an office to be filled by the voters of the entire state, the petition shall be accompanied by a schedule which sets forth the volume and page number of each sheet on which signatures appear of at least 100 or 5 per centum, which ever is less, of properly enrolled voters in each of at least one-half of the Congressional Districts of the state.

(d) Where a nominating petition involves an office to be filled by the voters of the entire state, the petition shall be accompanied by a schedule which sets forth the volume and page number of each sheet on which signatures appear of at least 100 voters in each of at least one-half of the Congressional Districts of the state.

§6215.3	Identification Numbers, application, distribution and utilization
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(a) Identification numbers shall be issued by the State and County Boards of Elections, without charge, for the purpose of identifying petition volumes.

(b) The State Board shall assign a series of identification codes to each County Board.

(c) Any person or persons, individually or jointly, may obtain one or more identification numbers, upon written application, from the Board of Elections. Individuals who do not wish to apply for these numbers in advance will have them assigned to their petitions when they are submitted to the Board of Elections in accordance with section 6215.6 (b) of these rules. Identification numbers may be used only within the calendar year for which issued.

(d) The State Board of Elections shall promulgate an identification number application form, which shall be used by any board of elections. The application shall set forth: (1) the name and residence address of each applicant for the identification number; (2) the daytime and evening telephone numbers for such applicant; (3) the type of petition to be filed under the identification number (i.e., Designating, Nominating, Opportunity to Ballot); (4) the date of the election; (5) the Name of the Party or Independent Body; and (6) the number of identification numbers requested. Each application shall be signed by each applicant and shall be dated.

(e) Upon receipt of an application for an identification number, the Board shall forthwith issue the quantity of identification numbers requested, inscribe such numbers on the original application, and record the numbers issued with the name and address of the applicant in a book

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which shall be available for public inspection. In the event that an application is filed by multiple applicants, the Board shall record in the book only the name and address of the first-named applicant.

(f) An assigned identification number may be used for the filing of petition sheets only by the person to whom the identification number was issued. In the case of multiple applicants the identification number may be used by any of the applicants.

§6215.4 Multiple Candidates Named On a Petition

(a) All the signatures appearing in a petition volume shall apply to all candidates named in that volume, unless the cover sheet specifies otherwise.

(b) In the event that the same candidates do not appear on each and every sheet of the petition, then the cover sheet shall indicate which signatures apply to which candidate, by indicating the name of the candidate, the identification number or the volume number, and the page number of the applicable signatures. Signatures on such pages may be identified by specified numerical ranges (e.g., pages 1 through 15, pages 15-45).

§6215.5 Filing of petitions

(a) Neither the application for, nor the issuance of, an identification number constitutes filing of a petition.

(b) Petitions shall be filed with the applicable Board of Elections as set forth in the Election Law. The officer or Board shall endorse the day, hour and minute of receipt on such petitions. Such officer or Board shall keep a book, which shall be open to public inspection, in which shall be entered the name of the candidate, and volume or identification numbers of the petitions which have been filed and the time of their filing.

§6215.6 Construction of rules; substantial compliance

(a) Except as specifically set forth herein, these rules shall be liberally construed and technical defects shall be disregarded where there has been substantial compliance and where a strict construction is not required for the prevention of fraud.

(b) The failure to obtain an identification number or inscribe an identification number on one or more petitions or petition volumes shall not render any such petition or petition volume invalid. The officer or Board receiving such petition or petition volume shall assign identification numbers to such petition or petition volumes, shall inscribe the identification number upon the petition or volume, and shall record the identification number of such petition or volume. In such instances, the person or persons submitting the petition or petition volume for filing shall be deemed to be the applicant for the identification number, or in the event the persons submitting the petition or petition volume, cannot be identified, the candidates named on the petition or petition volume shall be deemed to be the applicant or applicants.

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§6215.7 Determinations; cures pursuant to Section 6-134(2) of the Election Law

(a) Within two (2) business days of the receipt of the petition, the Board with whom such petition was filed shall review the petition to determine whether the petition complies with the cover sheet and binding requirements of these regulations. Such review shall be limited to matters apparent on the face of the documents. Such review, and such determination, shall be without prejudice to the determination by the Board of objections and specifications of objections filed pursuant to the provisions of the Election Law.

(b) In the event that, upon the review conducted pursuant to paragraph (a) above, the Board determines that a petition does not comply with these regulations, the Board shall forthwith notify the candidate or candidates named on the petition of its determination and the reasons therefore.

(c) Notification of a determination of noncompliance shall be given by written notice by depositing such notice on the day of such determination with an overnight delivery service, for overnight delivery, on the next business day, or by personal delivery by the day after the determination to the candidate or the contact person, if designated, at the address stated on the petition. Notification shall be given by overnight delivery or personal delivery only, unless the candidate shall have filed with the Board written authorization, signed by the candidate, for the Board to give notification by facsimile transmission. In the event that the candidate shall have authorized notification by facsimile transmission, then the Board shall notify the candidate or the contact person, if designated, by facsimile transmission on the day of the determination to the number set forth by the candidate and shall, in addition, mail a copy of the determination to the candidate.

(d) A candidate may, within three (3) business days of the date of a determination that the petition does not comply with these regulations, cure the violation of these regulations. Cover sheet deficiencies may be corrected by the filing of an amended cover sheet. Such cure or correction must be received by the Board of Elections no later than the third business day following such determination.

(e) If the petition is one for an opportunity to ballot, then the first named person on the committee to receive notices or applicant(s) for the identification number or numbers under which the petition was filed shall be deemed to be the “candidate” for purposes of subparagraphs (b), (c), and (d) above.

FURTHER PROVISIONS

Please be aware that there may be other requirements which may apply to running for any particular office. These may include but not be limited to:

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS:

The New York State Election Law requires candidates and political committees to file statements disclosing information about contributions received and expenditures made in connection with an election.

The forms required to register a committee and to report receipts and disbursements, as well as a comprehensive handbook of instructions, are available at the State Board of Elections and your county Board of Elections.

For more information on financial disclosure requirements, contact the State Board of Elections at 1-800-458-3453 or 518-474-8200, your county board of elections or visit our website at www.elections.ny.gov.

Hatch Act:

Call 1-800-85 HATCH - www.osc.gov

Commission on Judicial Conduct:

- www.scjc.state.ny.us

Call (646) 386-4800 - Main Office
(518) 453-4600 - Albany
(585) 784-4141 - Rochester

Judicial Campaign Ethics Center:

Call 1-888-600-JCEC - www.nycourts.gov/jcec

NYS Joint Commission on Public Ethics:

Call (518) 408-3976 - www.jcope.ny.gov

Legislative Ethics Committee:

Call (518) 432-7837