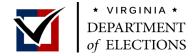
2026 November General and Special Elections Local Office Independent Candidate Ballot Access Quick Look One Pager



Additional information can be found in the Local Office General Election Candidate Bulletin found on ELECT's website: https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/candidate-bulletins/.

File the following with your **local general registrar** between **1/2/26** and **7:00 pm, 6/16/26**. (Find your general registrar: https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/PublicContactLookup)

1. Certificate of Candidate Qualification (Local Office)

 $\underline{\text{https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formswarehouse/campaign-finance/2018/candidates/SBE~501~4-rev7-18.pdf}$

*May be postmarked by 6/16/26 deadline if mailed registered or certified USPS mail. Be prepared to provide a copy of the receipt on 6/16/26.

2. Statement of Economic Interests (State and Local)

http://ethics.dls.virginia.gov/SLSOEI_Fillable_FINAL_July2022.pdf

- *Not required for incumbents or counties, cities, or towns with a population of 3,500 or less.
- *May be postmarked by 6/16/26 deadline if mailed registered or certified USPS mail. Be prepared to provide a copy of the receipt on 6/16/26.

3. Declaration of Candidacy

 $\frac{https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formswarehouse/ballot-access-candidate-qualification/sbe-505-520-declaration-of-candidacy/ELECT-505-520-Declaration-of-Candidacy-(Rev-7-1-24).pdf}{}$

*Must be filed with the first petition pages filed.

4. Petitions of Qualified Voters

 $\frac{https://www.elections.virginia.gov/media/formswarehouse/ballot-access-candidate-qualification/sbe-506-521-petition-of-qualified-voters/ELECT-506-521-Petition-of-Qualified-Voters-letter-size-(rev-5-8-24).pdf}{}$

- *Effective July 1, 2024 (SB165) candidates may begin collecting petition signatures on January first of the year in which the election is held.
- *Signature Requirement: Outlined in the Candidate Bulletin or ask your local General Registrar how many signatures are required for the specific office you are seeking election.
- *While you do not need to file all petition pages at the same time, the first page filed must be filed with the Declaration of Candidacy.
- *Find more information on petitions in Virginia Administrative Code 1VAC20-50-20: https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title1/agency20/chapter50/section20/

Special Elections: The Local Office Special Election Candidate Bulletin can be found on ELECT's website: https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/candidate-bulletins/.

- Candidates may begin filing the above documents when the election is ordered, but not before 1/2/26.
- If this is the 1st November election after the office's vacancy, the filing deadline is 5:00 pm 8/14/26.
- If this is the **2nd** November election after the office's vacancy, the filing deadline is 7:00 pm 6/16/26.

Campaign Finance: While **not** part of ballot access, candidates must also ensure they comply with all campaign finance requirements. Contact the local general registrar with questions or visit ELECT's website: https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/campaign-finance/.

Candidate Flow Chart

January 1st – Begin collecting petition signatures.

January 2nd – Begin filing required documents with your local general registrar.

June 16th, 7:00 pm – Deadline to file ballot access documents with general registrar.

The list of candidates that qualified for ballot access will be posted on ELECT's website (https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/candidate-list/) within three weeks after the candidate filing deadline.

Contact your local General Registrar

(https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/PublicContact Lookup) to confirm your status before then.