



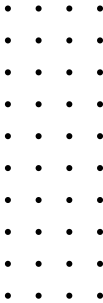
LASSEN COUNTY CANDIDATE GUIDE

STATEWIDE DIRECT PRIMARY ELECTION
Tuesday, June 2, 2026

LASSEN COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Located behind the
Historic Courthouse
220 S. Lassen Street, Suite 5
Susanville, CA 96130

Open regular office hours:
Monday through Friday
9AM to 12PM & 1PM to 4:30 PM



CONTACT US

 Office: 530-251-8217
 Toll Free: 866-742-8445

 Lcclerk@co.lassen.ca.us
 Fax: 530-257-3480

 Lassencounty.org
 @LassenElections

DISCLAIMER:

The materials and information in this guide are provided for general informational purposes only. They do not constitute legal advice, and the Lassen County Clerk-Elections Office cannot provide legal advice. This guide does not carry the force or effect of law.

Because legal advice depends on the specific facts and circumstances of each situation, it is your responsibility to determine how the information provided applies to your particular circumstances and to consult with qualified legal counsel as needed.

Additionally, the information contained in this guide may not reflect the most current legal or procedural developments. If you have questions that do not require legal advice, please contact our office as soon as possible for assistance.



Dear Candidate:

The Lassen County Clerk-Elections Office is happy to present you with the Candidate's Guide to Running for Public Office for the upcoming June 2, 2026 Statewide Direct Primary Election.

This booklet is not intended for general distribution. However, we recognize its value as a potential service to candidates unfamiliar with the requirements of the California Elections Code.

The Guide is prepared to assist you through the nomination and election process and is intended to provide general information. While staff has attempted to be as informative as possible in compiling this information, and we appreciate the opportunity to address your questions not answered in this guide, the law prohibits employees from answering questions of a legal nature. This guide is not intended as a substitute for legal counsel. While we welcome your questions and will attempt to be of assistance to you, only your attorney may offer you legal guidance.

Voter Registration and Elections is open from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. For further information or more detailed explanation, please contact this office during the above listed hours; by phone: (530)251-8217; by email: lcclerk@co.lassen.ca.us; or by accessing our county website at: www.lassencounty.org.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sarah Howe".

Sarah Howe
Lassen County Assistant Clerk-Recorder

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Disclaimer	2
Table of Contents	3-5
Letter to Candidates	6
2026 Primary Election Calendar of Important Deadlines	7-8
Offices up for Election on June 2, 2026	9
General Qualifications to Run for Public Office	10
Age/Citizenship	10
Conviction of Crimes	10
Voter-Nominated Offices	10
Incompatible Offices	10
What is an Incompatible Office?	10
Qualifications for Office	11-12
Federal and State Offices	11
Superior Court Judges	11
Assessor	11
Auditor-Controller	11
Board of Supervisor for Lassen County	11
Clerk-Recorder	11
Superintendent of Schools	12
Treasurer-Tax Collector	12
Susanville City Council	12
Steps to Becoming a Candidate	13-18
Petition/Signatures in Lieu of Filing Fee	13
Declaration of Intent	13
Nomination Period	13
Filing Fee	14-15
Nomination Petition	16

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Circulator of Petitions	16
Signers of Petitions	16
Write-In Candidates	17
Ballot Name	17
Ballot Designation	18
Candidate Withdraws	18
Candidate Statements	19
Word Count	19
Statement Cost	19
Guidelines for Statements	20
Word Count Rules	21
Campaign Finance	22-24
Federal Election Commission	22
Fair Political Practices Commission	22
Form 700 - Statement of Economic Interest	23
Form 501 - Candidate Intention Statement	23
Form 470 - Officeholder and Candidate Campaign Statement-Short Form	23
Form 470 - Supplement Short Form	23
Form 410- Statement of Organization	23
Form 460 - Recipient Committee Campaign Statement- Long Form	23
Form 497 - Late Contribution Report	23
E-Filing Requirement	24
Voter Information	25
Information Requests	25
Protecting Voter Information	25
Recognized best practices for minimizing risk	25
If you detect suspicious activity	25

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Political Advertising and Campaign Signage	26-27
California Department of Transportation Standards	26
Lassen County Planning and Building Services Standards	26
City of Susanville Standards.....	26-27
Mailings	27
Mass Mailings	27
Electioneering	28
What is Electioneering?	28
Exit Polls	28
Poll watchers/ Observers	28
Post-Elections	29
Results	29
Official Canvass	29
Election Contacts and Important Numbers	30

2026 JUNE PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE:	IMPORTANT DATES:
Dec. 19, 2025 - Feb. 4, 2026	Petitions/Signatures in Lieu of Filing Fee period begins for Federal, State, and Local Countywide Offices.
Jan. 26, 2026 - Feb. 4, 2026	Declaration of Intent Period (DOI) for Superior Court Judge Candidate; fee and petitions due at DOI filing.
Feb. 2, 2026	Deadline for Semi-Annual FPPC Campaign Statement due covering period 7/1/2025-12/31/2025.
Feb. 4, 2026	Deadline for Petitions/Signatures In Lieu of Filing Fee and Declaration of Intent.
Feb. 5, 2026 - Feb. 9, 2026	Extension of Declaration of Intent period if Judicial incumbent does not file.
Feb. 9, 2026 - Mar. 6, 2026	Nomination Petition and Declaration of Candidacy period begins.
Mar. 6, 2025	Deadline for Candidate Statements for State Voter Information Guide for U.S. Senate and statewide offices.
Mar. 6, 2025	Deadline to file Declaration of Candidacy. Deadline to file Nomination Petition. Deadline to file Statement of Qualifications.
Mar. 9, 2026 - Mar. 11, 2026	Extension of Nomination period if incumbent does not file.
Mar. 26, 2026	Certified List of Candidates issued by the State.
Apr. 3, 2026	Military and Overseas Voter Vote-By-Mail mailing period begins.
Apr. 6, 2026 - May 19, 2026	Write-in Candidate filing period.
Apr. 18, 2026	Deadline to send ballots to currently registered military/overseas voters.

2026 JUNE PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR

DATE:	IMPORTANT DEADLINES:
Apr. 23, 2026	1st Pre-Election Reporting: Form 460 Statement or Form 470 Statement Deadline ending 45 days prior to the election (E-45). Covering period 1/1/2026-4/18/2026.
May. 4, 2026	Vote-by-Mail / Early Vote period begins.
May 18, 2026	Last day to register to vote & receive a ballot in the mail.
May 19, 2026	Deadline of Write-In Candidate filing period.
May 21, 2026	2nd Pre-Election Reporting: Form 460 Statement Deadline ending 17 days prior to the election (E-17). Covering period 4/19/2026-5/16/2026.
May 26, 2026	Last day to request a Vote-by-Mail ballot.
May 30, 2026	Early Saturday Voting Location (Pursuant to AB 1249). Elections Office will be open from 9 AM to 3PM for early voting
Jun. 2, 2026	ELECTION DAY - Polls open from 7AM to 8PM.
Jun. 4, 2026	Official Canvass begins, 28 days to certify election begins.
Jun. 4, 2026	Tentative Day scheduled for 1% manual tally.
Jun. 9, 2026	Last day the Elections Office can receive a Vote-By-Mail ballot postmarked on Election day.
Jul. 2, 2026	Deadline to certify the Election results.
Jul. 31, 2026	Deadline for Semi-Annual FPPC Campaign Statement covering period 5/17/2026-6/30/2026.

OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION ON JUNE 2, 2026

ELECTED OFFICE	CURRENT OFFICE HOLDER	TERM
State Governor	Gavin Newsom	4 Years
State Lieutenant Governor	Eleni Kounalakis	4 Years
Secretary of State	Shirley N. Weber	4 Years
State Controller	Malia M. Cohen	4 Years
State Treasurer	Fiona Ma	4 Years
State Attorney General	Rob Bonta	4 Years
State Insurance Commissioner	Ricardo Lara	4 Years
State Board of Equalization, District 1	Ted Gaines	4 Years
U.S. Representative in Congress, District 1	Doug La Malfa	2 Years
State Assembly, District 1	Heather Hadwick	2 Years
State Superintendent of Public Instruction	Tony Thurmond	4 Years
Superior Court Judge, Department 1	Mark R. Nareau	6 Years
County Assessor	Nick Ceaglio	4 Years
County Auditor-Controller	Stephanie Hranac (Appointed)	4 Years
Board of Supervisors, District 3	Tom Neely	4 Years
Board of Supervisors, District 5	Jason Ingram	4 Years
County Clerk-Recorder	Julie M. Bustamante	4 Years
County Superintendent of Schools	Patricia Gunderson	4 Years
County Treasurer-Tax Collector	Taya Short (Appointed)	4 Years

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

AGE/CITIZENSHIP

GC § 1020

A person is eligible to hold an elective civil office if, at the time of election, the person is 18 years of age and a citizen of the state.

CONVICTION OF CRIMES

GC § 1021

A person is disqualified from holding any office upon conviction of designated crimes as specified in the Constitution and laws of the State.

VOTER NOMINATED RACES

EC § 8002.5

A candidate for a voter-nominated race is not required to belong to a party. However, the candidate will have to list the past 10 years of their party preference on their Declaration of Candidacy. The candidate's party preference shall be consistent with what is listed on their voter registration form and shall not change between the primary and general election.

INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES

WHAT ARE INCOMPATIBLE OFFICES?

Incompatible offices restrict public officials from holding two public offices with conflicting public duties. If there is a question about incompatible offices, contact the California Attorney General's office.

The California Attorney General's Office has issued opinions of common incompatible offices. Below are examples of incompatible offices based on the California Attorney General's opinion:

- The offices of City Councilman and School District Board member where there is common territory.
- Fire Chief of a county fire protection district and Board of Supervisor member of the same county.
- High School District Trustee and an Elementary School District Trustee which is wholly within the boundaries of the high school district.
- Deputy Sheriff and County Board of Supervisor.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICES

The qualifications and requirements for Federal and State Offices are available on the Secretary of State's website www.sos.ca.gov.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES

Article VI Sec. 15 of the California Constitution, EC § 201

- Citizen of the U.S. and a registered voter of Lassen County.
- Member of the State Bar for 10 years immediately preceding selection to said court or have served as a California Judge.

ASSESSOR

EC § 201, GC § 24001 and 24002.5, EC § 8104, Revenue and Taxation Code § 670

- U.S. citizen and a registered voter of Lassen County.
- Hold a valid Appraiser's Certificate issued by the California State Board of Equalization.
- A duly elected or appointed person may exercise the powers and duties of assessor, for a period not to exceed one year, if he or she acquires a temporary appraiser's certificate from the State Board of Equalization no later than 30 days after taking office.

AUDITOR – CONTROLLER

EC § 201, GC §§ 24001, 26945

- U.S. citizen and a registered voter of Lassen County.
- Meet any one of the following requirements:
 - Possess a valid certificate issued by the California Board of Accountancy and a permit authorizing the individual to practice.
 - Possess a valid certificate or diploma of graduation from a school of accountancy.
 - Served as a County Auditor, Chief Deputy County Auditor, or Assistant County Auditor, or an equivalent position for a continuous period of not less than three years

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GC §§ 24001, 25041, and EC § 201

- U.S. citizen and a registered voter of Lassen County and lived within the district for at least thirty days prior to the filing deadline.
- Reside in the district during incumbency.

CLERK-RECORDER

EC § 201, GC § 24001

- U.S. citizen and a registered voter of Lassen County.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

EC § 201, GC § 24001: Education Code § 1208

- Be a U.S. Citizen and a registered voter of Lassen County.
- Meet one of the following requirements:
 - Possess credentials authorizing general administrative services.
 - Possess a valid elementary administrative credential and a valid secondary administrative credential.

TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

EC § 201, GC § 24001, 27000, 27000.7-9

- U.S. Citizen and a registered voter of Lassen County
- Meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - Served in a senior financial management position for a continuous period of no less than three years.
 - Possess a valid bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from an accredited college in any of the following major fields of study: business administration, public administration, economics, finance, accounting, or a related field, with a minimum of 16 college semester units, or their equivalent, in accounting, auditing or finance.
 - Possess a valid Certified Public Accountant certificate issued by the California Board of Accountancy.
 - Possess a valid Chartered Financial Analyst Charter issued by the Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts with a minimum of 16 college semester units, or their equivalent, in accounting, auditing, or finance.
 - Possess a valid Certified Cash Manager certificate issued by the Treasury Management Association with a minimum of 16 college semester units, or their equivalent in accounting, auditing, or finance.

SUSANVILLE CITY COUNCIL

The qualifications and requirements for members of Susanville City Council can be found on the City's website: cityofsusanville.gov or by contacting the City Clerk at (530)252-5103.

Candidate sign ups for Susanville City Council Members are conducted through the City of Susanville and therefore, all questions should be directed through their office at: 66 N Lassen St. Susanville, CA 96130.

STEPS TO BECOMING A CANDIDATE

PETITION/SIGNATURES IN LIEU OF FILING FEE

EC § 8061

Any Candidate interested in running for an office with a filing fee may circulate a petition collecting signatures of voter within the district to reduce the filing fee during the Petition/Signatures in of Lieu filing period.

December 19, 2025 – February 4, 2026 for Federal, State, and all other Local Candidates

- Signers of the petition must be registered voters in the county.
- Petition and Affidavit of Circulator must be completed before submitting to the Elections Office.

DECLARATION OF INTENT

EC § 8023

Candidates for Superior Court Judge must file a Declaration of Intent, stating their intent to run for specific office during the Declaration of Intent Filing Period.

January 26, 2026 – February 4, 2026

If a current officeholder fails to file a Declaration of Intention, persons other than the incumbent will have until 5 p.m. on **February 9, 2026** to file a Declaration of Intent.

NOMINATION PERIOD

EC § 8020, 8024, 8028, 8600-8605, 8800

All potential candidates must file official Declaration of Candidacy documents at the Elections Office during the nomination period.

February 9, 2026 – March 6, 2026

Once the documents are filed, they do not leave the Elections Office and no candidate can withdraw from that election.

If a current officeholder fails to file, the filing period is extended 5 calendar days to March 11, 2026 for any interested individual other than the incumbent. This does not apply if there is no incumbent eligible to be elected.

STEPS TO BECOMING A CANDIDATE

FILING FEE

EC § 8103-8106

U.S. Senate and U.S. Representative in Congress must pay an estimated non-refundable fee equal to 2% of the annual salary of the position.

State Assembly, and county candidates must pay an estimated non-refundable fee equal to 1% of the annual salary of the position.

*Judge candidates pay when filing the Declaration of Intention (DOI) prior to nomination period. All other candidates pay fee when filing the Declaration of Candidacy.

Signature Values for county offices are based on the number of registered voters within that district or Lassen County as a whole depending on the office.

The next pages feature a table with the filing fee for each office, along with the amount of signatures needed to cover the filing fee and each signatures value.

FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICES	FILING FEE	SIGS TO COVER	SIG VALUE
State Governor	\$ 4,918.58	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.81
State Lieutenant Governor	\$ 3,688.94	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.61
Secretary of State	\$ 3,688.94	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.61
State Controller	\$ 3,934.86	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.65
State Treasurer	\$ 3,934.86	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.65
State Attorney General	\$ 4,272.34	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.71
State Insurance Commissioner	\$ 3,934.86	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.65
State Board of Equalization, District 1	\$ 1,844.47	4,743 signatures	\$ 0.38
U.S. Representative in Congress, District 1	\$ 1,740.00	1,714 signatures	\$ 1.01
State Assembly, District 1	\$ 1,346.94	857 signatures	\$ 1.57
State Superintendent of Public Instruction	\$ 4272.34	6,000 signatures	\$ 0.71

STEPS TO BECOMING A CANDIDATE

LOCAL OFFICES	FILING FEE	SIGS TO COVER	SIG VALUE
Superior Court Judge, Department 1	\$ 2,801.00	1,066 signatures	\$ 2.63
County Assessor	\$ 1,341.00	1,066 signatures	\$ 1.26
County Auditor-Controller	\$ 1,475.00	1,066 signatures	\$ 1.38
Board of Supervisors, District 3	\$ 398.00	208 signatures	\$ 1.91
Board of Supervisors, District 5	\$ 398.00	221 signatures	\$ 1.80
County Clerk-Recorder	\$ 1,341.00	1,066 signatures	\$ 1.26
County Superintendent of Schools	\$ 1,699.00	1,066 signatures	\$ 1.59
County Treasurer-Tax Collector	\$ 1,475.00	1,066 signatures	\$ 1.38

STEPS TO BECOMING A CANDIDATE

NOMINATION PETITION

EC § 106, 8000-8228, 10220-10230

All potential candidates must file official Declaration of Candidacy documents during the nomination period **February 9, 2026 - March 6, 2026** at the Lassen County Elections Office.

A candidate who declares his or her candidacy is required to have registered voters sign his or her nomination papers. Candidates will be issued Nomination Petition pages to use for collecting these signatures. If the candidate participated in the Petition/Signatures in Lieu of Filing Fee period, the signature requirement has most likely been met.

ELECTED OFFICE	SIGNATURES REQUIRED
State Offices	65-100
U.S. House of Representatives	40-60
State Assembly	40-60
Judicial and County Offices	20-40

CIRCULATOR OF PETITIONS

- Must be 18 years or older.
- Must complete the Affidavit of Circulator before submitting the Nomination Petition to the Elections office.
- Only one person can circulate each section of the nomination paper.
- If qualified, the circulator and the candidate may sign the petition that he/she is circulating.

SIGNERS OF PETITIONS

- Must print their name physical residence address (no P.O. Boxes), and sign their name.
- Cannot sign for more candidates than seats available in the same office.
 - (ex. If 3 seats are available for City Council of Susanville, a signer could sign up to 3 different candidate's forms.

STEPS TO BECOMING A CANDIDATE

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

EC § 8600-8605

A write-in candidate is a candidate whose name does not appear on the ballot. Voters are able to vote for this candidate by writing the candidate's name in the write-in section.

Write-in candidate filing period is April 6, 2026 – May 19, 2026.

All potential write-in candidate must complete the same forms required by regular candidates; however, they will not pay a filing fee or be able to submit a candidate Statement of Qualifications. Once all documents are submitted and requirements are met, they will become a qualified write-in candidate. Only votes for qualified write-in candidates are tabulated.

BALLOT NAME

EC § 13104, 13106

Candidates have options of how their name appears on the ballot. Guidelines include:

- Full legal name; first, middle, and last name; or first initial and last name.
- A familiar short version of the first name; "Bill" for William, or "Sue" for Susan may be used in place of first name, without parentheses or quotation marks.
- A nickname may be included, but must be in parentheses () or quotation marks "".
- No titles or degrees in the ballot name.
- If a candidate changes his or her name within one year of any election, the new name cannot appear on the ballot, unless the change was made by marriage or by decree of a court.

STEPS TO BECOMING A CANDIDATE

BALLOT DESIGNATION

EC § 13107-13107,5, California Administrative Code § 20710-20719

The ballot designation is a word or phrase that is printed below the candidate's name on the ballot. This phrase states the candidate's **current occupation** or **incumbent status**.

A ballot designation is optional; however, should a candidate choose to have one, the candidate is required to complete a ballot designation worksheet that states their choice of ballot designation, lists alternatives, and provides references.

Ballot designation options:

- **Incumbent**- Candidate was elected to that office by a vote of the people or was appointed in lieu of election and seeking re-election to the same office.
- **Appointed Incumbent**- Candidate appointed to the office and seeking election to that same office.
- **Elected Office Title**- Candidate elected to that office and holds the office at the time nomination papers are filed. "Appointed" may also be used with title.
- **Principal Occupation**- Three (3) word maximum to describe profession, vocation, or occupation.

Upon checking ballot designation, if the Elections Official finds the designation to be in violation of any of the restrictions, the office will notify the candidate. If a first or second alternative is not provided within the time allowed, no designation will appear on the ballot.

CANDIDATE WITHDRAWALS

EC § 8020.5, Code of Civil Procedure § 2015.5

If you are withdrawing from the current election, you must fill out a Statement of Withdrawal from Lassen County Elections before the end of the Nomination Period (February 9-March 6, or March 11 if incumbent does not file). The statement requests your Nomination Documents to be withdrawn. Your name shall not appear on the ballot and your filing fees will not be returned.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

WORD COUNT

EC § 85601, EC § 9, 13307, 13307.5, 13308, 13311

Filing a candidate statement is optional and is designed to allow candidates to share education experience, and qualifications with voters. The deadline to file a Candidate Statement is **March 6, 2026**.

OFFICE	WORD MAX.	SUBMIT TO	FPPC 501 FORM
U.S. Representative in Congress, District 1	250 words	Clerk's Office	No
State Senate/State Assembly, District 1	250 words	Clerk's Office	Yes
County/Local Offices	200 words	Clerk's Office	Yes

*Statewide candidates interested in submitting a statement must contact the California Secretary of State. The statements are placed in the State Voter Information Guide for statewide distribution.

STATEMENT COST

Candidate statements require payment of an estimated fee. The fee varies based on the distribution option and the actual cost to distribute the statement. Statements can be printed and included with voter information pamphlets and/or made available on the county elections website. Refunds or invoices may be issued after the election once the final costs are determined.

OFFICE	COST	VERSIONS NEEDED
U.S. Congress, District 1	\$ 650.00	Printed & Electronic Word Doc.
State Senate, District 1	\$ 650.00	Printed & Electronic Word Doc.
State Assembly, District 1	\$ 650.00	Printed & Electronic Word Doc.
County Offices	\$ 600.00	Printed & Electronic Word Doc.
Board of Supervisors	\$ 300.00	Printed & Electronic Word Doc.

Submit physical copy of candidate statement to the Elections Office and in Word format via email to: lcclerk@co.lassen.ca.us.

The election office will not accept the statement if it exceeds the word count. If so, the statement must be corrected to meet the word limit prior to filing.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

GUIDELINES FOR STATEMENTS

EC § 13300-13317, GC § 85601

Word limit

- Do not exceed the word limit.
- If statement exceeds the word count it will not be accepted for filing until it meets the requirements.

Formatting and Style

- Proofread: Errors must be corrected before you file as statements are printed exactly as received.
- Must be in first person essay format in the candidate's own words.
- Must use proper capitalization and punctuation.
- Double spaced, block paragraph style, and no indentations.
- No lists or outlines.

Rule & Etiquette

- Must not contain any obscene or profane language, statements, or insinuations.
- Must not mislead voters.
- Cannot contain any false, slanderous, or malicious statements.
- Statements cannot include any party affiliation, membership, or activity in partisan political organizations.
- Must not refer to other candidates or their qualifications, character, or activities.

Endorsements

- Candidates wishing to cite endorsements on their Candidate Statement must have a signed letter of endorsement by the individual or organization.

Deadline

- Deadline for candidate statements is March 6, 2026 by close of business.

Public Review

- Statements remain confidential until March 6, 2026. Once the filing period has closed, a 10-day public examination period allows documents to be reviewed and copies purchased.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

WORD COUNT RULES

EC § 9

Not included in the word count:

- The heading and signature block.
- Punctuation marks (Symbols such as & and # are not punctuation and are counted as one word.)

One word:

- Dictionary words and regular hyphenated words appearing in any general dictionary.
- Geographical names of cities, states, and counties.
- Abbreviations: PTA, U.S.M.C., A.M, P.M..
- Telephone/fax numbers: 555-1234 or 530-555-1234
- Internet address: lassencounty.org
- Dates with all digits together: 04/08/1998.
- Numbers: 1, 10, 100, etc.
 - Numeric combinations: 1973, 18 ½, 1971-73, 5%.
- Monetary amounts when dollar sign is used with figures: \$1,000.
- Symbols.

Two words:

- Dates with words and digits: April 27, 2018
- Combination of a number and a word: \$1 million; 75 percent

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 11, Chapter 1

The Federal Election Commission (FEC) regulates and oversees campaign finance for Federal Offices.

It is the responsibility of the federal candidate and/or committee to be aware of and to file required forms in a correct and timely manner. For additional information, requirements, and assistance contact the Federal Election Commission (FEC) at 800-424-9530 or online at www.fec.gov.

FEC Form 1 – Statement of Organization

- Filed by designated committee within 10 days of filing FEC Form 2.
- Committee will continue to report receipts and disbursements on a regular basis.

FEC Form 2 – Statement of Candidacy

- Filed within 15 days of candidate reaching contributions or distributions of \$5,000 designating a principal campaign committee.

FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

GC § 81000, 87200

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) regulates campaign finance for the State of California.

It is the responsibility of state and local candidates and/or committees to be aware of and to file required statements in a correct and timely manner. For filing requirements, additional information, and assistance with filing questions contact the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) at 866-275-3772*1 or online at www.fppc.ca.gov.

FPPC FORMS

Form 700 – Statement of Economic Interest

Statement of Economic Interest forms are required by every candidate running for local elective office. This statement reveals income, investments, interests in real property, and business positions; includes any financial interest held on the date of filing your declaration of candidacy and during the previous 12 months.

Form 501 – Candidate Intention Statement

- File before any money from personal funds is collected or spent.
- A new form must be filed for each election.
- If a candidate does not accept the set limits, they cannot submit a Statement of Qualifications. (This rule only applies to State Candidates.)

Form 470 – Officeholder and Candidate Campaign Statement – Short Form

- File if candidate does not anticipate raising or spending \$2,000 or more.

Form 470 Supplement – Short Form

- File if candidate filed a Form 470 – Short form and later reaches the \$2,000 threshold.

Form 410 – Statement of Organizations

- Within 10 days of receiving \$2,000 or more.
- Send original Form 410 to the Secretary of State and file one copy with the local election's office.
- File once a Form 470 Supplement is filed.

Form 460 – Recipient Committee Campaign Statement Long Form

- File to report campaign finance activity: contributions and expenditures.
- Itemized expenditures of \$500 or more made by the agent or consultant.
- Contributions of \$100 or more: disclose the contributor's name, address, occupation, and employer.
- Maintain detailed records of contributions and/or expenditures.

Form 497 – Late Contribution Report

- File within 24 hours of receiving contribution(s) of \$1,000 or more from a single source total, during the 90 days before an election.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

E-FILING REQUIREMENT

Effective January 1, 2025, The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) now requires all Government Code Section 87200 candidates to electronically file the Form 700 via the FPPC eDisclosure website.

If this requirement applies to you, a county elections official will email you a link with instructions on how to file the Form 700. **The Form 700 must be completed on or prior to the final day of the Declaration of Candidacy filing period March 6, 2026**

GC § 87200

(This article is applicable to elected state officers, judges and commissioners of courts of the judicial branch of government, members of the Public Utilities Commission, members of the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, members of the Fair Political Practices Commission, members of the California Coastal Commission, members of the High-Speed Rail Authority, members of planning commissions, members of the board of supervisors, district attorneys, county counsels, county treasurers, and chief administrative officers of counties, mayors, city managers, city attorneys, city treasurers, chief administrative officers and members of city councils of cities, and other public officials who manage public investments, and to candidates for any of these offices at any election)

VOTER INFORMATION

INFORMATION REQUESTS

SEC § 2183, 2184, CA Admin Code § 19003

Voter registration information is available for purchase. Request voter information by submitting an application, a copy of the applicant's ID, and appropriate fees to the election's office.

Use of this information shall only include direct election campaigning, surveys in conjunction with an election campaign, and distribution of information of a political nature.

- Data obtained from voter registration or election files may not be sold, leased, or reproduced. Written authorization to do so must be requested from the Secretary of State or the Lassen County Registrar of Voters.
- Use of this information for commercial purposes and solicitations is prohibited. This includes contributions or services for any purpose other than on behalf of a candidate, ballot measure, or political party.

PROTECTING VOTER INFORMATION

Take preventative measures to reduce the likelihood and severity of cyber incidents with the data purchased from our office.

Recognized best practices for minimizing risk:

- Establish an information security framework that allows your team to identify threats, create safeguards, detect incidents, respond quickly, and recover with resilience;
- Control access to data and information systems; monitor vendors, contractors, volunteers, and employees; and know what your users are doing with your data;
- Beware of social engineering attempts, such as phishing emails, aimed at acquiring confidential or personal information from phone, email, or other communications;
- Ensure your software and hardware security is up to date and properly configured;
- Monitor user activity;

If you detect suspicious activity:

- In the event, you observe or detect any suspicious activity, please alert law enforcement officials immediately and please contact my Elections Office and the Secretary of State's office with any important information.

POLITICAL ADVERTISING AND CAMPAIGN SIGNAGE

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS

California State Outdoor Advertising Act § 5405.3

Signs may be placed no sooner than 90 days prior to the scheduled election and must be removed within 10 days after that election.

When posting temporary political signs along state roads, it is necessary to complete and submit a Statement of Responsibility to the Department of Transportation. Forms are available at the Elections Office or visit CalTrans at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/oda> (under the "Political Signs" tab)

LASSEN COUNTY PLANNING & BUILDING SERVICES STANDARDS

Excerpts from Lassen County Code Sign Regulations, Chapter 18.106

- Political campaign signs may be allowed in any district.
- The size of the sign shall not exceed 35 square feet.*
- Signs shall be located in a manner that will not block sight distance or impair traffic safety.
- No sign shall overhang public right-of-way or extend past the property line.
- Signs shall not be lighted, shall not blink or be otherwise animated.
- Political signs shall be removed immediately following the election for which they were intended.

*Some commercial and industrial zones may provide for larger signs. For more information, consult with Planning staff.

CITY OF SUSANVILLE STANDARDS

Susanville Municipal Code § 17.128.160. Temporary noncommercial signs

A. All temporary noncommercial signs shall comply with the following:

1. Permission Required. Such temporary signs may be erected or placed on private property or in the public right-of-way, consistent with integrity and location of state and federal utilities, and provided that the permission of the owner or tenant in possession of that property or the owner or tenant in possession of that property immediately adjacent to the public right-of-way where the sign is placed, is first obtained. Said signs shall not require a sign permit and shall be allowed in all zone districts.
2. Temporary signs are not allowed on public property.
3. Temporary signs shall not be placed on, attached to, or placed to interfere with utility poles, street trees, traffic control devices, fire hydrants, meter boxes, utility poles, private or publicly owned signs, street pavement, paved or unpaved public walkways or median strips between traffic lanes.

POLITICAL ADVERTISING AND CAMPAIGN SIGNAGE

4. Public Safety. Temporary signs shall also not obstruct pedestrians or motorists' view of oncoming or crossing vehicular or pedestrian traffic at street intersections, alleys and driveways.
5. Term. A temporary sign shall be removed no later than 90 days after it is erected, or 10 days following the date of the event, campaign, promotion, election or other activity to which the sign pertains, whichever first occurs. Consecutive periods are not allowed.
6. Sign Removal Required. The owner of a temporary sign shall be responsible for its removal. Should the owner of the temporary sign fail to remove the sign within the time requirements of this section and should the sign be on private property not belonging to the owner of the sign or in the public right-of-way it shall be the responsibility of the owner or tenant in possession and who granted permission for placement to the owner of the sign to remove the sign within the time requirements of this section.
7. Removal for Noncompliance. The city reserves the right to remove any sign that does not comply with this section.

B. All temporary noncommercial signs on private property shall comply with the following:

1. Temporary signs, other than those within the public right-of-way, shall not exceed the size limits set forth in California Business and Professions Code Section 5405.3 which is that such a sign shall be no larger than 32 square feet in size. Such temporary sign shall not be placed within the right-of-way of any highway.

C. All temporary noncommercial signs in the public right-of-way shall comply with the following:

1. Temporary signs, any portion of which are located within the public right-of-way, shall be limited in size to four square feet and shall not exceed three feet in height from the highest point on the ground on which the sign is placed to the top of the sign and be limited to one sign per candidate per 50 feet of roadside linear footage.

MAILINGS

GC § 82041.5, 82048.3, 84305, and 89001

Any paid political advertisement referring to an election or any candidate for state or local elective office, the words "Paid Political/Advertisement" must appear.

MASS MAILING

A mass mailing is two hundred (200) or more similar unrequested pieces of mail sent by an officeholder, candidate, or committee in a calendar month. If two or more officeholders, candidates, or committees send a mass mailing, they must identify at least one on the outside of the mailing and all on the inside.

Any candidates planning a mass mailing are advised to contact the post office for the most current postal criteria and regulations.

ELECTIONEERING

WHAT IS ELECTIONEERING?

EC § 18541

No person or signage, within 100 feet of a polling place or election official's office on Election Day or any time that a voter may be casting a ballot shall:

- Display a candidate's name, likeness, or logo.
- Display a ballot measure's number, title, subject, or logo.
- Display buttons, hats, pencils, pens, shirts, signs, or stickers containing reference to current election candidate or measure.
- Photograph, video tape, or otherwise record a voter entering or exiting a polling place.
- Dissemination of audible reference to current election candidate or measure.
- Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking his or her ballot.
- Place a sign relating to a voter's qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of his or her qualifications, except as provided in Section 14240.
- Circulate an initiative, referendum, recall, or nomination petition.

EXIT POLLS

Secretary of State Opinion 1992

No pre- or post-voter contact can be made within a 25-foot perimeter of the polling place. All exit polling must be done beyond the 25-foot perimeter from the entrance to the polling place. The entrance is deemed the room or rooms in which voters are actually signing rosters and casting votes.

POLL WATCHERS/OBSERVERS

Poll watchers, also called observers, are permitted at the polling place as long as they obey the law and election procedures without impeding, interfering, or interrupting the normal process of voting and counting. Persons observing the polls may:

- Inspect the Roster of Voters.
- Request a print out of voters who have signed in through the electronic poll pads.
- Observe all activities at the polling place including activities after the polls close.
- Must sign in on "Precinct Observers Sign In Sheet".

POST ELECTION

RESULTS

EC § 3017, 14310, 15342

The results of vote by mail ballots received up to Election Day are counted and released shortly after 8 pm on Election Day to our website: lassencounty.org

Polling Place ballot results are released throughout the rest of the evening on Election Day as more ballots are tallied.

Election Day results remain unofficial because there are still ballots to be processed. Election results are only official after the official canvass is completed.

OFFICIAL CANVASS

California law provides 28 days after an Election to complete and certify the results. The canvass will begin no later than **Thursday, June 9**.

The day after an election there are still countywide ballots remaining to be processed and counted. These uncounted ballots may leave some close races undecided and the results unofficial for days or even weeks.

Categories of ballots that are processed during the Official Canvass:

Vote by mail ballots turned in on Election Day

Vote by mail ballots are dropped off at the polling places or ballots drop boxes on Election Day. These ballots must be sorted and the voter's signature verified before they are counted. This cannot happen until the day after the election.

Write-In Ballots

Each ballot containing a write-in vote must be individually reviewed. The results of vote tallies for write-in candidates are not available until the conclusion of the official canvass.

Provisional Ballots

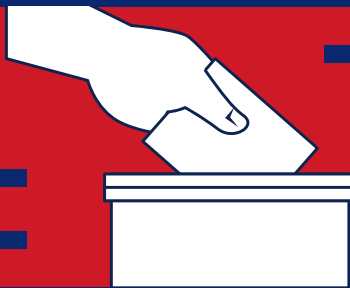
Provisional ballots must be individually researched and verified at the Elections Office before ballots are counted or rejected in accordance with election laws.

Damaged Ballots

Some ballots experience damage during mailing, transport, or tally. These ballots are manually reviewed by multiple Election Officials. This team will duplicate the ballot exactly like the damaged ballot. The duplicated ballot is tallied and included in official count.

ELECTION CONTACTS AND IMPORTANT NUMBERS

BUSINESS ENTITY	EMAIL	PHONE
The White House	www.whitehouse.gov	(202) 456-1111
Federal Elections Commission (FEC)	www.fec.gov	(800) 424-9530
California Secretary of State	www.sos.ca.gov	(916) 653-6814 (916) 657-2166 (916) 653 6224
Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC)	www.fppc.ca.gov	(866) 275-3772 (800) 561-1861
California Attorney General	https://oag.ca.gov	(800) 952-5225
Lassen County Clerk-Elections Office	www.lassencounty.org	(530) 251-8217
Lassen County District Attorney	www.lassencounty.org	(530) 251-8283
Lassen County Office of Education	www.lcoe.org	(530) 257-2196
Lassen County Superior Court	www.lassen.courts.ca.gov	(530) 251-8205
Lassen County Planning & Building Services Department	www.lassencounty.org	(530) 251-8269
Lassen County Road Department	www.lassencounty.org	(530) 251-8113
City of Susanville	www.cityofsusanville.gov	(530) 252-5100



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

For updates on upcoming elections, ballot mailings, and where to find election results.

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LASSENELECTIONS/](https://www.facebook.com/lassenelections/)