



## Letter from Kitsap County Elections

---

---

Dear Candidates and Committees,

Beginning with the 2026 election cycle, we are committed to expanding access to campaign information by using tools that help ensure your message reaches everyone in the community.

Video (or audio) statements are particularly valuable for voters with disabilities, especially those with vision impairments. If you prefer not to appear on camera, you may submit an audio-only statement, which will also be made available via a YouTube link.

In previous years, this guidelines book has included instructions for creating a video version of your candidate statement or ballot measure argument. Those videos were posted on YouTube, with a link available through the state’s online ballot access portal. While some candidates and committees have taken advantage of this option, many have not.

The instructions remain and are found on page 16.

Starting this year, we plan to include a direct link to each candidate’s or committee’s video statement in the online voters’ pamphlet.

The purpose of the video statement is to mirror the written statement as closely as possible—presenting the same content in a different format. Think of it the way you might think about reading a book versus listening to an audiobook: the message is the same, only the format changes.

We appreciate your willingness to serve voters and participate in this democratic process.

Sincerely,

Kitsap County Elections

[kitsap.gov/elections](http://kitsap.gov/elections)

[auditor@kitsap.gov](mailto:auditor@kitsap.gov)

360-307-VOTE (8683)

---

<b>Daryl Daugs</b> Chief Deputy Auditor	<b>Regina McRay</b> Elections Manager	<b>Michael Aguirre</b> Elections Technology Analyst	<b>Zach Reyes</b> Elections Technology Analyst
--	--	--	---

---

<b>Scott Sheron</b> Acting Elections Supervisor	<b>Hazel Simpson</b> Elections Specialist	<b>Leah Palmer</b> Acting Elections Specialist	
--	--	---	--

---

<b>Mary Smithson</b> Office Support Specialist	<b>Calie Breen</b> Office Support Specialist	<b>Chelsea Larsen</b> Office Support Specialist	<b>Steve Gardner</b> Public Information Officer
---	---	--	--

---

# Table of Contents

<b>Letter to Candidates and Committees</b> .....	1
<b>Filing Information</b>	
Election, Measure, and Candidate Filing Dates.....	3
Online Resources .....	3
Filing for Office.....	4-5
Offices and Positions Open for Filing .....	6-7
Eligible Voters by Office.....	7
Washington State Declaration of Candidacy – how to complete the form.....	8
<b>Candidate/Campaign Information</b>	
Offices and Ballot Names .....	9
Duties and Qualifications of Elected Officials .....	10
Voter Data and Election Results.....	11
Local Voters’ Pamphlet – Candidate Statements .....	12-13
Local Voters’ Pamphlet – Measures .....	14-15
Candidate and Measure Videos .....	16
Recounts .....	17
Political Sign Regulations .....	18-19
Public Disclosure Rules.....	20
Oaths of Office.....	21
Candidate Filing Questions .....	22
Writing Your Candidate Statement .....	23
Elections Calendar .....	24

<b>Contact Information</b>	<b>Phone Numbers</b>
<b>Mailing Address</b> Kitsap County Auditor – Elections Division 614 Division St., MS-31 Port Orchard, WA 98366	Office ..... 360-307-VOTE (8683) Fax..... 360-337-5769
<b>Office Address</b> 619 Division St. Port Orchard, WA 98366 <a href="mailto:auditor@kitsap.gov">auditor@kitsap.gov</a> <a href="http://kitsap.gov/elections">kitsap.gov/elections</a>	<b>Websites</b> Secretary of State..... <a href="http://www.sos.wa.gov">www.sos.wa.gov</a> Public Disclosure Commission..... <a href="http://www.pdc.wa.gov">www.pdc.wa.gov</a>  Revised Code of Washington (RCW) <a href="http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/">http://apps.leg.wa.gov/rcw/</a>  Washington Administrative Code (WAC) <a href="http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/">http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/</a>
<b>Regular Business Hours</b> 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday	
<b>Filing Week Hours (May 4-8)</b> 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday - Friday Deadline to withdraw: 5 p.m., May 11.	

This manual is intended for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state, or federal laws. RCW, WAC, and County or City Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research. Should the reader find an error or omission, please contact the Kitsap County Auditor – Elections Division.

# Election, Measure, and Candidate Filing Dates

---

## 2026 – Candidate Filing Dates – May 4-8

## 2027 – Candidate Filing Dates – May 3-7

2026 Remaining Election Dates	Deadline to Submit Measures	Ballots Mailed By
August 4, 2026 Primary	May 1, 2026	July 17, 2026
November 3, 2026 General Election	August 4, 2026	October 16, 2026

2027 Election Dates	Deadline to Submit Measures	Ballots Mailed By
February 9, 2027	December 11, 2026	January 22, 2027
April 27, 2027	February 26, 2027	April 9, 2027
August 3, 2027 Primary	April 30, 2027	July 16, 2027
November 2, 2027 General Election	August 3, 2027	October 15, 2027

2028 Election Dates	Deadline to Submit Measures	Ballots Mailed By
February 8, 2028	December 10, 2027	January 21, 2028
April 25, 2028	February 25, 2028	April 7, 2028
August 1, 2028 Primary	April 28, 2028	July 14, 2028
November 7, 2028 General Election	August 1, 2028	October 20, 2028

RCW 29A.04.321, RCW 29A.04.330

## Online Resources

---

The Kitsap County Auditor’s Office provides several online resources for candidates and voters where you will find all of the latest elections information. We update these sites regularly so be sure to visit our Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky, X, and YouTube pages.

Online candidate filing allows candidates to submit forms, filing fees, candidate statements, and photos electronically. This is the filing choice for the majority of candidates.

<b>Online Candidate Filing</b> .....	<a href="https://kitsap.gov/elections">kitsap.gov/elections</a> (during filing week)
<b>Email Updates</b> .....	<a href="https://kitsap.gov">kitsap.gov</a> – 'News Sign Up' (lower right of page)
<b>Facebook</b> .....	<a href="https://facebook.com/KitsapCountyAuditor">facebook.com/KitsapCountyAuditor</a>
<b>Instagram</b> .....	<a href="https://instagram.com/kitsap_county_auditor/">instagram.com/kitsap_county_auditor/</a>
<b>Bluesky</b> .....	<a href="https://bsky.app/profile/kitsapauditor.bsky.social">bsky.app/profile/kitsapauditor.bsky.social</a>
<b>X</b> .....	<a href="https://x.com/kitsapauditor">x.com/kitsapauditor</a>
<b>YouTube</b> .....	<a href="https://youtube.com/user/kitsapauditor">youtube.com/user/kitsapauditor</a>

# Filing for Office

**Candidate filing week is May 4-8**

## Where to File for Office

RCW 29A.24.070

- Candidates for federal and state offices, Legislature, Supreme Court, Court of Appeals and Superior Court file with the Secretary of State.
- Candidates for county office, Kitsap Public Utility District Commissioner, and Precinct Committee Officer file with the Kitsap County Auditor.

## Filing Electronically

**Online filing** allows all candidates to submit their forms electronically and pay their filing fees using a credit card.

Electronic filing begins at 8 a.m., May 4 and ends at 5 p.m., May 8. For more information visit:

[sos.wa.gov/elections/candidates/](https://sos.wa.gov/elections/candidates/)

RCW 29A.24.040

## Filing in Person

RCW 29A.24.050

*We recommend all candidates file online at [sos.wa.gov/elections](https://sos.wa.gov/elections).*

Candidates filing in Kitsap County may file **in person**, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 4-8 at the Kitsap County Auditor's Office.

## Filing by Mail or Fax

RCW 29A.24.081 RCW 29A.04.255

- Candidates may file **by mail** beginning April 20. (Filings received before that date will be returned.)
- Candidates filing in Kitsap County may file **by fax** from 8 a.m., May 4 to 5 p.m., May 8.
- Applicable filing fees are due by the close of candidate filing on May 8.

WAC 434-208-060

- All filing forms must be received by 5 p.m., May 8.

## Filing Fees – all filing fees are non-refundable

RCW 29A.24.091, RCW 29A.24.131

Fees are based on the salary of the office at the time of filing.

- The filing fee for an office with a salary of more than \$1,000 is 1 percent of the annual salary.

**Example:** The filing fee for a position with an annual salary of \$40,698 is \$406.98.

- There is a \$10 filing fee for offices with a salary of \$1,000 or less.
- There is no filing fee for unpaid positions.

## Petition in Lieu of Fee

RCW 29A.24.091

Candidates may submit a [Nominating Petition](#) instead of paying the filing fee. The petition must contain one signature for every dollar of the filing fee. Signatures must be of registered voters in the district for which you are filing.

**Example:** A petition submitted for a \$406.98 filing fee must have 406 valid signatures of registered voters within the jurisdiction of the office.

### Kitsap County Filing Week Hours

8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday

[auditor@kitsap.gov](mailto:auditor@kitsap.gov)

Kitsap County Auditor  
Elections Division  
619 Division St.  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Phone: 360-307-VOTE (8683) (Press 1 to bypass automated message.)

Fax: 360-337-5769

[kitsap.gov/elections](https://kitsap.gov/elections)

**Secretary of State**

[sos.wa.gov](https://sos.wa.gov)

# Filing for Office

---

## Residency Requirements

- At the time of filing for office, candidates must be registered to vote in the district represented by the office they seek, with the exception of **Superior Court Judges**, who may reside anywhere in Washington state. [RCW 42.04.020](#), [RCW 29A.24.075](#), [Washington State Constitution, Article 2, Section 7](#) [Washington State Constitution, Article 4, Section 17](#)

## County Commissioner and Public Utility District Commissioner

candidates must reside within the **defined internal boundaries** of the commissioner district.

## Partisan Offices

If one or more candidates file for a partisan office (except Precinct Committee Officer), the race will be included in the Primary. If after the special three-day filing period no candidate files, the vacancy is filled by appointment and is open for filing the following year.

[RCW 29A.24.191](#), [RCW 36.16.110](#)

## Precinct Committee Officer

If no candidate files, the vacancy is filled by appointment. If one candidate files, that candidate is considered elected. If two or more candidates file, the election is on the Primary ballot, with the top vote-getter considered elected.

[RCW 29A.52.171](#)

## Nonpartisan Offices

If no one files for a position after the special filing period, that position will not appear on the Primary nor General Election ballots.

The incumbent will serve until the next election held for that jurisdiction.

[RCW 29A.24.141](#), [RCW 29A.24.201](#), [RCW 29A.52.231](#)

## Withdrawal Period

Any candidate may withdraw his/her candidacy in writing (Email is acceptable) no later than 5 p.m., May 11. There is no withdrawal period for declarations filed during a special filing period. [RCW 29A.24.131](#)

## Superior Court Judge

- If only one candidate files, that candidate is considered elected. If two candidates file, they are on the General Election ballot. If more than two candidates file, the top two vote-getters in the Primary advance to the General Election. [RCW 29A.52.220](#) [RCW 29A.36.170](#)

## Write-in Candidates

Write-in votes can only be counted for candidates who file a declaration of write-in candidacy. Write-in candidates may file for free after candidate filing week until 18 days before an election. [RCW 29A.60.021\(4\)](#)

[RCW 29A.24.311](#)

Beginning 18 days before an election and ending at 8 p.m. on Election Day, fees apply.

- \$25 for elected positions paying less than \$1,000 annually.
- 1% of salary for elected positions paying more than \$1,000 annually.

[RCW 29A.24.091](#)

## Write-in Votes

Write-in votes are not tallied unless the total number of write-in votes could affect the outcome of the contest.

- Primary write-in votes are counted if there are enough that a write-in candidate could receive the second-most votes.
- General Election write-in votes are counted if there are enough that a write-in candidate could win the election.

[RCW 29A.60.021](#)

## Special Filing Period

If no candidate files for a position that is scheduled for election by the deadline to withdraw, the County Auditor will call a special three-day filing period. [RCW 29A.24.181](#)

# Offices and Positions Open for Filing

<b>Federal Offices – File with Secretary of State in Olympia</b>			
<b>Office</b>	<b>Incumbent (Party Preference)</b>	<b>Filing Fee</b>	<b>Term</b>
U.S. Representative (Washington Congressional District 6)	Emily Randall (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$1,740.00	2-year term
<b>State Legislature – District 23 – File with Secretary of State in Olympia</b>			
State Representative Position 1	Tarra Simmons (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$676.88	2-year term
State Representative Position 2	Greg Nance (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$676.88	2-year term
<b>State Legislature – District 26 – File with Secretary of State in Olympia</b>			
State Senator	Deb Krishnadasan (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$676.88	4-year term
State Representative Position 1	Adison Richards (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$676.88	2-year term
State Representative Position 2	Michelle Valdez (Prefers Republican Party)	\$676.88	2-year term
<b>State Legislature – District 35 – File with Secretary of State in Olympia</b>			
State Senator	Drew MacEwen (Prefers Republican Party)	\$676.88	4-year term
State Representative Position 1	Daniel Griffey (Prefers Republican Party)	\$676.88	2-year term
State Representative Position 2	Travis Couture (Prefers Republican Party)	\$676.88	2-year term

<b>Kitsap County – File with Kitsap County Auditor</b>			
<b>Office</b>	<b>Incumbent (Party Preference)</b>	<b>Filing Fee</b>	<b>Term</b>
County Commissioner District 3	Katie Walters (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$1,676.96	4-year term
Assessor	Phil Cook (Prefers Republican Party)	\$1,635.04	4-year term
Auditor	Paul Andrews (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$1,635.04	4-year term
Clerk	David Lewis (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$1,635.04	4-year term
Prosecuting Attorney	Chad M. Enright (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$2,374.60	4-year term
Sheriff	John Gese (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$2,012.19	4-year term
Treasurer	Pete Boissonneau (Prefers Democratic Party)	\$1,635.04	4-year term

# Offices and Positions Open for Filing

State of Washington Judicial Offices – File with Secretary of State in Olympia			
Supreme Court Justice Position 1	Colleen Melody (nonpartisan)	\$2,620.11	2-year unexpired term
Supreme Court Justice Position 3	Raquel Montoya-Lewis (nonpartisan)	\$2,620.11	6-year term
Supreme Court Justice Position 4	Charles W. Johnson (nonpartisan)	\$2,620.11	6-year term
Supreme Court Justice Position 5	Theo Angelis (nonpartisan)	\$2,620.11	2-year unexpired term
Supreme Court Justice Position 7	Debra L. Stephens (nonpartisan)	\$2,620.11	6-year term
State of Washington Court of Appeals – File with Secretary of State in Olympia			
Division 2, District 2 Judge Position 1	Erik D. Price (nonpartisan)	\$2,494.17	6-year term
Kitsap County District Court Judicial Offices – File with Kitsap County Auditor			
District Court Judge Department 1	Claire A. Bradley (nonpartisan)	\$2,260.96	4-year term
District Court Judge Department 2	Gina M. Buskirk (nonpartisan)	\$2,260.96	Short and full 4-year term
District Court Judge Department 3	Shane R. Seaman (nonpartisan)	\$2,260.96	4-year term
District Court Judge Department 4	Kevin P. Kelly (nonpartisan)	\$2,260.96	4-year term
Kitsap County Public Utility District – File with Kitsap County Auditor			
Public Utility District No. 1 Commissioner District 2	Stacey Smith (nonpartisan)	\$388.56	Short and full 6-year term
Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) – File with Kitsap County Auditor			
Precinct Committee Officer		N/A	2-year term

## Eligible Voters by Office

Office/Position	Voters in the Primary	Voters in the General
United States Representative	Entire County	Entire County
23rd Legislative District 26th Legislative District 35th Legislative District	23rd Legislative District 26th Legislative District 35th Legislative District	23rd Legislative District 26th Legislative District 35th Legislative District
County Commissioner District 3	District 3	Entire County
Other County Offices	Entire County	Entire County
Judicial Offices – State and County	Entire County	Entire County
Kitsap County Public Utility District No. 1: Commissioner District 3	District 3	Entire County
Precinct Committee Officer	Precinct Only	No General Election

# Washington State Declaration of Candidacy

how to complete the form

## 1. candidate information

Your name and address must match your voter registration.

Update your voter information prior to submitting a declaration of candidacy.

You are responsible for ensuring that you meet all qualifications of the office.

## 2. campaign information

If you do not provide campaign information, your information as a registered voter will be used.

A telephone number, email address, or website is not required, but recommended.

Government office addresses may not be used for campaigns.

## 3. ballot information

Print the jurisdiction, the office name and any position or district number defining the office for which you are a candidate.

The responsibility for filing for the correct office is yours.

Print your name exactly as you wish it to appear on the ballot.

Nicknames are acceptable.

Titles denoting occupations, including military rank, positions on issues, political affiliation, symbols, or anything intentionally designed to mislead voters are not acceptable.

### party preference information:

For a partisan office, you may choose to state a political party that you personally prefer.

A preference does not imply that you have been nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with you.

If you choose to state a party preference, enter the name of the party (limited to 18 characters).

Example

Washington State Declaration of Candidacy			
1 candidate information as registered to vote	James	Noothername	Doe
	100 Main Steet Apt Q		Anywhere, 99999
	1/1/1974	jamesdoe@anywhere.com	555-555-1234
2 campaign contact information for publication	201-555-5555		jimmy4office@anywhere.com
	PO Box 123		Anywhere, 99999
	www.jimmy4office.com		
3 ballot information	Legislative Dist 40	Representative	2
	Jimmy (James) Doe		
	X (Prefer Happy Voting Party)		
	O (States No Party Preference)		
4 filing fee	O The office has no filing fee.		
	X A filing fee of \$ 454.74 accompanies the declaration of candidacy.		
	O I lack sufficient funds and submit a filing fee petition in lieu of the filing fee under RCW 29A.24.001.		
5 oath	I declare that the above information is true, that I am a registered voter residing at the address listed above, that I am a candidate for the office listed above, and that, at the time of filing this declaration, I am legally qualified to assume office.		
	I swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington.		
	sign here	Jimmy Doe	date here 5/20/2021
for office use only	submission date	votes	legislative number
	office code	fee	

Your party preference will appear in parenthesis below your name. The first letter of each word or abbreviation will be capitalized (e.g., Democratic or Ind.). Acronyms appear in all capital letters.

If you do not choose to state a party preference, "(States No Party Preference)" will be printed on the ballot.

No changes to party preference will be accepted between the primary and the general election.

## 4. filing fee

Fill in the appropriate circle.

Applicable filing fees must accompany the declaration of candidacy. See a list of offices open for election for current filing fees.

If you lack sufficient funds at the time of filing, you may petition per RCW 29A.24.091 / RCW 29A.24.101.

## 5. oath

Read, sign, and date the oath. The declaration of candidacy is not complete and ready for submission until signed.

# Offices and Ballot Names

---

## Order of Candidate Names

A candidate's name may appear only once on a ballot, except for a temporary elected position or Precinct Committee Officer.

RCW 29A.24.075

The order of candidate names on the ballot for races in which the candidate was required to file with the county is determined by lot. The lottery drawing is conducted publicly at 5 p.m., May 8 at the Kitsap County Auditor – Elections Division Office. RCW 29A.36.131

## Primary – Partisan Offices

All partisan offices appear on the Primary ballot. RCW 29A.52.112

Candidates for each office will appear on the ballot in the order determined by lot.

RCW 29A.36.131

## Primary – Nonpartisan Offices

A Primary is held if three or more candidates file for a position. If no more than two candidates file, they appear only on the General Election ballot in the order determined by lot. RCW 29A.52.220

## General Election – All Offices

If a Primary is held, candidates for all offices must receive at least 1 percent of the total votes cast for their position in order to appear on the General Election ballot.

The two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will appear on the General Election ballot in the order of highest votes received. RCW 29A.36.170

**If no Primary is held**, candidates for offices that did not appear on the Primary ballot will appear on the General Election ballot in the order determined by lot. RCW 29A.36.131

## Certification of State Candidates and Measures

The Secretary of State must certify state measures and candidates to appear on the General Election ballot by August 21.

RCW 29A.60.240

## Order of Jurisdiction Placement on Ballots

RCW 29A.36.121, RCW 29A.36.161  
State and countywide measures are placed before all offices on the ballot in the following order:

- Statewide Measures
- Countywide Measures

Offices are placed on the ballot in the following order:

- Federal
- State
- County
- State Judicial
- County Judicial
- Public Utility Districts
- Precinct Committee Officer

\* Offices are placed before measures for local jurisdictions.

# Duties and Qualifications of Elected Officials

Office	Duties	Qualifications
U.S. Representative	The Constitution assigns the Senate and House equal responsibility for declaring war, maintaining the armed forces, assessing taxes, borrowing money, minting currency, regulating commerce, and making all laws necessary for the operation of the government.	A Representative must be at least 25 and a U.S. citizen for seven years. Must also be a resident of the state from which he/she is elected. <u>U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 2</u>
State Senator, State Representative	Introduce bills during each session of the Legislature. Public hearings are held, issues are debated, and votes are taken. Bills that pass both houses of the Legislature are sent to the Governor for signature.	Candidates must be a citizen of the United States and a qualified voter in the district for which he or she is chosen. <u>Washington State Constitution, Article 2, Section 7</u>
State Supreme Court Justice	The Supreme Court reviews laws for consistency with the Constitution.	Candidates must be registered to vote and be admitted to practice in the courts of record of Washington State. <u>Washington State Constitution, Article 4, Section 17</u>
Court of Appeals Judge	The Court of Appeals hears appeals on decisions of lower courts.	Candidates must be registered to vote and be admitted to practice in the courts of record of Washington State. <u>Washington State Constitution, Article 4, Section 17</u>
District Court Judge	Superior Courts hear misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases, including traffic and non traffic cases, as well as civil cases.	Candidates must be registered to vote in Kitsap County and be admitted to practice in the courts of record of Washington State. <u>RCW 3.34.060</u>

Office	Duties	Qualifications
County Commissioner	County Commissioners are the county's legislative body and chief administrators. Adopt annual budgets and county ordinances for traffic, zoning, planning, and public safety. Oversee public works, human services, community development, and parks departments.	At the time of filing for office, candidates must be registered to vote in the district represented by the office they seek. <u>RCW 29A.24.075</u> , <u>RCW 36.32.040</u>
Assessor, Auditor, Clerk, Coroner, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff and Treasurer	Duties and responsibilities of county elected officials are prescribed by the Washington State Constitution and by the Revised Code of Washington for each individual office.	At the time of filing for office, candidates must be registered to vote in the district represented by the office they seek. <u>RCW 29A.24.075</u> , <u>RCW 36</u> Prosecuting Attorney Candidates must be registered to vote in Kitsap County and also be a lawyer admitted to the Washington State Bar. <u>RCW 36.27.010</u>
Public Utility District Commissioner	Commissioners oversee operations of public utility products and services.	At the time of filing for office, candidates must be registered to vote in the district represented by the office they seek. <u>RCW 29A.24.075</u> , <u>RCW 54.12.080</u>

# Voter Data and Election Results

## Voter Data

In years past candidates and campaigns were able to contact our office and receive voter data, including voters' names, address, voting districts, gender, year of birth, voting records, dates of registration and registration numbers.

That information must now be requested through the Washington Secretary of State's Office following passage of Senate Bill 5892 in the 2026 Washington State Legislature.

All requests for records and reports generated by the statewide voter registration database must now be submitted to and fulfilled by the Washington Secretary of State's Office.

Phone: 360-704-5220

Email: [PublicRecords@SOS.WA.gov](mailto:PublicRecords@SOS.WA.gov)

Web: [sos.wa.gov/elections#data\\_research](http://sos.wa.gov/elections#data_research)



## Map Orders

District maps are available on our website or by email at no charge.

Printed maps are available in various sizes. Prices vary according to size:

- \$10 for District Maps up to 34 x 44 inches.
- \$2.50 for each 11 x 17 inch map.
- \$0.15 for each 8.5 x 11 inch Precinct Map.
- Maps sent by mail require postage.
- Payment must be received before the order is filled.

## Election Results

Local election results dating back to 1998 are on our website: [kitsap.gov/elections](http://kitsap.gov/elections), then click 'Past Election Results.'

For local election results prior to 1998, contact **Washington State Archives**:

- [www.sos.wa.gov/archives](http://www.sos.wa.gov/archives).
- [sos.wa.gov/archives/archives\\_puget.aspx](http://sos.wa.gov/archives/archives_puget.aspx).
- 425-564-3940.

## Statewide Election Results

Statewide election results from 1900 to present are available on the Secretary of State's website:

- [www.sos.wa.gov/elections/research/](http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/research/)

## Presidential Primary Data

Political party declarations signed by voters for Presidential Primaries are public for a limited period. Data from the 2024 Presidential Primary is no longer available as of May 22, 2024.

## Contact Information

### Mailing Address

Kitsap County Auditor – Elections Division  
614 Division St., MS-31  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

### Regular Business Hours

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday

### Office Address

619 Division St.  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Office ..... 360-307-VOTE (8683)  
Fax..... 360-337-5769

[auditor@kitsap.gov](mailto:auditor@kitsap.gov)  
[kitsap.gov/elections](http://kitsap.gov/elections)

# Local Voters' Pamphlet – Candidate Statements

## Publishing a Local Voters' Pamphlet

A printed copy of the Local Voters' Pamphlet is mailed to all households within the election about four weeks prior to each Primary and General Election. Statements appear in the printed Local Voters' Pamphlet, posted online and when voters access their ballots on [VoteWa.gov](http://VoteWa.gov).

[RCW 29A.32.210-280](#)

## Submitting Your Candidate Statement

You will receive a confirmation email with a link to submit the statement once your candidate filing has been approved. You may use the link provided. If you are a candidate for a county office, we prefer you use the electronic submission method, but you may instead submit your statement directly to Kitsap County Elections.

PCO candidates do not submit statements.

Statements consist of:

1. Photograph
2. Campaign Contact Information
3. Biography
4. Statement

**Note:** No changes are allowed to your statement after the statement submission deadline.

## Biography Specifications

The biography is limited to 100 words and is made up of four headings. All content must be addressed within those headings. Any heading left blank will not be included in the pamphlet. The four headings are:

- Elected Experience (Legal/Judicial Experience for Judge candidates)
- Other Professional Experience (“Other” will be removed in cases where there is no elected or judicial experience.)
- Education
- Community Service

## Statement Specifications

- *Italics* may be used for emphasis.
- Bulleted lists, **bold**, underline, ALL-CAPS text and multiple indentations are *not* allowed and will be reformatted.
- Tables and graphs are not allowed.
- Hyphenated words count as two words unless listed as one word by [dictionary.com](http://dictionary.com).
- Statements exceeding the word limit are shortened by deleting full sentences from the end until the limit is reached.
- Statements containing obscene, profane, libelous or defamatory language will be rejected. [RCW 29A.32.090](#)
- Candidate Statements must be limited to statements about the candidate himself or herself. [RCW 29A.32.090](#), [RCW 29A.32.230\(3\)](#)

## Submission Deadlines

- **May 19:** Deadline for candidates in the Primary to submit statements and photos. [RCW 29A.32.230](#),
- **June 2:** Deadline for candidates NOT in the Primary to submit statements and photos.
- A final proof is provided to candidates that must be approved within three business days, otherwise it is approved as submitted. [WAC 434-381-180](#)



# Local Voters' Pamphlet – Candidate Statements



## George Washington

1

**Elected Experience:** President, United States, 1789-1797; Virginia provincial legislator, 1758-1765.

3

**Other Professional Experience:** Senior Officer, U.S. Army, 1798-1799; Commander-in-Chief, Continental Army, 1775-1783.

**Education:** Elementary School-level education achieved through tutors. Trained in mathematics, trigonometry, surveying, drafting and map-making.

**Community Service:** Delegate to First Continental Congress (1774) and Second Continental Congress (1775).

**Statement:** The period for a new election of a citizen to administer this elected office being not far distant, and the time actually arrived when your thoughts must be employed in designating the person who is to be clothed with that important trust, it appears to me proper, especially as it may conduce to a more distinct expression of the public voice, that I should now apprise you of the resolution I have formed to beg your consent in returning to elected office.

4

In office I will promote as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge. In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened.

Be assured that this resolution has not been taken without a strict regard to all the considerations appertaining to the relation which binds a dutiful citizen to his country. I have the consolation to believe that, while choice, prudence and the strange reality of my newfound immortality invite me to quit the political scene, patriotism does not forbid my return. I ask for your vote.

000-000-1789

[george@washington.pres](mailto:george@washington.pres)

[washington.pres](http://washington.pres)

**Video statement:** [youtubelink](#)

2

## 1. Photograph

You may submit a self-portrait of your head and shoulders. Use a light-colored background, but not white. Photos must be no more than five years old. A color photo is preferred.

Digital photos should be a no smaller than 2.5 inches x 3 inches. Your photo may not be digitally altered.

Pins, robes, signage, uniforms, or insignias suggesting the wearer has held public office are not allowed. [RCW 29A.32.110](#) Kitsap County Administrative Rules - Local Voters' Pamphlet

## 2. Campaign Contact Information

Candidates may include a phone number, email address, and one website as contact information. Contact information does not count towards the word limits. We will also place the video statement link for online pamphlets.

## 3. Biography

You may submit a 100-word biography using only the following headings, any of which may be omitted:

- Elected Experience; or Legal/Judicial Experience ('Legal/Judicial Experience' heading for judicial candidates only)
- Other Professional Experience
- Education
- Community Service

## 4. Statement

You may submit a statement in addition to your photo, contact information, and biography. Statement word limits are established by state law. All statements submitted to the Auditor's Office are limited to 200 words and four paragraphs. **No changes are allowed to your statement after the statement submission deadline.**

**Candidate statements are not edited for grammar, punctuation or spelling by Elections staff. We recommend you have someone else read your statement before you turn it in.**

# Local Voters' Pamphlet – Measures

## Publishing a Local Voters' Pamphlet

A printed copy of the Local Voters' Pamphlet is mailed to all households within the election about four weeks prior to each Primary and General Election. For Special Elections pamphlet materials may be included within ballot packets instead of a separate pamphlet. Measure arguments appear in the printed Local Voters' Pamphlet. [RCW 29A.32.210-280](#)

## Committee Information

The legislative authority of a district that submits a ballot measure must appoint committees to draft arguments 'for' and 'against' the measure. Committees are limited to three members and shall appoint a chairperson as the primary point of contact. Committee members must reside within the district.

If the district is unable to appoint a committee, it must notify the Auditor's Office in writing. The Auditor's Office then selects committee members on a first-come, first-served basis. [RCW 29A.32.280](#)

## Argument Word Limit

- 250 words (five paragraphs) including no more than four headings. [RCW 29A.32.121](#)
- Headings may not exceed 15 words and count towards the word limit.
- Headings are printed in bold type.

## Rebuttal Word Limit

- 75 words (one paragraph). [RCW 29A.32.121](#)
- No headings are permitted.
- Rebuttals may only address issues raised in the opposing argument.

## Argument and Rebuttal Specifications

- *Italics* may be used for emphasis.
- Bulleted lists, **bold**, underline, ALL-CAPS text and multiple indentations are *not* allowed and will be reformatted
- Hyphenated words count as two words unless listed as one word by [dictionary.com](#).
- Photographs and charts are permitted. Each square inch of chart or photograph will substitute for 50 words.
- Arguments and rebuttals exceeding the word limit are shortened by deleting full sentences from the end until the limit is reached.
- Statements containing obscene, profane, libelous or defamatory language will be rejected. [RCW 29A.32.090](#)



Voters' Pamphlet deadlines are intended to promote timely publication and may be adjusted.

## Submission Deadlines

Election Date	Aug. 4, 2026	Nov. 3, 2026	Feb. 9, 2027	April 27, 2027
Committee Appointment	5/1/2026	8/4/2026	12/11/2026	2/26/2027
Pro/Con Argument	5/11/2026	8/17/2026	12/17/2026	3/4/2027
Rebuttal	5/14/2026	8/20/2026	12/23/2026	3/9/2027

A final proof is provided to committees that must be approved within three business days, otherwise it is approved as submitted. [WAC 434-381-180](#)

# Local Voters' Pamphlet – Measures

## 1. Ballot Title

The Ballot Title is submitted by the district as part of the resolution and reviewed by the Kitsap County Prosecuting Attorney for all districts *except* cities.

## 2. Explanatory Statement

The Explanatory Statement is prepared by the Kitsap County Prosecuting Attorney for county measures and by the attorney for the district for all other measures and submitted by the resolution deadline.

## 3. Arguments

Arguments 'for' and 'against' the measure are prepared by committees appointed by the district. Once approved by the Auditor's Office, arguments are provided to opposite committees to draft rebuttals.

## 4. Rebuttals

Committees draft rebuttals to arguments prepared by the opposite committee. Rebuttals may only address topics presented in the opposite committee's argument and may not introduce new topics.

## 5. Contact Information

Committee contact information must include at least one name and may include up to two other member names, website, email, phone number, and mailing address.

## Sample Argument

### Ballot Measures

#### City of Port Bremerbo Island

##### Proposition No. 1

##### Duck City: Honoring Our Favorite Birds Official Ballot Title

The City of Port Bremerbo Island adopted Ordinance No. 2026-23 concerning the naming convention for new and existing streets under Chapter 99.99 RCW. To provide guidance and direction for the naming of new streets and the renaming of existing streets, the city would catalog all duck names and name all streets after the natural names for ducks or for duck characters in fictional and non-fictional stories.

1

##### Explanatory Statement

*(Prepared by the Attorney for the district as prescribed by law.)*

Proposition 1 asks voters to authorize the City of Port Bremerbo Island to begin the process of renaming every street in the city after every species of duck or after the names given ducks in movies, books and other stories, both fiction and non-fiction. State law generally allows local jurisdictions to name streets and other areas after essentially whatever they want, and cities have been loathe to provide overt direction. The results when it comes to streets include those named after honorable and dishonorable humans and animals and fish inferior to ducks. Implementation of the street name changes for existing streets would take place over five to ten years, the average lifespan of a Mallard. No funding is directly allocated as part of the measure, but the estimated cost to implement the transformation in its entirety is estimated to be approximately \$178 billion, approximately \$4.5 million per household over 10 years.

2

##### Argument For the Measure

###### A Brilliant Idea

Port Bremerbo Island residents have the opportunity to distinguish themselves from every other city in America, or the world for that matter, by everyone in the city living on an avenue, street, lane or drive named after one of the most elegant, distinctive and beautiful animals so central to our Northwest existence: the duck.

3

###### Main Street to Mallard Street

Our city will be known around the world for the unique decision to honor the Surf Scoter, the Torrent Duck, the White-Cheeked Pintail as well as the Common Teal.

###### Brace Yourselves, Tourists Will Flock Here

The renaming of our streets has been estimated by the marketing firm Pochard, Showeler and Merganser to generate tourism that this city has never seen. Those estimates were made *before* several community events and duck-themed festivals were proposed.

###### It's All It's Quacked Up to Be

You will have a say in the naming of your own street. You'll be able to honor a Wigeon, an Eider, Teal or any of a number of varieties of ducks. You might also decide to name your street after Daffy, Daphne, Donald, Huey, Dewey, Louie, April, May, June, Howard, Ludwig von Drake, Mrs. Beakley or even Doofus Drake and Webby Vanderquack.

The conversations you will have in the coming years will be ones you will never forget. Vote Yes on Proposition 1.

##### Rebuttal to the Argument Against

The study cited here was vetted by a competing marketing firm (Ferdinand, Aflac and Edd) and the numbers remained consistent. This measure would cost each home less than one used-car purchase per month, so it's highly affordable. Ducks are icky. Say Yes to ducks. Say Yes to common sense. Vote Yes on Proposition 1.

4

Arguments prepared by Wing Luke, Chair; Clara Barton and James Munroe, Committee Members; Committee For the Measure.  
(123) 456-7890

luteefor@committee.com,  
lutee@QuackedUp.com

5

##### Argument Against the Measure

The city had the opportunity to do something truly ambitious for an animal that deserves this kind of recognition: the ferret. Instead the council was swayed by a special interest marketing firm looking to advance its own interests.

The city is estimating it will cost \$178 billion to implement this idea, about \$4.5 million per household. While we do have the means to support a worthwhile venture such as this, for many of our residents this might present an additional burden.

3

Study after study has shown that ferrets are the ideal drivers of human emotions and that we humans have yet to reward them adequately for the interesting lives they lead. Numerous presentations were made to the council emphasizing this as a well-established fact, but the council ignored reason, logic and common sense.

We have nothing against ducks and the insults hurled at opponents of this measure has been like water off one's back. We cannot support, however, such fiscal irresponsibility over such a common and regular feature of the Pacific Northwest.

We deserve better. Ferrets deserve better. Vote No on Proposition 1.

##### Rebuttal to the Argument For

We will distinguish ourselves alright, as the city that could have honored ferrets, but chose to honor ducks. What value is having a say in what my street is named if I have to choose between Pintail, QuackerJack and Fup? This isn't a choice, it's a sentence. Vote No on this measure and restore rationality to our city.

4

Arguments prepared by William Henry Harrison, Chair; Frida Kahlo and Thurgood Marshall, Committee Members; Committee Against the Measure  
(890) 123-4567  
committeeagainst@committeeagainst.com  
FerretBremerbo.com

5

1 The Auditor's Office is not responsible for the content of arguments or their factual and grammatical accuracy.

## Committee Videos

Committees may submit video arguments in addition to their written arguments. See page 16 for details.

# Candidate and Measure Videos

Candidates and committees may submit video statements that convey the same messages as their printed statements.

Candidates and committees should consider the video statement as a video version of the written statement and should mostly be *word-for-word* reproductions of the written versions for a different audience.

Video statements are included in Online Ballot Access via [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov), a digital ballot delivery system that also allows voters to access Voters' Pamphlet information. Links to videos will also be included in the online pamphlet.

(Online ballot access uses the highest level of internet security and is fully accessible for use by all voters.)

## Video Specifications

- Video statements must be a spoken reproduction of the written statements.
- Candidate videos must not exceed 3 minutes.
- Committee videos must not exceed 3 minutes, 30 seconds and may include rebuttals.
- No pins, robes, signage, uniforms, or insignias suggesting the wearer has held public office. [RCW 29A.32.110](#)
- Preferred file type is MP4.

## Bremerton – Kitsap Access Television

An alternative to filming your own video is to contact Bremerton – Kitsap Access Television (BKAT) to schedule a video shoot. BKAT charges to film, edit and submit videos. Each video recording session is 20 minutes.

For more information, or to schedule a video shoot, contact BKAT.

Filming sessions are available by appointment.

Candidates and Committees in the Primary: May 21- June 5.

Candidates and Committees in the General Election: August 24 - September 8.

### Bremerton – Kitsap Access Television

Colleen Miko

[colleen.miko@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:colleen.miko@ci.bremerton.wa.us)

360-473-5026

**Note:** BKAT will submit videos they film to the Kitsap County Auditor – Elections Division.

**Cost:** \$50, cash or check only.

## Video Submission Deadlines

### Candidate and Committee Videos

- **June 16, 2026:** Deadline to submit videos for candidates and for measures on the Aug. 4, 2026 Primary Election ballot.
- **September 15, 2026:** Deadline to submit videos for the Nov. 3, 2026 General Election.
- **January 5, 2027.** Deadline to submit videos for the Feb. 9, 2027 Special Election.
- **March 23, 2027.** Deadline to submit videos for the April 27, 2027 Special Election.

# Reminder!



## Recounts

---

### Mandatory Recount

A mandatory recount, by machine or hand, occurs when candidates or state measures are separated by:

- Less than 2,000 votes, AND
- Less than 1/2 of 1 percent of the votes cast. [RCW 29A.64.021](#),

### Mandatory Manual Recount

For statewide offices or measures, a mandatory manual or 'hand' recount is conducted when contests are separated by:

- Less than 1,000 votes, AND
- Less than 1/4 of 1 percent of the votes cast. [RCW 29A.64.021](#),

For all other offices, ballots must be recounted by hand if the difference between the two candidates is:

- Less than 150 votes, AND
- Less than 1/4 of 1 percent of the votes cast. [RCW 29A.64.021](#),

### Requests for a Recount

When a mandatory recount is not required, a political party officer or any person who received votes may file a written application for a recount of the votes, or a portion of the votes cast in that election for all candidates for election to that office. The application must specify a manual or machine recount and be submitted no later than two business days after the official certification of the election.

[RCW 29A.64.011](#)

- Any group of five or more registered voters may apply for a recount of the votes or a portion of the votes cast for a ballot measure. [RCW 29A.64.011](#)
- A deposit of \$0.15 for a machine recount or \$0.25 for a manual recount for each ballot cast in the recount shall be made at the time of filing the application. The deposit shall be applied to the cost of the recount and the remaining cost, if any, will be billed to the requester. [RCW 29A.64.030](#), [RCW 29A.64.081](#)

# Political Sign Regulations

---

Contact governing organizations listed below for specifics on size, type and placement options before making your signs. Contact the Public Disclosure Commission for regulations on political sign and campaign literature wording.

## Unincorporated Kitsap County

**Contact:** Department of Community Development

**Phone:** 360-337-5777

**Email:** [help@kitsap1.com](mailto:help@kitsap1.com)

**Web:** [www.codepublishing.com/wa/kitsapcounty/](http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/kitsapcounty/), see Title 17.510.060.f

---

---

## Washington State Department of Transportation

**Phone:** 360-705-7294

**Email:** [OutdoorAdvertisingControl@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:OutdoorAdvertisingControl@wsdot.wa.gov)

**Web:** [wsdot.wa.gov/business-wsdot/highway-signs/political-signs-highways](http://wsdot.wa.gov/business-wsdot/highway-signs/political-signs-highways)

**Area:** All state highways within Kitsap County – 3, 16, 104, 160, 166, 303, 304, 305, 307, 310 (Kitsap Way) from Highway 3 to Callow Avenue.

---

---

## City of Bainbridge Island

**Contact:** COBI Executive Department - Adam Nebenzahl, Management Analyst

**Phone:** 206-780-8597

**Email:** [anebenzahl@bainbridgewa.gov](mailto:anebenzahl@bainbridgewa.gov)

**Web:** [www.codepublishing.com/WA/Bainbridgelsland](http://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Bainbridgelsland) see Title 15.08.140.B

---

---

## City of Bremerton

**Contact:** City of Bremerton Department of Community Development

**Phone:** 360-473-5279; **Fax:** 360-473-5278

**Email:** [Justin.Rowland@ci.bremerton.wa.us](mailto:Justin.Rowland@ci.bremerton.wa.us)

**Web:** [www.codepublishing.com/WA/Bremerton](http://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Bremerton) see Title 20.52.085

---

---

## City of Port Orchard

**Contact:** City of Port Orchard Planning Department

**Phone:** 360-874-5533; **Fax:** 360-876-4980

**Email:** [planning@portorchardwa.gov](mailto:planning@portorchardwa.gov)

**Web:** [www.codepublishing.com/wa/portorchard](http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/portorchard), see Title 20.132.270

---

---

## City of Poulsbo

**Contact:** City of Poulsbo Planning Department

**Phone:** 360-394-9748; **Fax:** 360-697-8269

**Email:** [plan&econ@cityofpoulsbo.com](mailto:plan&econ@cityofpoulsbo.com)

**Web:** <http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/poulsbo/> see Title 18.170.080

---

---

Dear Candidate:

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) wishes to take this opportunity to advise political candidates about the placement of campaign signs and placards along state highways.

Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 47.42, the Highway Advertising Control Act, regulates signing on Interstate Highways, primary highways, and highways that are part of the Scenic and Recreational System. Signs erected on private property that are adjacent to these highways must comply with the Highway Advertising Control Act, rules contained in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 468-66, and applicable local agency sign codes.

In accordance with WAC 468-66-050, ***Sign Classification and Specific Provisions***, temporary political campaign signs are identified and regulated as a type of on-premise sign intended to express a property owner's endorsement of a political candidate or initiative. Prior to placing signs, WSDOT recommends checking with the property owner for approval and to determine property line locations. Campaign signs are allowed under the following regulations:

- 1) Temporary political campaign signs are limited to a maximum size of thirty-two square feet.
- 2) Temporary political campaign signs must be removed within ten days following the election.
- 3) Sign installers must have permission of the underlying property owner prior to placing signs.
- 4) Temporary political campaign signs are subject to all other applicable provisions of RCW 47.42 and WAC 468.66 that pertain to Type 3 on-premise signs.

In addition to the above restrictions, **the erection of temporary political campaign signs within the right-of-way of all state highways is prohibited. Accordingly, signs placed within the right-of-way of any state highway are subject to removal by the Washington State Department of Transportation.**

Also, RCW 47.36.180(1) states in part that it is unlawful to erect any structure, sign, or device visible from a city street, county road, or state highway that simulates any directional, warning, or danger sign likely to be mistaken for such a sign. Therefore, a campaign sign cannot be designated in a manner that resembles an official traffic control sign.

If you should have any questions about placement of campaign signs along state highways, please contact Tanya Joblonski at 360-705-7294 or email at [outdooradvertisingcontrol@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:outdooradvertisingcontrol@wsdot.wa.gov).

We sincerely hope that candidates for public office will observe the laws and regulations enacted to limit driver distraction, and protect and preserve the roadside beauty of our state. Thank you in advance for your courtesy in this matter.

# Public Disclosure Rules



## We hear you've decided to run for office...

### • Step 1: Introduce yourself

You are a candidate once you publicly announce your candidacy, raise or spend money on your campaign, or **file during declaration week (May 4-8, 2026)**.

**Within two weeks**, register your campaign and file your personal financial affairs statement (F-1). See instructions and exceptions to this rule in the link to the right.



*Registration and reporting basics*



### • Step 2: Consider your (reporting) options

Chose **mini** or **full** reporting. Unlike full-reporting, mini-reporting campaigns can raise or spend **no more than \$7,000, or \$500 from each contributor** without filing regular reports with the PDC (but must maintain records.)

**Choose wisely!** Mini reporting campaigns that exceed limits may face enforcement action. Switching to full reporting requires PDC approval and retroactive reporting.

### • Step 3: Learn your responsibilities

Full-reporting campaigns must regularly report contributions and expenditures and abide by contribution limits, and all campaigns must follow political advertising rules and other requirements under **RCW 29B** and **WAC 390**.

“The public’s right to know of the financing of political campaigns and lobbying and the financial affairs of elected officials and candidates far outweighs any right that these matters remain secret and private.”

RCW 29B

### • Step 4: Know your resources

**Sign up today** for one of the PDC’s free online training:

- Disclosure 101: Candidates and Committees
- Understanding the F-1
- ORCA filing system demonstration
- Lunch and learn events



*Training and resources for campaigns*



**Contact us: (360) 753-1111    pdc@pdc.wa.gov    pdc.wa.gov**

# Oaths of Office

## When Elected Officials Assume Office

Office/Position	Date
U.S. Congress	January 3, 2027 <a href="#">U.S. Constitution, Amendment 20</a>
Washington State Legislature All Judicial Positions	January 11, 2027 <a href="#">RCW 44.04.021</a> , <a href="#">RCW 2.04.071</a> , <a href="#">RCW 3.34.070</a>
County Officials Public Utility District Commissioner	January 1, 2027 <a href="#">RCW 29A.60.280</a>
Precinct Committee Officer	December 1, 2026 <a href="#">RCW 29A.80.051</a>

## When Administered

Oaths of Office may be administered between the date of final certification of the election and the scheduled date of assuming office. An Oath of Office is administered to candidates filling an unexpired position, or short and full-term position upon certification of the election. A second Oath of Office is administered to candidates filling a short and full-term position prior to assuming office for the full term. [RCW 29A.04.133](#), [RCW 29A.60.270](#), [RCW 29A.60.280](#)

## Who Administers

An Oath of Office may be administered at no charge by a notary public or any officer authorized to administer oaths including judges, county commissioners, county auditors or deputies, town clerks, and school officials. [RCW 29A.04.133](#)

## Where the Oath of Office is Filed

Office/Position	Where Oath Is Administered/Filed
U.S. Congress	Verbal oath upon convening of Congress.
Washington State Legislature	Verbal oath upon convening of Legislature.
Judicial Offices	Written oath filed with the Office of the Secretary of State. <a href="#">Washington State Constitution, Article 4, Section 28</a>
County Officials Public Utility District Commissioner	Written oaths are filed with the Kitsap County Auditor. <a href="#">RCW 36.16.060</a> , <a href="#">RCW 54.12.100</a>
Precinct Committee Officers	Contact applicable major party.

## State Measures Become Law

State measures approved by the voters become law upon proclamation of the governor unless the effective date is contained within the text of the measure. [RCW 29A.60.260](#)

## Candidate Filing Questions

---

### Q. Will I be in a Primary?

A. Let's address these in groups.

Candidates for U.S. Representative, State Legislature and Kitsap County Offices (not KPUD) will all be in the Primary, as all are partisan races. Even if there is only one candidate in your race, you will be in the August 4, 2026 Primary. The top two candidates advance to the General Election.

---



Candidates for Washington State Supreme Court, Court of Appeals and Kitsap County District Court will be in the Primary if there are three candidates. If there two or one, they will move directly to the General Election.

---



Kitsap Public Utility District Commissioner candidates are in a Primary if there are three candidates. If there are two or fewer candidates they will appear on the General Election ballot.

---



PCO candidates appear on the Primary ballot if there is more than one candidate per party per precinct. If there is only one candidate per party per precinct the candidate is considered elected at the Primary and the term begins December 1.

### Q. How is ballot order determined?

A. For the Primary, and in the General Election for candidates who do not appear on the Primary ballot, in Kitsap County it's a random lot draw of Scrabble tiles. For candidates who file with the Secretary of State, the state draws something else, but the concept is the same. Both drawings are at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 8, after candidate filing ends. Candidates are welcome to witness the drawing in person in our office at 619 Division Street in Port Orchard. We also livestream it at [kitsap.gov/elections](https://www.kitsap.gov/elections).



If you emerge from the Primary as one of the top-two candidates, the order is determined by the order of votes received. If you receive the most in the Primary, you appear first on the ballot in the General Election.

## Writing Your Candidate Statement

---

---

Your candidate statement may be the one thing seen by the most voters, so it is not a stretch to say that it may be the most important piece of written work you do between now and Election Day. Here are some suggestions for you to help you turn in your best possible work.

### Start Writing Now

If you are in the Primary, and most of you will be, your statement is due May 19. This may be a helpful way to approach it:

1. Write out the 100-word resume/bio section first—the section that includes your elected experience, your professional experience, your education and community service. While you're doing that you might begin to think about the things you want to say in your statement. Take notes.
2. Then write the 200-word statement.
3. Read it over.
4. Rewrite it.
5. Read it out loud to yourself.
6. Rewrite it again.
7. Reread it.
8. Rewrite it again.
9. Have someone you trust to give you good feedback read it.
10. Rewrite it.
11. Run it through a good spell and grammar checker.
12. Read it out loud one final time.

Let's not use an unlucky number, but now is a good time to SUBMIT it.

If you discover an error after you submit, if it's before May 19 we'll allow you to fix it, as long as you're not adding words that would push it above the word count.

---

### Q. What happens if I withdraw too late?

A. Sometimes life circumstances change between the withdrawal deadline and Election Day. Nonetheless, state law is clear. Once the withdrawal deadline passes, your name goes on the ballot. The deadline to withdraw is 5 p.m., Monday, May 11, 2026.

### Q. What happens in the voters' pamphlet if I withdraw too late?

A. Your name goes in the pamphlet. If you submit your statement to our office, as long as we can still meet print deadlines we will allow you to adjust your statement to let voters know you no longer intend to actively campaign for the position. State law is different for local positions than it is for state positions in that you are only allowed to speak about yourself. You may not endorse another candidate. You are allowed to write, "Please vote for a different candidate."

If you prefer, we can also remove your photo and statement and replace it with with text stating that no photo or statement was submitted.

# Elections Calendar – 2026-27

---

April 20 ..... First day **candidates may file by mail**. [RCW 29A.24.081](#)

---

May 1..... Last day for districts to **file resolutions, explanatory statements, and committee contacts** for August Primary. [WAC 434-381-120](#), [RCW 29A.32.280](#), [RCW 29A.04.330](#)

May 4-8..... Candidate **filing week**. [RCW 29A.24.050](#)

May 11 ..... Last day for candidates to **withdraw**. [RCW 29A.24.131](#)

May 11 ..... Deadline for **committees** to submit **measure arguments** for the August Primary.

May 14..... Measure **committee rebuttals** due for the August Primary.

May 19..... Deadline for all **Primary candidates** to submit statements and photos. [WAC 434-381-120](#)

---

June 2..... Deadlines for **candidates not in the Primary** to submit statements and photos.

June 16 ..... Deadline to submit **candidate and measure videos** for August Primary. [WAC 434-381-120](#)

June 19..... **Ballots** go to **overseas and military** voters for the August Primary. [RCW 29A.40.070](#)

---

July 7 ..... Primary Local Voters' Pamphlet mailed. [RCW 29A.32.210](#)

July 16 ..... Final day to **file for free as a write-in** candidate for the August Primary.

[RCW 29A.24.311](#), [RCW 29A.24.091](#)

July 17 ..... Ballots go to all voters for the August Primary. [RCW 29.40.070](#)

---

August 4 ..... **Primary** – [RCW 29A.04.311](#)

Last day for districts to **file resolutions, explanatory statements, and committee contacts** for November General Election.

August 17 ..... Deadline for committees to submit **measure arguments** for the November General Election. [WAC 434-381-120](#), [RCW 29A.32.280](#)

August 18 ..... Primary **certification** by counties. [RCW 29A.60.190](#)

August 20 ..... Measure **committee rebuttals** due for the November General Election.

---

Sept. 15..... Deadline to submit **candidate and measure videos** for November General Election. [WAC 434-381-120](#)

Sept. 18..... **Ballots** go to **overseas and military** voters for November General Election. [RCW 29A.40.070](#)

---

Oct. 9..... General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet mailed. [RCW 29A.32.210](#)

Oct. 15..... Final day to **file for free as a write-in** candidate for the November General Election.

[RCW 29A.24.311](#), [RCW 29A.24.091](#)

Oct. 16..... Ballots go to all voters for the November General Election. [RCW 29A.40.070](#)

---

Nov. 3 ..... **General Election** – [RCW 29A.04.321](#)

Nov. 24 ..... General Election **certification** by counties. [RCW 29A.60.190](#)

---

Dec. 3 ..... Final day for Secretary of State to certify the results of the General Election. [RCW 29A.60.250](#)

Dec. 11 ..... Last day for districts to **file resolutions, explanatory statements, and committee contacts** for the Feb. 9, 2027 Special Election. [WAC 434-381-120](#), [RCW 29A.32.280](#), [RCW 29A.04.330](#)

Dec. 17 ..... Deadline for **committees** to submit **measure arguments** for the February Special Election.

Dec. 23 ..... Measure **committee rebuttals** due for the February Special Election.

---

Feb. 9, 2027 .. **Special Election** – [RCW 29A.04.321](#), [RCW 29A.04.330](#)

Feb. 26, 2027 Last day for districts to **file resolutions, explanatory statements, and committee contacts** for the April 27, 2027 Special Election. [WAC 434-381-120](#), [RCW 29A.32.280](#), [RCW 29A.04.330](#)

March 4, 2027 Deadline for **committees** to submit **measure arguments** for the April Special Election.

March 9, 2027 Measure **committee rebuttals** due for the April Special Election.

April 27, 2027 **Special Election** – [RCW 29A.04.321](#), [RCW 29A.04.330](#)

---