

CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Filing Period File with Declaration of Candidacy
Fee Varies by Office

Candidates for non-partisan and some voter nominated offices may purchase a Candidate's Statement of Qualifications to be printed in the County Voter Information Guide. This statement is intended to acquaint voters with the candidate's qualifications for the office they are seeking.

Candidates for US Representative, State Senate, and State Assembly may purchase a statement in the County Voter Information Guide. State Senate and State Assembly candidates must accept Proposition 34 voluntary spending limits to be eligible to purchase a candidate statement.

Candidates for other State and Federal offices may file a statement with the Secretary of State. Information about fees and deadlines can be obtained from the Secretary of State www.sos.ca.gov.

Note: If running for a multi-county office, forms from the candidate's county of residence will be accepted. Candidates running for multi-county offices who wish to have a statement printed in other counties must contact **each county** regarding fees and deadlines.

YOUR CANDIDATE STATEMENT WILL BE PRINTED AS SUBMITTED. SPELLING, PUNCTUATION, AND GRAMMATICAL ERRORS WILL NOT BE CORRECTED BY THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT.

ENDORSEMENTS

Use of an endorsement in a candidate statement requires written authorization from the endorser. A copy of the *signed authorization* must be submitted with the Candidate Statement.

CONTENT

The statement *may* contain the candidate's name, age, occupation, and a description of the candidate's education and qualifications expressed by the candidate -- not to exceed the word count limit. The statement *may not* contain the candidate's party affiliation (unless for partisan office) or membership or activity in partisan political organizations.

- No statement shall contain any demonstrably false, slanderous, or libelous statements (*Elections Code §13307(e)*).
- Candidate Statements shall not in any way make reference to other candidates for that office or to another candidate's qualifications, character, or activities (*Elections Code §13308*).
- The heading includes the candidate's name and office sought. The Candidate's Statement will begin with the words: "Education and Qualifications:" followed by the text filed by the candidate. These words, as well as the heading, are standardized and included in the space provided. The words, however, do not count toward the number of words allowed for the statement.
- The "Occupation" field in the Candidate's Statement is not governed by the laws and regulations pertaining to the ballot designation that appears under the candidate's name on the ballot. Therefore, it may be different from the candidate's ballot designation, but cannot exceed the space provided.

FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

- Statements will be printed in block paragraph form, in uniform font, size, darkness and spacing. (*Elections Code § 13307(b)(1)*)
- Subheadings and deviations from the standardized heading will not be accepted.
- Lists of items or phrases must be strung together in paragraph format and cannot be vertical or indented.
- The following are **not** permitted: All caps, bold, italics, bullets (i.e. stars, asterisks) or tables.

Any statement that does not conform to the format rules above will be corrected by the elections official to ensure a uniform appearance.

PAYMENT

Payment for a candidate statement of qualifications must be made at the time it is submitted. The payment must be in the form of a not-to-exceed check payable to Yuba County Clerk.

Candidate Statements remain confidential until 5:00 p.m. on the last day of filing. Once a statement has been filed, it may be withdrawn, but cannot be changed. The statement can be withdrawn until 5:00 p.m. on the first business day after the close of filing, and the full fee will be refunded.

BILINGUAL PRINTING REQUIREMENTS

All candidate statements will be printed in English and Spanish. **NOTE: Voters will receive a County Voter Information Guide in English or Spanish based on the language they selected when registering to vote.**

PUBLIC EXAMINATION

Candidates' statements are available for public examination in the county election official's office for 10 days following the close of filing.

WORD LIMIT

- Local Offices 200 Words
- US Representative, State Senate & State Assembly..... 250 Words

HOW TO COUNT CANDIDATE STATEMENT WORDS

The following rules will be used for counting words in candidate statements. Each word shall be counted as one word unless specified differently below:

- All proper nouns including geographical names shall be considered as one word; for example, "City and County of San Francisco" shall be counted as one word.
- Each abbreviation for a word, phrase, or expression shall be counted as one word i.e., PTA, USMC
- Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.
- Dates shall be counted as one word.
- Any number consisting of a digit or digits shall be considered as one word. Any number which is spelled, such as "one," shall be considered as a separate word or words. "One" shall be counted as one word whereas "one hundred" shall be counted as two words. "100" shall be counted as one word.

- Telephone numbers shall be counted as one word.
- Internet web site addresses shall be counted as one word.
- Punctuation is not counted.

Elections Code §9

THE PRINTED CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT

This is a sample of a Candidate's Statement of Qualifications as it will appear in the County Voter Information Guide.

John Doe	Age: 42
Occupation: Small Business Owner/Teacher	
Education and Qualifications:	
I can bring diverse viewpoints and experience to the office. Born and raised in Yuba County, with my family still farming, I can appreciate the concerns of the environmentalist. On the other hand, having been in business since my undergraduate days at Yuba College, and with my experience in the rental and real estate fields, I appreciate the practical housing requirements of our community.	
I have either served or am serving in the following clubs and organizations: Rotary; Chamber of Commerce; PTA; Arts Council; Rock the Vote; and League of Women Voters.	
If elected to this office, I will do my best to continue to serve as a leader and role model for our community and children.	