

Candidate Filing Information

When is the Candidate Filing Period?

The candidate filing period for the 2026 Elections start at noon on Monday, December 1 and end at noon on Friday, December 19.

**Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor candidate filing period begins at noon on Monday, June 8, 2026 and ends at noon, Friday, July 3, 2026.*

Where do I file?

Candidates for State Senator, State Representative, County offices, and local offices must file in the county in which they are registered.

Candidates for US House of Representatives and all judicial offices file at the NC State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement.

What are the general candidacy requirements?

** Additional qualifications exist for Sheriff, State Senator, and State Representative**

- Must be a registered voter of the county.
- Must be at least 21 years of age on Election Day.
- Must be eligible to vote for the office in which you intend to file.
- Party affiliation:
 - No person shall be permitted to file as a candidate in a party primary unless that person has been affiliated with that party for at least 90 days as of the date of filing a notice of candidacy.
 - A candidate who wishes to run as an unaffiliated candidate should review the "[Unaffiliated Candidate Petitions](#)" page located on the NC State Board of elections website.
 - Soil and Water District Supervisor is a non-partisan contest and not subject to party affiliation requirements.

What do I need to bring?

- A valid NC Driver's license or other photo ID for identification purposes.
- Payment method for filing fees:
Fees **under** \$50.00 must be paid by cash (exact change), individual's check, or money order.
Fees **over** \$50.00 must be paid by individual's check or money order.

Campaign Finance Information

To run for office, you will need to organize a campaign committee. All candidates or officeholders must have a registered political committee. There are no exceptions to this law. This is true even if a candidate does not intend to raise or spend any money other than paying the filing fee. Organizational paperwork must be completed within **10 days** of whichever happens first:

- Any money is spent, any contributions or in-kind contributions are received in support of a candidacy; or
- A notice of candidacy or petition requesting to be a candidate is filed; or
- A person is certified as the nominee of a political party for a vacancy.