(920) 448-2800
www.villageofallouezwi.gov

Ballot access paperwork must be returned to the Clerk's Office by January 5, 2027 by 5:00 P.M.

Ballot Access Checklist (ELIS-7)
Deadlines and forms required to be placed on the ballot.

Campaign Finance Registration Statement (CF-1)
New candidates must file this statement before campaign funds are collected or spent or before submitting nomination papers. Continuing candidates must amend their current registration.

Declaration of Candidacy (EL-162)
Be sure to complete the section on how you wish your name to appear on the official ballot.

Nomination Papers (EL-169)
The required number of signatures for Village Office is 20-100 from qualified electors of the Village of Allouez. It is encouraged to obtain over the minimum in case a signature is deemed unacceptable. Make sure the person signing completes all information. The circulator certifies the page when it is complete and must date it *after* the signatures were gathered.

Please note nomination papers may *not* be circulated before December 1, 2026. Further candidate information can be found at https://elections.wi.gov/candidates

The 2027 Spring Election will be held on April 6, 2027.

For incumbents currently holding municipal offices and not seeking reelection, the deadline to file a Notification of Non-Candidacy (EL-163) is **December 28, 2026 by 5:00 P.M.**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Board Meetings

- Village Board normally meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall.
- Special Village Board meetings are also held during the year – they are scheduled with input from all board members.
- At budget time approximately two additional meetings are held in mid-October to review the budget.

Serving on Various Boards/Committees /Commissions

Trustees are placed on various committees, commissions, and/or boards after they are elected. The President nominates, the Board confirms.

- **Brown County Planning Commission Board of Directors**
- **Central Brown County Water Commission**
- **Community Development Authority** (meets the first Thursday of the month at 8am)
- **Historic Preservation Commission** (meets as needed, the fourth Wednesday at 6:00 pm)
- **Parks, Recreation & Forestry Committee** (meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm)
- **Plan Commission** (meets the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm)
- **Public Works Committee** (meets the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30pm)
- **Room Tax Commission**
- **Various Ad Hoc Committees** (Ex: Finance/Personnel Ad Hoc Committee)

Compensation

- Village President earns $10,000 annually
- Village Trustees earn $6,732 annually
- Municipal Judge earns $17,000 annually

2027 Ballot Access Checklist:
Municipalities Where Nomination Papers are Used

Each of the following forms must be completed and filed on time by a candidate for municipal office for the candidate's name to be placed on the ballot at the **February 16, 2027 Spring Primary** and the **April 6, 2027 Spring Election**.

In the City of Milwaukee, the filing officer is the Milwaukee City Election Commission. In all other municipalities, the filing officer is the municipal clerk (town, village, or city). Candidates should contact their filing officer for further information or to obtain any of the necessary forms.

- ☐ **Complete and Submit a Registration Statement (Form CF-1)** to the filing officer prior to raising or spending any funds, and no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2027** or the candidate's name will not be placed on the ballot. If the form is faxed or emailed, the original document must follow postmarked no later than January 5, 2027. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.10(5), 8.30(2), Wis. Admin. Code EL § 6.04.

  New Candidates
  File a campaign registration statement before campaign funds are collected or spent or before submitting nomination papers. Wis. Stat. §§ 11.0202(1)(a),11.0101(1).

  Continuing Candidates
  Amend your current registration, indicating the office sought and the new primary and election dates. Wis. Stat. §§ 11.0202(1)(a), 11.0101(1).

- ☐ **Complete and Submit a Declaration of Candidacy (Form EL-162)** to the filing officer no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2027** or the candidate's name will not be placed on the ballot. If the form is faxed or emailed, the original document must follow, postmarked no later than January 5, 2027. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.10(5), 8.21, 8.30(4), Wis. Admin. Code EL § 6.04.

- ☐ **Circulate and Submit Nomination Papers for Nonpartisan Office (Form EL-169)** to the filing officer no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2027** or the candidate's name will not be placed on the ballot**.** Only original nomination papers (no photocopies, faxes, or emailed documents) will be accepted. Nomination papers may not be circulated before December 1, 2026. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(2), Wis. Admin. Code EL § 6.04(2).
  THERE ARE GUIDES TO ASSIST CANDIDATES WITH NOMINATION PAPERS ON the WEC website.

The number of signatures required follows:

All village and town offices		20-100
1st Class Cities	Citywide offices	1,500 - 3,000
	Alderperson elected to district	200 - 400
2nd and 3rd Class Cities	Citywide offices	200 - 400
	Alderperson elected at large	100 - 200
	Alderperson elected to district	20 - 40
4th Class Cities	Citywide offices	50 - 100
	Alderperson elected to district	20 - 40

Municipal Judge Candidates:

- ☐ **Complete and submit a Statement of Economic Interests (SEI)** online to the Ethics Commission. Incumbent candidates will receive a filing notice around December 1, 2026, and new candidates will receive an email notice within one or two days of registering their committee. The SEI must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2027, or the candidate's name will not appear on the ballot. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.10(5), 8.30(3), 19.43(4). Candidates may also print the SEI form and instructions from the Ethics Commission website and return those forms by email or fax. For more information, please contact the Ethics Commission at 608-266-8123 or ethics@wi.gov.

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS:
A MUNICIPALITY MAY ENACT AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS THAT MAY REQUIRE A CANDIDATE FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICE, IN ADDITION TO THE OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL JUDGE, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS (SEI). THE ORDINANCE MAY ALSO PROVIDE THAT FAILURE TO TIMELY FILE AN SEI WILL PREVENT THE CANDIDATE'S NAME FROM BEING PLACED ON THE BALLOT. WIS. STAT. § 19.59(1M)(3)(B). PLEASE CONTACT THE FILING OFFICER TO LEARN IF THIS REQUIREMENT APPLIES TO YOU.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REGISTRATION STATEMENT — LOCAL CANDIDATE COMMITTEE

STATE OF WISCONSIN

***CAUTION:** A personal telephone number that is identified as a confidential telephone phone number on page 3 of this form should **not** be entered on page 1 of this form. Do **not** enter any personal telephone numbers of the candidate, the candidate committee treasurer, and any other custodian of books and accounts on page 1 of this form.

1. Is this an Amendment? ☐ No ☐ Yes

SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION

A1. Committee Name (Required for all Candidates - must be included in disclaimer on all communications)			
A2. Committee Email	**A3. Committee Phone** (Do not enter a confidential phone number)		
A4. Mailing Address	**A5. City**	**A6. State**	**A7. Zip**

Depository Institution Information

A8. Institution Name	**A9. Street Address**	**A10. City**	**A11. State**	**A12. Zip**

Treasurer/Administrator Information

A13. Name	**A14. Treasurer Email**	**A15. Treasurer Phone** (*See Caution)	
A16. Mailing Address	**A17. City**	**A18. State**	**A19. Zip**

Other Officers (Optional)

A20. Name	**A21. Title**	**A22. Email**	**A23. Phone** (* See Caution above)
A24. Name	**A25. Title**	**A26. Email**	**A27. Phone** (* See Caution above)

Filing Exemption

Registrants which do not anticipate accepting or making contributions, making disbursements, or incurring obligations in an aggregate amount exceeding $2,500 in a calendar year may claim an exemption from filing campaign finance reports. This exemption applies until the registrant exceeds the $2,500 aggregate activity threshold, amends its registration, or is terminated.

A28. Exemption Affirmation

☐ Yes, this registrant is eligible for exemption.

☐ No, this registrant is not eligible for exemption.

SECTION B: CANDIDATE INFORMATION

B1. Office Sought (include District/Branch)	**B2. Political Party**	**B3. Election Date**

Candidate Information

B4. Name	**B5. Candidate Email**	**B6. Candidate Phone** (* See Caution)	
B7. Mailing Address	**B8. City**	**B9. State**	**B10. Zip**

Second Candidate Committee

An individual who holds a state or local elective office may establish a second candidate committee to pursue another state or local office.

B11. Is this your only registered candidate committee in Wisconsin?

☒ Yes, this is my only candidate committee in Wisconsin.

☐ No, this is my second candidate committee in Wisconsin.

B12. Other Office Held or Sought (include District/Branch) *Only complete B12 if you responded "No" to B11.*

SECTION C: CERTIFICATION

Accurate Information

☐ *I certify that I am an authorized representative of the candidate committee and that to my knowledge all of the information contained within this registration is true, correct, and complete.*

Timely Amendments

☐ *I am aware of the requirement to amend this registration statement within 10 days of any change of information contained within, including any change to the candidate committee's eligibility for exemption from campaign finance reporting.*

Records Retention

☐ *I acknowledge the requirement to maintain the records of the candidate committee in an organized and legible manner for three years from the close of the most recent contribution limit period (June 30 following the April election, December 31 following the November election).*

Continuing Compliance

☐ *I acknowledge that I am required to continue to comply with all applicable requirements under Chapter 11 of the Wisconsin Statutes until this registration is terminated. I understand that I am not released from any liability simply because the election date has passed.*

Treasurer

C1. Printed Name	C2. Signature	C3. Date

Candidate

C4. Printed Name	C5. Signature	C6. Date

Form Instructions

Candidates must complete all sections A, B, and C.

Item 1. Is this an amendment? Have you registered with this local clerk to run for office in a prior election?

Item A1: Committee Name. All candidates are required to register a committee. It is not required that the name include the candidate's name, but it is recommended. This committee name is required to be part of the disclaimer on all communications with express advocacy: 'Paid for by …'

A28: Exemption. Candidates claiming exemption may not have more than $2,500 of activity, in the aggregate per year. In a calendar year, if you raise $1,600 and spend $1,000 you have $2,600 of aggregate activity and are not eligible to claim exemption.

Depository Institution Information. All candidates must designate a depository institution. While it is recommended that all candidates have a designated campaign depository account, candidates who will serve as their own treasurer may designate a single personal account to serve as the committee depository account while claiming a filing exemption and may intermingle personal and campaign funds (Wis. Stat. § 11.0201(2)(b)).

Treasurer Information. Each committee must appoint a treasurer. Any adult may serve as a treasurer. A candidate may serve as his or her own treasurer. If you are serving as your own treasurer, please write "Self" or "Candidate". A candidate serving as their own treasurer does not need to provide their name, address and contact information here because that information will already be provided in section B. Do not leave this section blank.

Section B: Candidate Information

B1. Be sure to include the name of the county, municipality, or school district. There are 72 counties with county supervisors, 100's of school boards, and 1000's of municipal boards.

B2. Party - "N/A" or "None" for nonpartisan offices (April). Democrat, Republican, Constitution, Green, Independent, or other ballot status party for partisan (fall) primary/election.

Section C: Certification. All candidates must complete section C. If the candidate is serving as their own treasurer, they would only need to sign once, as either the candidate or treasurer.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REGISTRATION STATEMENT — LOCAL CANDIDATE COMMITTEE—CONFIDENTIAL PHONE CONTACTS

STATE OF WISCONSIN

All information on pages 1 and 2 of this form is available to the public. Pursuant to 2023 Wisconsin Act 120, candidates, treasurers, and any other custodian of books and accounts (such as an assistant treasurer) are required to provide a personal telephone number. This page provides you the space to provide those required telephone numbers. Personal telephone numbers are confidential and are not subject to the right of inspection and copying under WIS. STAT. § 19.35(1). *See* WIS. STAT. § 11.0203(bd). However, a personal email address provided is subject to the right of inspection and copying under WIS. STAT. § 19.35(1) and may be disclosed.

Failure to provide a valid email may result in failure to receive filing reminders and notifications from the filing officer. Failure to receive a form or notice from a filing officer does not exempt a committee from a reporting requirement under this chapter (WIS. STAT. §11.0103(b)). The candidate committee is required to report any change in information previously submitted in a registration statement within 10 days following the change. WIS. STAT. § 11.0203(3).

Candidate Information	
Name	**Personal Phone Number**

Treasurer Information	
Name	**Personal Phone Number**

Other Custodians' Information	
Name	**Personal Phone Number**
Name	**Personal Phone Number**
Name	**Personal Phone Number**

Declaration of Candidacy

(See instructions for preparation on back)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Is this an amendment?

☐ **Yes** (if you have already filed a DOC for this election) ☐ **No** (if this is the first DOC you have filed for this election)

I, _____, being duly sworn, state that
Candidate's name

I am a candidate for the office of _____
Official name of office - **Include district, branch or seat number**

representing _____
If partisan election, name of political party or statement of principle - five words or less (*Candidates for nonpartisan office may leave blank.*)

and I meet or will meet at the time I assume office the applicable age, citizenship, residency and voting qualification requirements, if any, prescribed by the constitutions and laws of the United States and the State of Wisconsin, and that I will otherwise qualify for office, if nominated and elected.

I have not been convicted of a felony in any court within the United States for which I have not been pardoned.[1]

My present address, including my municipality of residence for voting purposes is:

				Town of ☐ Village of ☐ City of ☐	
House or fire no.	Street Name	Mailing Municipality and State	Zip code	Municipality of Residence for Voting	

My name as I wish it to appear on the official ballot is as follows:

_____
(Any combination of first name, middle name or initials with surname. A nickname may replace a legal name.)

_____
(Signature of candidate)

STATE OF WISCONSIN } ss.

County of _____
(County where oath administered)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____day of _____, _____.

NOTARY SEAL REQUIRED, IF OATH ADMINISTERED BY NOTARY PUBLIC

_____
(Signature of person authorized to administer oaths)

☐ Notary Public or ☐ other official _____
(Official title, if not a notary)

If Notary Public: My commission expires _____ or ☐ is permanent.

The information on this form is required by Wis. Stat. § 8.21, Art. XIII, Sec. 3, Wis. Const., and must be filed with the filing officer in order to have a candidate's name placed on the ballot. Wis. Stats. §§ 8.05 (1)(j), 8.10 (5), 8.15 (4)(b), 8.20 (6), 120.06 (6)(b), 887.01.

EL-162 | Rev. 2019-08 | Wisconsin Elections Commission, P.O. Box 7984, Madison, WI 53707-7984
608-266-8005 | web: elections.wi.gov | email: elections@wi.gov

1 A 1996 constitutional amendment bars any candidate convicted of a misdemeanor which violates the public trust from running for or holding a public office. However, the legislature has not defined which misdemeanors violate the public trust. A candidate convicted of any misdemeanor is not barred from running for or holding a public office until the legislature defines which misdemeanors apply.

Instructions for Completing the Declaration of Candidacy

All candidates seeking ballot status for election to any office in the State of Wisconsin must properly complete and file a ***Declaration of Candidacy***. This form must be **ON FILE** with the proper filing officer no later than the deadline for filing nomination papers or the candidate's name will not appear on the ballot. A facsimile will be accepted if the FAX copy is received by the filing officer no later than the filing deadline **and** the signed original declaration is received by the filing officer with a postmark no later than the filing deadline.

***Information to be provided by the candidate*:**

- Type or print your name on the first line.
- The title of the office and **any district, branch, or seat number** for which you are seeking election must be inserted on the second line. *For legislative offices insert the title and district number, for district attorneys insert the title and the county, for circuit court offices insert the title, county and branch number, and for municipal and school board offices insert the title and any district or seat number.*
- Type or print the political party affiliation or principle supported by you in five words or less on the third line. *Nonpartisan candidates may leave this line blank.*
- **Felony convictions: Your name cannot appear on the ballot if you have been convicted of a felony in any court in the United States for which you have not been pardoned. Please see footnote on page 1 for further information with respect to convictions for misdemeanors involving a violation of public trust. *These restrictions only apply to candidates for state and local office.***
- Your current address, including your municipality of residence for voting purposes, must be inserted on the fourth line. This must include your entire mailing address (**street and number, municipality where you receive mail)** *and* **the name of the municipality in which you reside and vote** (town, village, or city of __). If your address changes before the election, an amended Declaration of Candidacy must be filed with the filing officer. Wis. Stat. § 8.21. *Federal candidates are not required to provide this information, however an address for contact purposes is helpful.*
- Type or print your name on the fifth line as you want it to be printed on the official ballot. You may use your full legal name, former legal surname, or any combination of first name, middle name, and initials, surname or nickname with last name.

  Note: The Wisconsin Elections Commission has determined that, absent any evidence of an attempt to manipulate the electoral process, candidates are permitted to choose any form of their name, including nicknames, by which they want to appear on the ballot.

  No titles are permitted. In addition, names such as "Red" or "Skip" are permitted, but names which have an apparent electoral purpose or benefit, such as "Lower taxes," "None of the above" or "Lower Spending" are not permitted. It is also not permissible to add nicknames in quotes or parentheses. For example, John "Jack" Jones or John (Jack) Jones are not acceptable, but John Jones, Jack Jones or John Jack Jones are acceptable.

This form must be sworn to and signed in the presence of a notary public or other person authorized to administer oaths, such as a county or municipal clerk. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.21(2), 887.01(1).

***Information to be provided by the person administering the oath*:**

- The county where the oath was administered.
- The date the Declaration of Candidacy was signed and the oath administered.
- The signature and title of the person administering the oath. If signed by a notary public, the notary seal is required and the date the notary's commission expires must be listed.

All candidates for offices using the nomination paper process must file this form (*and all school district candidates must file the EL-162sd*) with the appropriate filing officer no later than the deadline for filing nomination papers. Wis. Stats. §§ 8.10 (5), 8.15 (4)(b), 8.20 (6), 8.21, 8.50 (3)(a), 120.06 (6)(b). Candidates nominated for local office at a caucus must file this form with their municipal clerk within 5 days of receiving notice of nomination. Wis. Stat. § 8.05 (l)(j).

Nomination Paper for Nonpartisan Office

Candidate's name (**required**); no titles may be used.	Candidate's residential address (**required**) ***No P.O. box addresses*** Street, fire, or rural route number; box number (if rural route); and name of street or road			Candidate's municipality for voting purposes (**required**) ○ Town ○ Village ○ City _____ (name of municipality)
Candidate's mailing address, including municipality for mailing purposes (**required** if different than residential address or voting municipality)	State (**required**) **WI**	Zip code	Type of election (**required**) ○ spring ○ special	Election date (**required**) *Do not use primary date.* Mo/Day/Year
Title of office (**required**)	Branch, district or seat number (**required** if applicable) ○ Branch ○ District ○ Seat	Name of jurisdiction or district in which candidate seeks office (**required**)		

I, the undersigned, request that the candidate, whose name and residential address are listed above, be placed on the ballot at the election described above as a candidate so that voters will have the opportunity to vote for ○ him or ○ her for the office listed above. I am eligible to vote in the jurisdiction or district in which the candidate named above seeks office. I have not signed the nomination paper of any other candidate for the same office at this election.

The municipality used for mailing purposes, when different than municipality of residence, is not sufficient. The name of the municipality of residence must always be listed.

Signatures of Electors	Printed Name of Electors	Residential Address (*No P.O. Box Addresses*) Street and Number or Rural Route (Rural address must also include box or fire no.)	Municipality of Residence Check the type and write the name of your municipality for voting purposes.	Date of Signing Mo/Day/Year
1.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
2.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
3.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
4.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
5.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
6.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
7.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
8.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
9.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	
10.			☐ Town ☐ Village ☐ City	

Certification of Circulator

I, _____ (Name of circulator) certify: I reside at _____ (Circulator's residential address – Include number, street, and municipality.).

I further certify I am a qualified elector of Wisconsin. I personally circulated this nomination paper and personally obtained each of the signatures on this paper. I know that the signers are electors of the jurisdiction or district the candidate seeks to represent. I know that each person signed the paper with full knowledge of its content on the date indicated opposite his or her name. I know their respective residences given. I intend to support this candidate. I am aware that falsifying this certification is punishable under Wis. Stat. § 12.13(3)(a).

_____ (Date)

_____ (Signature of circulator)

Page No.

Instructions for Preparing Nomination Papers for Nonpartisan Office

This is a sample nomination paper form. It conforms to the statutory requirements for nomination papers for nonpartisan office. All information concerning the candidate must be completed in full before circulating this form to obtain signatures of electors. All information concerning the signing electors and the circulator must be completed in full before filing with the appropriate filing officer. This form may be reproduced in any way. A candidate's picture and biographical data may also be added to this form. The Wisconsin Elections Commission has determined that no disclaimer or other attribution statement is required on nomination papers. Candidates are advised to send a sample of their completed form the filing officer for review before circulation.

Page Numbers Number each page consecutively, beginning with "1", before submitting to the filing officer. A space for page numbers has been provided in the lower right-hand corner of the form.

Candidate's Name Insert the candidate's name. A candidate may use his or her full legal name, or any combination of first name, middle name, and initials or nickname with last name. The Wisconsin Elections Commission has determined that, absent any evidence of an attempt to manipulate the electoral process, candidates are permitted to choose any form of their name, including nicknames, by which they want to appear on the ballot.

No titles are permitted. In addition, names such as "Red" or "Skip" are permitted, but names which have an apparent electoral purpose or benefit, such as "Lower taxes," "None of the above" or "Lower Spending" are not permitted. It is also not permissible to add nicknames in quotes or parentheses between first and last names. For example, John "Jack" Jones or John (Jack) Jones are not acceptable, but John Jones, Jack Jones or John Jack Jones are acceptable.

Candidate's Address Insert the candidate's residential address (*no P.O. Box addresses*) and the municipality for voting purposes. Indicate if the municipality of residence is a town, village, or city. If a candidate's mailing address is different from the residential address or voting municipality, a complete mailing address must also be given.

Date of Election Insert the date of the election. If the nomination paper is being circulated for a spring election, the date is the first Tuesday in April. If the election is a special nonpartisan election, the date of the special election must be listed.

Title of Office The name of the office must be listed **along with any branch, district, or seat number** (if applicable) that clearly identifies the office the candidate is seeking. If necessary, the name of the jurisdiction that identifies the office, such as Dane County Circuit Court Judge, Branch 3, must also be listed.

Name of Jurisdiction The nomination papers must also indicate the municipality or jurisdiction in which the signing electors are qualified to vote, as it relates to the office sought by the candidate named on the nomination paper. For example, for a statewide office the jurisdiction is the State of Wisconsin. Others may be the county, town, village, city, aldermanic district, school district, or town sanitary district, as required.

Signatures and Printed Name of Electors Only qualified electors of the jurisdiction or the district the candidate seeks to represent may sign the nomination papers. Each signer must also legibly print their name. Each elector must provide their **residential** address (*no P.O. Box addresses*), including any street, fire or rural route number, box number (if rural route) and street or road name, and municipality of residence. A post office box number alone does not show where the elector actually resides. The name of the Municipality of Residence must be listed for each signing elector and must clearly identify the town, village or city where the elector's voting residence is located. The date the elector signed the nomination paper, including month, day and year, must be indicated. Ditto marks that follow correct and complete address or date information are acceptable. The circulator may add any missing or illegible address or date information before the papers are filed with the filing officer.

Signature of Circulator The circulator should carefully read the language of the *Certification of Circulator*. **The circulator must personally present the nomination paper to each signer. The circulator must be a qualified elector of Wisconsin. The nomination paper may not be left unattended on counters or posted on bulletin boards.** The circulator's complete residential address including municipality of residence must be listed in the certification. **After** obtaining signatures of electors, the circulator must sign and date the certification.

Other Instructions Candidates and circulators should review Ch. Wisconsin Elections Commission §§ 2.05, 2.07, Wis. Adm. Code.

- *Original* nomination papers must be in the physical custody of the appropriate filing officer by the filing deadline. A postmark on the filing deadline is **not** sufficient. Nomination papers **cannot** be faxed to the filing officer. Ch. Wisconsin Elections Commission § 6.04(2), Wis. Adm. Code.
- Nomination papers with the required number of signatures must be filed with the appropriate filing officer **no later than 5:00 p.m.** on the first Tuesday in January (or the next day if the first Tuesday is a holiday) before the spring election. Special elections may have different filing deadlines. Check with the filing officer.
- In order for a candidate's name to be placed on the ballot, a candidate must file a *Campaign Registration Statement* (ETHCF-1), a *Declaration of Candidacy* (EL-162), and *Nomination Papers* (EL-169) containing the appropriate number of signatures for the office sought no later than the filing deadline. Wis. Stat. § 8.10(3). Candidates for state office and municipal judge must also file a statement of economic interests with the Wisconsin Ethics Commission by the third business day after the nomination paper filing deadline. Wis. Stat. § 19.43. If any one of these required forms is not filed by the deadline, the candidate's name will not be placed on the ballot. Wis. Stat. § 8.30.
- If a candidate or circulator has any questions, he or she should contact the filing officer.

Wisconsin Elections Commission

212 East Washington Avenue | Third Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

DATE: April 8, 2026

TO: Wisconsin Candidates and Political Parties

FROM: Wisconsin Elections Commission

SUBJECT: 2025 Act 126- Qualifications of Nomination Paper and Petition Circulators

Summary

On March 30, 2026, Act 126 was signed into law. Wis. Stat. §§ 8.10, 8.15, 8.20, 8.40, and 9.10 were amended to require a circulator of nomination papers and recall petitions to be a "qualified elector of this state." The key change was that in the past, circulators could be residents of other states who *would* have been eligible to vote in Wisconsin if they lived in the state. **Under the new law, circulators must be residents of Wisconsin for voting purposes**. Note: Circulators for presidential nomination papers and referenda petitions may still be adult U.S. citizens who are not Wisconsin residents but who would be otherwise qualified to vote under Wisconsin law.

The new law requires that all petition circulators be a "qualified elector." A qualified elector of Wisconsin is someone who:

- Is a U.S. citizen
- Is at least 18 years old
- Has resided at their residential address in Wisconsin for at least 28 consecutive days with no present intent to move
- Is not currently serving a felony conviction, including incarceration, parole, probation, or extended supervision
- Has not been adjudicated to be incompetent with a finding that they do not understand the voting process
- Has not made a bet or wager on the result of the election

This means individuals who are not Wisconsin residents, or individuals who reside in Wisconsin but are disqualified from voting, cannot serve as a circulator. Specifically, circulators must have lived at their Wisconsin residential address for at least 28 days.

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners
Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Don M. Millis | Carrie Riepl | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

Administrator
Meagan Wolfe

On April 6, 2026, the Wisconsin Elections Commission held a public meeting to approve this memo and updated nomination paper templates to reflect this change in the law. The forms can be found on the WEC's website at https://elections.wi.gov/forms.

Candidates and petitioners must follow the new law immediately. **Any person who is circulating nomination papers for the 2026 Fall Election cycle must reside in Wisconsin and must be qualified to vote in Wisconsin.**

Legal Analysis

On March 30, 2026, Wisconsin 2026 Act 126 required that all circulators reside in Wisconsin and must be qualified to vote in Wisconsin. The law includes circulators of nomination papers, and recall petitions.

Circulators for presidential nomination papers and referendum petitions do not need to be Wisconsin residents. However, they must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old, and otherwise eligible to vote under Wisconsin law.

While circulators are not required to be registered to vote, they must be *qualified* to vote. Therefore, if an individual is under 18, not a U.S. citizen, serving any portion of a felony sentence, or is otherwise disqualified from voting in Wisconsin, they may **not** serve as a circulator.

Qualified Wisconsin electors **can** serve as circulators. Wis. Stat. 6.02 defines a **qualified Wisconsin Elector**:

> *(1) Every U.S. citizen age 18 or older who has resided in an election district or ward for 28 consecutive days before any election where the citizen offers to vote is an eligible elector.*
>
> *(2) Any U.S. citizen age 18 or older who moves within this state later than 28 days before an election shall vote at his or her previous ward or election district if the person is otherwise qualified. If the elector can comply with the 28-day residence requirement at the new address and is otherwise qualified, he or she may vote in the new ward or election district.*

Disqualified Wisconsin electors cannot serve as circulators. Wis. Stat. 6.03 defines a **disqualified Wisconsin Elector**:

> *(1) The following persons shall not be allowed to vote in any election and any attempt to vote shall be rejected:*
>
> *(a) Any person who is incapable of understanding the objective of the elective process or who is under guardianship, unless the court has determined that the person is competent to exercise the right to vote.*

(b) Any person convicted of treason, felony or bribery, unless the person's right to vote is restored through a pardon or under s. 304.078 (3).

(2) No person shall be allowed to vote in any election in which the person has made or become interested, directly or indirectly, in any bet or wager depending upon the result of the election.

(3) No person may be denied the right to register to vote or the right to vote by reason that the person is alleged to be incapable of understanding the objective of the elective process unless the person has been adjudicated incompetent in this state. If a determination of incompetency of the person has already been made, or if a determination of limited incompetency has been made that does not include a specific finding that the subject is competent to exercise the right to vote, and a guardian has been appointed as a result of any such determination, then no determination of incapacity of understanding the objective of the elective process is required unless the guardianship is terminated or modified under s. 54.64.

Action Items for Candidates and Circulators

Effective immediately, all circulators must follow the new law.

The first day potential candidates for the 2026 Fall Primary and General Election may start circulating nomination papers is **April 15, 2026.** Candidates are responsible for ensuring all their circulators comply with the new law.

Use the new nomination paper template.

The WEC has approved new nomination paper templates. The new templates include updated "Certification of Circulator" language. The new language clearly states that the circulator is a qualified elector of the State of Wisconsin. Please use the new templates when preparing your nomination papers for the 2026 Fall Primary and General Election. If you have already submitted your nomination papers to the WEC or your local filing officer for review, we encourage you to modify your templates to include the new "Certification of Circulator" language.

Challenges to the old template.

During the WEC staff's facial review of nomination papers, staff will not check that each circulator is a qualified elector. The WEC staff will also not strike signatures if a candidate uses the old nomination paper template. However, the signatures must be valid, which means that the circulator must provide information showing that the circulator has a Wisconsin residential address. If a circulator provides an address outside of Wisconsin, all signatures on the page will be struck.

Candidates and recall petitioners **could face challenges** to their signatures and petitions if they use the old template or use circulators who are not qualified electors. The Commission cannot pre-judge challenges and will make determinations on the outcome of any such challenges at its June 9, 2026 ballot access meeting.

4. Communication with Candidates.

This communication is being sent to political parties who have ballot access status. Most candidates on the 2026 Fall Primary and General Election ballot file their nomination papers with the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC). However, WEC encourages county, municipal, and school district clerks, who are filing officers for the 2026 Fall Primary and General Election, to contact candidates and parties in their area to inform them of the law change ahead of the April 15 circulation period.

5. Questions?

Please direct any questions to our Help Desk at elections@wi.gov or 608-261-2028.