

Statewide Candidate Filing Guide

2020

Robert B. Evnen
Nebraska Secretary of State



This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.

Table of Contents

Offices for 2020 Elections	4
Which offices are up for election in 2020?.....	4
What are the qualifications for public office?	5
Can I run for ____ office and ____ office at the same time?.....	6
Can a former felon hold public office?	7
How do I run for President?.....	8
When, Where & How Much?	9
When does the candidate filing period start for 2020?	9
Where do I file?	9
How much are the filing fees?	10
Do you take debit/credit card?	10
To whom do I make a check out to?	10
Do I need to pay a filing fee if I am a write-in candidate?	10
If I drop out of a race, can I get a refund?	10
Filling out the Filing Form	11
What is a pronunciation or spoken spelling?	11
Do I need to get my candidate filing form notarized?	11
Can I email/fax my candidate filing form?.....	12
How will I know that my candidate filing is accepted?.....	12
What happens if my filing is rejected?	12
Petitioning on the Ballot.....	13
Petitioning for partisan offices.....	13
Petitioning for nonpartisan offices.....	13
When is there a vacancy on the ballot?	13
Where do I get candidate petitions?.....	13
What are the rules regarding petition circulation?	14

How many signatures do I need to collect? (Neb. Rev. Stat. §32-618): 15

When is the deadline to file a completed petition? 16

What happens after filing the petition? 16

How will my name appear on the ballot? 16

Where can I circulate my petition? 16

Write-In Candidates..... 17

 If I file as a write-in, will my name be placed on the ballot? 17

 Will a write-in vote still count if my name is spelled wrong? 17

 How are write-in votes counted?..... 17

 Where do I file a write-in affidavit? 17

Withdrawing as a Candidate..... 18

 Can I withdraw before a primary or general election?..... 18

 What happens if I miss the withdrawal deadline? 18

Campaigns..... 19

 Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission (NADC) Contact Information..... 19

 Do I need to file a Statement of Financial Interest (C-1) form with the NADC? 19

 Where can I find the C-1 form?..... 20

 Can I email/fax my C-1 form?..... 20

 What happens if I miss the deadline to file a C-1? 20

 Is it too early to campaign/put out yard signs? 20

 Where can I put campaign materials?..... 20

 Is there a conflict of interest? 20

 What is electioneering? 21

 Can I campaign at the polls? 21

 Where can I get a list of people who were sent an early voting ballot? 21

 Where can I get a list of registered voters?..... 22

Offices for 2020 Elections

Which offices are up for election in 2020?

Partisan Offices: *A candidate must be registered to vote as a member of one of the three recognized political parties in Nebraska (Republican, Democratic, Libertarian).*

Note: A candidate for a partisan office cannot change their political party from one party to another party after December 6, 2019 per Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-612](#). This does not include going from having no political party affiliation (registered as nonpartisan) to declaring a political party affiliation.

Partisan statewide offices for election in 2020 include:

- United States Senator
- U.S. Representative in Congress (Congressional Districts 1, 2 & 3)
- Public Service Commissioner (District 2)

Nonpartisan Offices: *A candidate runs for office without regard to their political party or lack thereof. A candidate's political party will not be noted on the ballot.*

Nonpartisan statewide offices for election in 2020 include:

- Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska (Districts 1 & 2)
- State Board of Education (Districts 1, 2, 3, & 4)
- Member of the Legislature (Odd-numbered districts)
- Community Colleges
- Learning Community Coordinating Council (Even-numbered districts)
- Natural Resources Districts
- Public Power (& Irrigation) Districts
- Metropolitan Utilities District
- Education Service Units (Even-numbered districts)
- Reclamation Districts

What are the qualifications for public office?

Different public offices have different qualifications. Below are the qualifications for certain statewide offices.

Elective Offices	References and Statutes	Qualifications for Filing for Office
U. S. Senator	US Constitution Article 1 §3 Nebraska Revised Statute §32-502	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Nebraska resident when elected •Registered voter in Nebraska •United States citizen for 9 years •At least 30 years of age
House of Representatives	US Constitution Article 1 §2 Nebraska Revised Statute §32-503	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Nebraska resident when elected •Registered voter in Nebraska •United States citizen for 7 years •At least 25 years of age
Public Service Commissioner	Nebraska Constitution Article IV §20 Nebraska Revised Statute §32-509 Nebraska Revised Statute §75-101	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •United States citizen •Nebraska resident •Registered voter in NE affiliated with a political party
Legislature	Nebraska Constitution Article III §§ 8 & 9 Nebraska Revised Statute §32-508	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Resident of the district for 1 year prior to election
Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-510	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered voter of the district
State Board of Education	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-511 Nebraska Revised Statute §79-313	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •United States citizen •Nebraska resident •Registered voter in Nebraska •Resident of the district for 6 months
Public Power Districts > \$40 million <i>(Dawson PPD, Loup River PPD, NPPD, Norris PPD, OPPD, Southern PPD)</i>	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-512 Nebraska Revised Statute §70-610 Nebraska Revised Statute §70-619	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered voter residing within the chartered territory or subdivision; OR •A retail customer duly certified
Public Power Districts < \$40 million	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-512 Nebraska Revised Statute §70-610 Nebraska Revised Statute §70-619	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered voter residing within the chartered territory or subdivision; OR •A retail customer duly certified
Metropolitan Utility Districts	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-540 Nebraska Revised Statute §14-2102	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered voter of the district •One member (not in city limits)
Reclamation Districts	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-516 Nebraska Revised Statute §46-516 Nebraska Revised Statute §46-530	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Qualified elector of the district
Learning Community Coordinating Council	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-555.01 Nebraska Revised Statute §32-546.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Qualified elector of the subcouncil district
Community Colleges	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-514 Nebraska Revised Statute §85-1512	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered voter of the district or area •Resident of the district for 6 months
Natural Resource Districts	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-513 Nebraska Revised Statute §2-3214	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered voter of the subdistrict or; •If an at-large candidate, resident of the district
Educational Service Unit Board Members	Nebraska Revised Statute §32-515 Nebraska Revised Statute §79-1217	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Registered voter residing within the ESU area

Can I run for ____ office and ____ office at the same time?

Certain high offices cannot hold or run for more than one office at a time.

HIGH OFFICE

Offices that cannot hold more than one office, or run for more than one office at a time
(Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-603](#))

United States House of Representatives
United States Senate
Governor
Lieutenant Governor
Secretary of State
Attorney General
State Treasurer
State Auditor of Public Accounts
Legislature
Public Service Commission
State Board of Education
Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska

OTHER HIGH OFFICES

High offices that you can hold one or more low office at the same time

Can run for 1 high and 1 or more low offices, but not 2 high offices at the same time

Community College (85-1512 May not hold office on any other board relating to education)
County Office (including Weed Board)
City Officer
Class I School District Board Member
-Including those elected at the annual board meeting
Learning Community Coordinating Council
School Board Member

LOW OFFICES

Airport Authority
Educational Service Unit
Metropolitan Utilities District
Natural Resources District
Public Power District
Reclamation District
Township Officer
SID Board Member
Village Board of Trustees

Can a former felon hold public office?

A person who was convicted of a felony cannot hold office unless his or her civil rights have been restored in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. [§29-112](#).

If the felony was committed in Nebraska, he or she would need to be pardoned by the State of Nebraska Board of Pardons: www.pardons.nebraska.gov/

The civil right to hold office is separate from the civil right to vote which is restored two years after the sentence is completed, including any parole (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-313](#)).

How do I run for President?

Qualifications to run for President and Vice President of the United States:

- Natural born citizen
- 14-year resident within the United States, and
- At least 35 years old. (U.S. Constitution [Article 2 section 1](#))

There are two methods by which presidential candidates are included on the primary election ballot in Nebraska. Both processes are outlined in state statute as indicated below.

Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-614](#) provides that the Secretary of State places candidates who are “generally advocated or recognized as candidates in national news media” on the primary election ballot in Nebraska. The Secretary of State’s decision typically occurs in the middle of February during the election year.

In addition, an alternative petition process (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-613](#)) allows candidates to submit at least 100 signatures from registered voters of the appropriate political party from each Congressional District in the state. If there are sufficient signatures, with the candidate’s consent, the candidate is also placed on the primary election ballot in Nebraska.

Individuals may also file as a write-in candidate by completing the following forms:

- Completed and notarized write-in affidavit
- The written consent of the designated vice-presidential candidate
- The names, addresses, and written consent of the five persons who will represent the write-in candidate as presidential elector candidates

For additional information or questions on presidential candidates’ names on the primary election ballot in Nebraska, or to request petitions for circulation, please call (402) 471-2555 or email sos.elect@nebraska.gov.

When, Where & How Much?

When does the candidate filing period start for 2020?

Filing for office starts as soon as December 2. For offices that appear on the primary election ballot, the incumbent deadline is February 18 and the non-incumbent deadline it is March 2.

For offices that only appear on the general election ballot, the incumbent filing deadline is July 15 and the non-incumbent deadline is August 1.

Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-111](#) defines an incumbent as a “person whom the canvassers or the courts declare elected to an elective office or who has been appointed to an elective office.” If you hold any elected office, you are an incumbent, and the incumbent deadline applies, even if you are filing for an office other than the one you currently have.

Where do I file?

Statewide offices file with the Nebraska Secretary of State’s office. These include:

- United States Senator
- U.S. Representative in Congress
- Public Service Commissioner
- Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska
- State Board of Education
- Member of the Legislature
- Community Colleges
- Learning Community Coordinating Council
- Natural Resources Districts
- Public Power (& Irrigation) Districts
- Metropolitan Utilities District
- Education Service Units
- Reclamation Districts

If you wish to file in-person, you can go to the Elections Division office at:

1221 “N” St. Ste. 103
Lincoln, NE 68508

If you wish to have a picture taken with the Secretary of State after you have filed your candidate paperwork at the Elections Division, you must schedule an appointment by calling (402) 471-2554.

How much are the filing fees?

FILING FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2020

OFFICE	SALARY(\$)	FILING FEE (\$)
United States Senator.....	174,000.....	1,740
Representative in Congress.....	174,000.....	1,740
Public Service Commissioner	75,000.....	750
Member of the Legislature	12,000.....	120
Board of Regents.....		25
State Board of Education		25
Public Power & Irrigation Districts (OPPD, NPPD, Southern, Loup River, Norris, & Dawson Power Districts)		25
Metropolitan Utilities District.....		25
Public Power & Irrigation District (all other power districts)		10
Reclamation Districts		10
Community Colleges.....		No filing fee
Natural Resource District		No filing fee
Educational Service Units		No filing fee
Learning Community Coordinating Council.....		No filing fee
County Offices		1% of salary
Municipal Offices (if salary exceeds 500 dollars)		1% of salary
Delegate to Convention		No filing fee

Do you take debit/credit card?

No. Filing fees can only be paid with a check, a money order, or cash.

To whom do I make a check out to?

“Secretary of State”

Do I need to pay a filing fee if I am a write-in candidate?

Declared write-in candidates are required to pay the appropriate filing fee for the office that they seek when they file their write-in affidavit.

If I drop out of a race, can I get a refund?

A refund is only given if a candidate dies prior to an election, in which case the spouse of the candidate can request a refund prior to the election. (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-608](#))

Filling out the Filing Form

You can find candidate filing forms for statewide election offices on the Secretary of State's website: sos.nebraska.gov or by stopping by the Elections Division at 1221 N. Street Ste. 103 Lincoln, NE 68508.

To successfully complete a candidate filing form, you must fill out all of the blanks in the required information box including checking the box stating you do not owe civil penalties.

Fill out any information in the optional section that you would like to have included on the public candidate filing list.

Sign the form in front of a notary public or election official. Double check your filing form, making sure there are no clerical errors that might delay the effective date of your filing.

Send the original, notarized form along with any required filing fee to:

**Secretary of State's Office
Attention: Elections Division
P.O. Box 94608
Lincoln, NE 68509**

What is a pronunciation or spoken spelling?

If you were to explain in words how to say your name, how would you do that? We have machines at the polling places that read the ballot out loud for persons with limited vision. We want to make sure your name is said correctly.

*For Example:
Sue Jahn = Sue Hahn (rhymes with fawn)
William Mishaud = mee-SHO ('d' is silent)
Tanya Monte =TAWN –yuh (not TAN) mahn-TEA*

Do I need to get my candidate filing form notarized?

Yes, you must sign your candidate filing form in front of either an election official (such as a county clerk) or a notary public. (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§23-1307](#)) The Elections Division can notarize your signature if you come to file in-person.

Can I email/fax my candidate filing form?

You cannot email your candidate filing form; however, you can fax your candidate filing form (and a copy of your filing fee, if applicable) to our fax machine: (402) 471-7834. The fax must be received in our office on or before the deadline. You are also required to mail your original filing form and that must be postmarked on or before the deadline and received in the Secretary of State's office no later than seven days after the filing deadline. (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-606](#))

How will I know that my candidate filing is accepted?

Once your candidate filing is accepted, our office will send you a confirmation letter with a copy of your filing.

You can also check the list of candidates who have filed on our website.

What happens if my filing is rejected?

A candidate filing form can be rejected for several reasons. Some rejection examples:

- The registered voter's name listed on your filing form does not match the name listed on your voter registration.
- The address listed on your filing form does not match the address listed on your voter registration.
- The address listed on your filing form is not within the district for which you are filing.
- The checkbox was not checked to state that you do not owe civil penalties pursuant to the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.
- The candidate filing form was incorrectly notarized.
- The candidate filing form was not signed by the candidate in front of a Notary Public.
- The candidate filing form was returned after the filing deadline.
- The applicable filing fee was not included with the candidate filing form.

Our office will send a letter detailing why your filing was rejected along with the original filing form and any filing fees that had been submitted.

If the reason for rejection was not due to a missed filing deadline, you can file a new candidate filing form with our office. Filing deadlines still apply.

Petitioning on the Ballot

Petitioning for partisan offices

Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-616](#) states any person may petition on the ballot who was not registered to vote with a party affiliation on or after March 1 and before the general election in the calendar year of the general election. If there is a vacancy (created by someone ceasing to be a candidate), the vacancy shall only be filled by the political party per Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-627](#). A vacancy is not created when no one filed for a partisan office in the primary. You must not have been registered with a recognized political party between the start of the filing period and the end of the filing period.

Petitioning for nonpartisan offices

Persons may only petition on to the general election ballot if the vacancy requirements described in Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-625](#) are met. If a nominated candidate declines their nomination, then you may petition on the ballot for the general election, even if you lost the nomination in the primary. If there were no candidate filings for the office, you may petition on the ballot.

When is there a vacancy on the ballot?

A vacancy on the ballot for the general election exists when:

- a) The candidates who have filed number less than twice the number of vacancies AND a candidate who filed for the primary ceases to be a candidate or declines the certificate of nomination
- b) No one filed for the position (nonpartisan races only)
- c) One of the candidates who received a certificate of nomination from the primary for a nonpartisan office is ineligible, disqualified, deceased, or for any other reason unable to assume the office for which he or she was a candidate

A vacancy does NOT exist on the ballot when:

- a) No person was nominated for the office on any particular political party's partisan ballot (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-627](#))

Where do I get candidate petitions?

If you are interested in petitioning onto the ballot, you can contact our office to receive the correct petition forms. Our office requests samples of your candidate petition prior to circulation so we are aware that your petition is circulating.

What are the rules regarding petition circulation?

There are rules for the individuals who circulate the petition forms as well as those who sign the forms.

Rules for circulators of petition forms are as follows:

- 1. Circulators must be at least eighteen years of age.**
- 2. Circulators must witness each signature added to the petition he or she is circulating.**
A circulator may not leave the petition at a location and return later to collect a completed form, as circulators are required to read the object statement on the petition to each signer; they also will have to sign an oath attesting to the fact that they did this.
- 3. Circulators may not offer or give anything of value to a potential signer to get them to sign the petition;** it is a crime to do so, with a penalty of up to a year in jail and /or a \$1000 fine.
- 4. Circulators may be paid or may be a volunteer.** If the circulator is paid to circulate the petition, he or she must use a petition form that discloses to the signer that they are being paid. If the circulator is a volunteer, the form must contain the volunteer disclosure.
- 5. When the circulator is finished collecting signatures on the petition form, he or she must sign the oath on the form in the presence of a notary public.** The circulator should read the oath carefully, as there are criminal penalties for falsely swearing to the oath.

Once a petition form is completed, the circulator should return the petition form to the sponsor(s) of the petition. While the Secretary of State will accept the completed petition and forward it to the sponsors, it is preferable that the petition be returned directly to the sponsors.

Rules for signers of petition forms are as follows:

- 1. The signer must be a registered voter at the time he or she signs the petition;** by signing the petition, the signer is stating that he or she is a registered voter.
- 2. A signer may not sign any name other than his or her own to a petition.**
- 3. A signer may not sign a petition more than once.**
- 4. The signer may not accept anything of value for signing the petition.**

If a signer makes a mistake as they sign the petition, it is permissible to cross out the incorrect signature line without affecting the other signatures on the petition.

How many signatures do I need to collect? (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-618](#)):

Elective Offices	Number of Signatures Required
U. S. Senator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,000 signatures • 750 signatures must be collected from registered voters in each of the three congressional districts in the state
House of Representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% of registered voters in the applicable district who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Public Service Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% of registered voters in the applicable district who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the regent district who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 1,000
State Board of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Public Power Districts > \$40 million <i>(Dawson PPD, Loup River PPD, NPPD, Norris PPD, OPPD, Southern PPD)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Public Power Districts < \$40 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Metropolitan Utility Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Reclamation Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Learning Community Coordinating Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Community Colleges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Natural Resource Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000
Educational Service Unit Board Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% of registered voters of the applicable political subdivision who voted for Governor in 2018 • Not to exceed 2,000

When is the deadline to file a completed petition?

The deadline to file a petition to place your name on the ballot is September 1, 2020. Along with the petition, you must pay the appropriate filing fee for the office you are seeking to run for.

What happens after filing the petition?

After you file a petition, our office will complete the signature verification process. If you submit a successful petition, our office will notify you within three days after the signatures are verified that you have received the nomination. You must file an acceptance of nomination with our office within five days of being notified. Once the acceptance is filed, your name will appear on the ballot (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-617](#)).

How will my name appear on the ballot?

Your name will be placed on the ballot as listed on your petition and the words “BY PETITION” will be printed after your name (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-617](#))

Where can I circulate my petition?

There are few specific restrictions as to where a circulator may gather signatures. There may be time and place restrictions on public property so as not to disrupt activities at those locations. Circulation on private property is at the discretion of the property owner.

Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-1524](#) restricts petitions from being circulated within 200 feet of a polling place or building that is set up for voters to cast ballots. This includes county election official’s offices during early voting.

Write-In Candidates

A write-in candidate is a candidate who did not file with our office as a candidate to be placed on the ballot but can be nominated or elected.

If I file as a write-in, will my name be placed on the ballot?

Your name will not be placed on the ballot. Every office for election is required to have a write-in line below the filed candidates on the ballot for that race. Individuals choosing to vote for you will need to write your name on the write-in line and shade in the corresponding oval (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-816](#)).

Will a write-in vote still count if my name is spelled wrong?

Write-in candidate names that are misspelled are still counted as long as it is a reasonably close spelling of the last name (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-1005](#)).

How are write-in votes counted?

Write-in votes are not counted individually unless the total number of write-ins total less than five percent of the vote for such office in the county and the election commissioner or county clerk believes that such vote will not impact the outcome of the election. In that case, the number of write-in votes for that office may be counted and listed together as one total (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-1008](#)).

Where do I file a write-in affidavit?

You can file a write-in affidavit for any public office. You can find the write-in affidavit on the Secretary of State's website: sos.nebraska.gov or at the Elections Division at 1221 N. Street Ste. 103 Lincoln, NE 68508.

You must file a write-in affidavit by the following dates:

Primary write-in candidate deadline: May 1, 2020

General write-in candidate deadline: October 23, 2020

You must include the appropriate filing fee with the write-in affidavit.

Withdrawing as a Candidate

Can I withdraw before a primary or general election?

A candidate who wishes to withdraw before an election must do so before the following dates:

Candidates who file for the primary election: March 2, 2020

Candidates who file for the general election: August 3, 2020

To withdraw, you must fill out a Candidate Withdrawal form and submit it to the Secretary of State's office. This form is available on our website on the "Information for Candidates" page.

What happens if I miss the withdrawal deadline?

Candidates who miss the withdraw deadline will appear on the ballot.

However, if you win the primary nomination, you may choose to fill out the Affidavit of Declination. The deadline to file an affidavit of declination is September 1 (Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-623](#)).

If you miss the declination of nomination deadline, your name will appear on the general election ballot.

Campaigns

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission (NADC) Contact Information

Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission

Centre Terrace Bldg.
1225 L St. Suite 400
P.O. Box 95086
Lincoln, NE 68509
Phone: (402) 471-2522

Neb. Rev. Stat. [§49-1493](#), [§49-1494](#)

Do I need to file a Statement of Financial Interest (C-1) form with the NADC?

Elective Offices	C-1 Required
U. S. Senator	X
House of Representatives	X
Public Service Commissioner	✓
Legislature	✓
Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska	✓
State Board of Education	✓
Public Power Districts > \$40 million (Dawson PPD, Loup River PPD, NPPD, Norris PPD, OPPD, Southern PPD)	✓
Public Power Districts < \$40 million	✓
Metropolitan Utility Districts	X
Reclamation Districts	X
Learning Community Coordinating Council	X
Community Colleges	X
Natural Resource Districts	X
Educational Service Unit Board Members	X

If you submit a candidate filing form before the end of the previous year before the election, you must submit both a C-1 from the year previous of the election and the election year to the NADC, regardless if you ran or held public office in the previous year.

U.S. Senator and U.S. House of Representatives do not need to file a C-1 form to file for office. Candidates for those offices should contact the Federal Election Commission (FEC) for campaign-related questions: www.fec.gov

Where can I find the C-1 form?

You can find the C-1 form on the NADC's website: www.nadc.nebraska.gov

Can I email/fax my C-1 form?

The NADC accepts C-1 forms by hard copy, fax, and email. It must be received by the NADC on or before March 2, 2020.

What happens if I miss the deadline to file a C-1?

There is a five day grace period before a candidate is removed from the ballot. The NADC will accept C-1 forms up until March 9, 2020. If your C-1 is not filed by that date, your name will not appear on the primary election ballot. Neb. Rev. Stat. [§49-1494\(5\)](#)

Is it too early to campaign/put out yard signs?

There is nothing in the Election Act that states when people can start campaigning. Double-check your local ordinances for any restrictions.

Contact the NADC if you have any questions.

Where can I put campaign materials?

Subject to any local ordinance, a person may display yard signs on private property within two hundred feet of a polling place or building designated for voters to cast ballots if the property is not under common ownership with the property on which the polling place or building is located.

Is there a conflict of interest?

Questions regarding conflicts of interest are directed to the NADC.

What is electioneering?

Electioneering is defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-1524](#) which states:

(1) For purposes of this section:

(a) Electioneering means the deliberate, visible display or audible or physical dissemination of information for the purpose of advocating for or against:

- (i) Any candidate on the ballot for the election at which such display or dissemination is occurring;
- (ii) Any elected officeholder of a state constitutional office or federal office at the time of the election at which such display or dissemination is occurring;
- (iii) Any political party on the ballot for the election at which such display or dissemination is occurring; or
- (iv) Any measure on the ballot for the election at which such display or dissemination is occurring; and

(b) Information includes:

- (i) Such a candidate's name, likeness, logo, or symbol;
- (ii) Such a ballot measure's number, title, subject matter, logo, or symbol;
- (iii) A button, hat, pencil, pen, shirt, sign, or sticker containing information prohibited by this section;
- (iv) Audible information prohibited by this section; and
- (v) Literature or any writing or drawing referring to a candidate, officeholder, or ballot measure described in subdivision (a) of this subsection.

Can I campaign at the polls?

No. Electioneering is prohibited within two hundred feet of a polling place. This include the county election official's office during the early voting period.

Where can I get a list of people who were sent an early voting ballot?

Campaigns can request a list of those who have voted early in statewide elections by contacting the Secretary of State's office (sos.elect@nebraska.gov). The early voting list is public record pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. [§84-712.01](#) and does not include any information that is considered confidential under Neb. Rev. Stat. [§84-712.05](#).

Attorney General Opinion [No. 90035](#) (October 4, 1990) explicitly addresses that applications for absentee ballots are public records and are open to examination until, following the canvass of votes cast, they are deposited in the office of the count clerk or election commissioner for safekeeping.

Where can I get a list of registered voters?

Campaigns may request a Nebraska Voter Registration file from our office completing the Public Service Request Form for the Nebraska Central Voter Registration System. The cost of the file is \$500 and can be purchased with cash or a check/money order made out to the Secretary of State.

The file shall contain all relevant registrant information including limited to: name, residential and mailing address, phone number, registration status, voter ID, date of birth, precinct, polling place, party affiliation, district details, and voter history. The file shall be used solely for the purposes related to elections, political activities, voter registration, law enforcement, or jury selection. The file shall not be used for commercial purposes.

Campaigns may also contact the county clerk or election commissioner for a voter file if they do not need the whole Nebraska file. County election officials can charge up to three cents a name according to Neb. Rev. Stat. [§32-330](#).