

CANDIDATE FILING GENERAL INFORMATION

General Candidacy Requirements

- Candidates must be 21 years old on Election Day (see age requirement below for specific offices) [N.C. Const. Art VI. Sec. 6.](#)
- Candidates must be registered voters at the time they file for office. If they are not already registered to vote, they can register at the same time they file their notice of candidacy.
- Candidates must be registered with the political party whose nomination they seek for 90 days at the time of filing the Notice of Candidacy. (If the candidate registered to vote prior to filing and resided in another county in North Carolina-please contact the previous county and verify whether they have been affiliated with the recognized political party for 90 days as of the date of filing the notice of candidacy).
- The notice of candidacy includes a question about any previous felony convictions and will require disclosure of any convictions at time of filing the notice or within 48 hours of being notified that the felony disclosure section was left blank. The candidate must disclose **all** previous felony convictions unless the conviction was dismissed as a result of reversal on appeal or resulted in a pardon of innocence or expungement.
- A candidate may not file for more than one office in the same election.

Filing Fee

Pursuant to [N.C.G.S. § 163-107\(a\)](#) the filing fee is “1% of the annual salary of the office sought.” As a result, there is no rounding up or down of filing fees, because that could result in the filing fee paid by the candidate being more or less than 1 percent of the salary. The salary of any office that is the basis for calculating the filing fee is the starting salary for the office, rather than the salary received by the incumbent, if different. If no starting salary can be determined for the office, then the salary used for calculation is the salary of the incumbent, as of January 1 of the election year. Candidates must file their organizational report with the board office no later than 10 days after the candidate files a notice of candidacy. [See N.C.G.S. § 163-278.9.](#) The organizational report must disclose all contributions, expenditures and loans made on behalf of a candidate. A filing fee paid by the candidate out of their personal funds – or paid for by any other person out of their personal funds – is an in-kind contribution that should be disclosed on the organizational disclosure report. If the candidate organized a political committee and filed an organizational report prior to candidate filing, then the payment of the filing fee should be disclosed on the next due report. All contributions received by a candidate committee must comply with the following:

Contributions LESS THAN \$50

- May be made in cash. N.C.G.S. § 163-278.14(b).

- The committee must collect and retain the name and complete mailing address of the contributor. N.C.G.S. § 163-278.14(b)

Contributions GREATER THAN \$50

- Must be in the form of a check, credit card charge, draft, money order, debit or other method subject to written verification. N.C.G.S. § 163-278.14(b).
- Must specifically designate the intended contribute chosen by the contributor. N.C.G.S. § 163-278.14(b).
- In addition to the name and address, the committee must collect the (1) the job title or profession of the contributor; and (2) the contributor's employer's name or employer's specific field of business activity. N.C.G.S. § 163-278.11(a)(1).

As a reminder, if the filing fee is paid by the candidate out of their personal account this is considered as an in-kind contribution and should be listed on the CRO-1210 (Contributions from Individuals) & CRO-1510 (In-Kind Contributions) on the next report due.

Withdrawal of the Notice of Candidacy Form

Any person who has filed a notice of candidacy for an office has the right to withdraw at any time prior to the close of business on the third business day prior to the date on which the right to file for that office expires. The candidate must complete a *Withdrawal of Notice of Candidacy* form and **is entitled to a refund of the filing fee**. The deadline to withdraw is at **5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2023**. The name of any candidate who does not withdraw by the deadline shall be printed on the primary ballot. Any votes received by that candidate shall be counted. The filing fee will not be refunded.]

State Board of Election's Candidate Filing Location

The State Board of Elections will be conducting candidate filing at the NC State Fairgrounds-Martin Building. The address is 1025 Blue Ridge Road (Gate 9) Raleigh, NC 27607. Any candidate who is interested in filing for an office that falls under the state board's jurisdiction must file the notice of candidacy and pay the filing fee in person before the candidate filing period. Alternatively, the form and filing fee may be delivered by mail or a mail courier service, but must be received before the candidate filing deadline.