



Becoming A Candidate in Manatee County

2018

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2018 ELECTION DATES

ELECTION	ELECTION DATE	BOOK CLOSING
Primary Election	August 28, 2018	July 30, 2018
General Election	November 6, 2018	October 9, 2018
School Board Special Election	March 20, 2018	February 19, 2018
Town of Longboat Key General	March 20, 2018	February 19, 2018
City of Anna Maria	November 6, 2018	October 9, 2018
City of Bradenton	November 6, 2018	October 9, 2018
City of Bradenton Beach	November 6, 2018	October 9, 2018
City of Holmes Beach	November 6, 2018	October 9, 2018
City of Palmetto	November 6, 2018	October 9, 2018
Trailer Estates Park & Rec.	December 4, 2018	"Owner of Record" 30 days prior to election

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2018 CANDIDATES

PETITION DUE DATE	QUALIFYING WEEK
Noon, May 21, 2018	Noon, June 18, 2018 – Noon, June 22, 2018

DEFINITIONS

- Filing Officer:** The election official to whom a candidate submits his qualifying papers and campaign reports: for county-wide offices, the filing officer is the county supervisor of elections; for multi-county, state or federal offices, the filing officer is the Florida Department of State (Sections 99.061 (1), (2)).
- In-kind Contribution:** A giving of goods, services or anything having attributable monetary value to a campaign, the value of which is determined by the person making the contribution (Sections 106.011, 106.055).
- Non-partisan office:** An office for which a candidate is prohibited from campaigning or qualifying for election or retention in office based upon party affiliation (Section 97.021(17)).
- Partisan Office:** An office for which a candidate is not prohibited from campaigning or qualifying for election to office based upon party affiliation.
- Petition Process:** A method of qualifying for office which requires obtaining a pre-determined number of voter signatures on petition cards (Section 99.095).
- Political Advertisement:** A paid expression in any communications media, whether radio, television, newspaper, magazine, periodical, campaign literature, direct mail, or display or by means other than the spoken word in direct conversation, which supports or opposes any candidate, elected public official or issue. (Section 106.011(17)).
- Qualifying:** The dates set by law during which the final paperwork required for candidacy is filed with the candidate's filing officer (Section 99.061).

WHAT IS A CANDIDATE?

A candidate is defined in 97.021(4) & 106.011(3), Florida Statutes, as any person who:

- Seeks to qualify for nomination or election by means of a petitioning process;
- Seeks to qualify for election as a write-in candidate;
- Receives contributions or makes expenditures or gives his or her consent for any other person to receive contributions or make expenditures with a view to bringing about his or her nomination or election to, or retention in, public office;

WHO CAN BE A CANDIDATE?

Candidates must be registered voters in Florida. Those seeking a partisan office may not have been a registered member of any other political party for 365 days before the beginning of qualifying preceding the general election for which the person seeks to qualify (June 18, 2017).

If required, one's current position or office must be resigned under the "resign to run" law and in accordance with section 99.012(3), Florida Statutes.

Resign-to-Run

No officer may qualify as a candidate for another state, district, county, or municipal public office if the terms or any part thereof run concurrently with each other, without resigning from the office he or she presently holds. The resignation is **irrevocable**.

The written resignation must be submitted at least **ten days** prior to the first day of qualifying for the office. The resignation must be effective no later than the earlier of the following dates:

- The date the officer would take office, if elected; or
- The date the officer's successor is required to take office.

(F.S. 99.012(3))

A person who is a subordinate officer, deputy sheriff, or police officer must resign effective upon qualifying if the person is seeking to qualify for a public office that is currently held by an officer who has authority to appoint, employ, promote, or otherwise supervise that person and who has qualified as a candidate for reelection to that office.

(F.S. 99.012(4))