

Candidate Checklist

Listed below is a description of the various mandatory and optional forms to be filed by candidates running for school or special districts in the November 3, 2026 General Election. It is the obligation of the candidate, incumbents, and challengers, to ensure that filing requirements and deadlines have been met. All candidates are urged to file the required documents as early as possible to avoid a last-minute rush, confusion, or misunderstanding. Additionally, it is recommended that the candidate files all documents personally; however, you may authorize someone else to pick up documents on your behalf.

Nominees for any county offices appearing on November 3, 2026 run-off ballot and nominees for State Assembly who have accepted the campaign expenditure limits under Proposition 34 have the option of filing a candidate statement of qualifications and paying for its printing and distribution by 5 pm on August 7. Nominees for Congressional districts may also file a statement by the deadline date.

Candidates for city council seats must contact their respective City Clerk for candidate filing requirements.

Document	Applies to	Filing Period	✓
*Declaration of Candidacy	All candidates – incumbents and challengers	Jul 13 – Aug 7 (E-113 to E-88)	
Nomination Documents for City candidates	All candidates – Incumbents and challengers	Jul 13 – Aug 7 (E-113 to E-88)	
Candidate’s Statement of Qualifications and **Candidate Statement Agreement	Optional for all candidates for school and special districts. Plus – Candidates for county offices in run-offs, and nominees for State Legislature who have accepted the Prop 34 campaign expenditure limits.	Must be filed & paid for with Declaration of Candidacy or For the June 2 nd Primary Election nominees: By 5 pm August 7	
**Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700)	All candidates running for offices specified in Gov. Code § 87200	File with Declaration of Candidacy or by Aug 7	
**Internet Waiver	All candidates – incumbents and challengers	File with Declaration of Candidacy	
**Code of Fair Campaign Practices	Optional for all candidates	File with Declaration of Candidacy	
**Form 501 – Candidate Intention Statement	All candidates – Incumbents and challengers.	File before making expenditures on behalf of your candidacy or file with Declaration of Candidacy.	
**Form 470 – Candidate Campaign Statement	All candidates appearing on the ballot who do not have an open campaign committee	File with Declaration of Candidacy, or must be filed by Sept 24	

* Declaration of Candidacy is printed at the elections office once all other forms have been filed.

** Forms are available to download and print from the **Candidate Resources** page (November 3, 2026) or may be picked up in person at the Santa Cruz County Elections office.

Filing Extension

If the incumbent does not file, anyone other than the incumbent may file by 5pm, Wednesday, August 12.