Washington State Declaration of Write-in Candidacy

how to file as a write-in candidate for elective office

qualifications
You may file as a write-in candidate if you are eligible to assume office, are not already on the ballot (except for precinct committee officer), and have not filed for the same office at the preceding primary.

when to file
Declarations of write-in candidacy must be received no later than the day prior to the primary or general election.

where to file
- File with the Office of the Secretary of State if the office sought is federal, statewide or is a legislative, court of appeals, or superior court office that includes more than one county.
- File with the County Elections Office for all other offices.

cost to file
The filing fee is nonrefundable even in the event of withdrawal.

Filing fees or filing fee petitions must accompany the declaration of write-in candidacy at the time of filing.

The filing fee, described on the declaration of write-in candidacy form, is based on the salary in effect at the time of filing.

Candidates without sufficient assets or income to pay the filing fee may instead submit a filing fee petition that contains the valid signatures of registered voters equal to the dollar amount of the filing fee.

Once filed, a declaration of write-in candidacy may not be altered.

qualifying for ballot
Names of write-in candidates will not appear on the ballot or in any voters' pamphlet.

As a declared write-in candidate any recognizable variation of your name will be counted.

If a write-in candidate qualifies for the general election by gathering a sufficient number of votes in the primary, the candidate's name will be printed on the general election ballot and in voters' pamphlets.

results
Write-in votes are not tabulated for individual write-in candidates unless enough write-in votes are cast to potentially change the outcome of the race.

Public Disclosure and Campaign Finance Reports

Candidates for most offices will need to submit an initial Campaign Finance Report within two weeks of declaring publicly as a candidate.

Reporting requirements are determined by the type of office, the anticipated campaign revenues and number of registered voters in the jurisdiction of candidacy.

The voter registration requirements are based on the number of registered voters as of the last general election.

Jurisdiction and contribution limitations	Public disclosure reporting requirements
• Federal districts • Cemetery districts • Precinct committee officers • Districts requiring voters to own property	No state disclosure reporting
• District has 999 voters or fewer • Campaign does not expect to exceed $4,999 in contributions	No reporting
• Office is less than entire county • District has 1,000 to 4,999 voters • Campaign does not expect to exceed $4,999 in contributions	Form F–1 (Financial Affairs Statement)
• Office is county wide or larger **or** • Jurisdiction has 5,000 or more voters **or** • Campaign expects to receives $5,000 or more in contributions	Form F–1 (Financial Affairs Statement) C– series forms (Campaign Finance Reports)

Washington State Declaration of Write-in Candidacy

how to complete the form

1. office
Print the jurisdiction, the office name and any position or district number defining the office for which you are a write-in candidate.

The responsibility for filing for the correct office is yours.

2. personal information
Your name and address must match your voter registration.

Update your voter information prior to submitting a declaration of write-in candidacy.

You are responsible for ensuring that you meet all qualifications of the office.

3. ballot information
Print your name exactly as you wish it to appear on a ballot in the event that you qualify for the general election ballot. Nicknames are acceptable.

Titles denoting occupations, including military rank, positions on issues, political affiliation, symbols, or anything intentionally designed to mislead voters are not acceptable.

party preference information:
For a partisan office, you may choose to state a political party that you personally prefer. A preference does not imply that you have been nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with you.

If you choose to state a party preference, enter the name of the party (limited to 16 characters). The first letter of the party preference will be capitalized (e.g., Democratic). If you want to use initials, separate each letter with a period (e.g., G.O.P.).

Washington State Declaration of Candidacy

1 office
City of Olympia Councilman — jurisdiction and office name
POS. 4 — position number

2 personal information (as registered to vote)
Elizabeth — first name
Christina — middle
Brown — last
08/30/1970 — date of birth (mm / dd / yyyy)
(360) 555-2385 — phone number
1500 Capitol Way S — residential address
Olympia 98501 — city / zip

3 ballot information
Liz C. Brown — exact name I would like printed on the ballot
political party I prefer, if filing for partisan office:
☑ (Prefers Democratic Party)
○ (States No Party Preference)

4 campaign information
campaign address (if different from residential address) — city / zip
liz.c.brown@campaign.com — email address
(360) 555-1800 — phone number
www.lizforcouncil.com — website

5 filing fee
○ The office has no fixed annual salary: no filing fee
○ The office has a fixed annual salary of $1,000 or less: $10
☑ The office has a fixed annual salary over $1,000: 1% of salary
○ I am submitting a filing fee petition instead of a filing fee

6 oath
I declare that the above information is true, that I am a registered voter residing at the address listed above, that I am a candidate for the office listed above, and that, at the time of filing this declaration, I am legally qualified to assume office.

I swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington.

sign here — [signature] — date here 6/8/10

for office use only
date — voter registration number

If you qualify to appear on the ballot, your party preference will appear below your name.

If you have not stated a party preference and qualify for the ballot, "(States No Party Preference)" will be printed.

No changes to party preference will be accepted between the primary and the general election.

4. campaign information
If you do not provide campaign information, your information as a registered voter will be used.

A telephone number, email address, or website is not required, but recommended.

Government office addresses may not be used for campaigns.

5. filing fee
Fill in the appropriate circle.

Applicable filing fees must accompany the declaration of candidacy.

6. oath
Read, sign, and date the oath prior to submission.

Washington State Declaration of Write-in Candidacy

office

jurisdiction and office name | position number

personal information

as registered to vote

first name | middle | last

date of birth (mm / dd / yyyy) | phone number

residential address | city / zip

ballot information

exact name I would like printed on the ballot

political party I prefer, if filing for partisan office:

○ (Prefers _____ Party)

○ (States No Party Preference)

campaign information

campaign address (if different from residential address) | city / zip

email address | phone number

website

filing fee

○ The office has no fixed annual salary: no filing fee

○ The office has a fixed annual salary of $1,000 or less: $10

○ The office has a fixed annual salary over $1,000: 1% of salary

○ I am submitting a filing fee petition instead of a filing fee

oath

I declare that the above information is true, that I am a registered voter residing at the address listed above, that I am a candidate for the office listed above, and that, at the time of filing this declaration, I am legally qualified to assume office.

I swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington.

sign here | date here

for office use only

date | voter registration number

office code | fee

02/2010