

# CANDIDATE CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

---

PRIMARY & GENERAL ELECTION YEARS  
NON-ELECTION YEARS

**AFFIDAVIT OF  
IDENTITY**

# CALENDAR: ELECTION YEAR

\* Exception: School Board, Community College & Convention-Nominated Candidates (see next pages)

**START**

**CAMPAIGN  
FINANCE**

**JANUARY**  
31st  
Annual Statement

**AUGUST**  
TUESDAY AFTER  
FIRST MONDAY  
PRIMARY ELECTION

**SEPTEMBER**  
30 DAYS AFTER  
PRIMARY  
Post-Election Filing

**DECEMBER**  
30 DAYS AFTER  
GENERAL  
Post-Election Filing

**ABSENTEE  
VOTING**

**APRIL**  
15 WKS BEFORE  
PRIMARY  
Affidavit of Identity

**JULY**  
10 DAYS BEFORE  
PRIMARY  
Early Voting

**SEPTEMBER**  
APPROX. 6 WKS  
BEFORE GENERAL  
Absentee Voting

**NOVEMBER**  
TUESDAY AFTER  
FIRST MONDAY  
GENERAL ELECTION

**MANDATORY  
EARLY VOTING**

**JUNE**  
APPROX. 6 WKS  
BEFORE PRIMARY  
Absentee Voting

**JULY**  
11 DAYS BEFORE  
PRIMARY  
Pre-Election Filing

**OCTOBER**  
11 DAYS BEFORE  
GENERAL  
Pre-Election Filing

**OCTOBER**  
10 DAYS BEFORE  
GENERAL  
Early Voting

**ELECTION DAY**

**AFFIDAVIT OF  
IDENTITY**

# CALENDAR: ELECTION YEAR

**SCHOOL BOARD & COMMUNITY COLLEGE CANDIDATES**

**START**

**CAMPAIGN  
FINANCE**

**JANUARY**  
31st

Annual Statement

**NOVEMBER**  
TUESDAY AFTER  
FIRST MONDAY

GENERAL ELECTION

**DECEMBER**  
30 DAYS AFTER  
GENERAL

Post-Election Filing

**ABSENTEE  
VOTING**

**JULY**  
15 WKS BEFORE  
GENERAL

Affidavit of Identity

**OCTOBER**  
10 DAYS BEFORE  
GENERAL

Early Voting

**MANDATORY  
EARLY VOTING**

**SEPTEMBER**  
APPROX. 6 WKS  
BEFORE GENERAL

Absentee Voting

**OCTOBER**  
11 DAYS BEFORE  
GENERAL

Pre-Election Filing

**ELECTION DAY**

AFFIDAVIT OF  
IDENTITY

# CALENDAR: ELECTION YEAR

CONVENTION-NOMINATED CANDIDATES

START

END

CAMPAIGN  
FINANCE

JANUARY  
31st

Annual Statement

AUGUST  
8-25 DAYS AFTER  
PRIMARY ELECTION

State Convention

SEPTEMBER  
30 DAYS AFTER  
STATE CONVENTION

Post-Election Filing

DECEMBER  
30 DAYS AFTER  
GENERAL

Post-Election Filing

ABSENTEE  
VOTING

SPRING  
STATE PARTY SETS  
DEADLINE

Affidavit of  
Candidacy

AUGUST  
11 DAYS BEFORE  
STATE CONVENTION

Pre-Election Filing

SEPTEMBER  
APPROX. 6 WKS  
BEFORE GENERAL

Absentee Voting

NOVEMBER  
TUESDAY AFTER  
FIRST MONDAY

GENERAL ELECTION

MANDATORY  
EARLY VOTING

OCTOBER  
11 DAYS BEFORE  
GENERAL

Pre-Election Filing

OCTOBER  
10 DAYS BEFORE  
GENERAL

Early Voting

CONVENTION /  
ELECTION DAY

# CALENDAR: NON-ELECTION YEAR

ALL CANDIDATES

**START**

JANUARY

31st

Annual Statement



JULY

25th

July Statement



OCTOBER

25th

October Statement

CAMPAIGN  
FINANCE

# AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY

## **Primary Election Candidates**

All candidates who seek nomination on the primary election ballot must fill out the appropriate Affidavit of Identity (non-judicial, incumbent judge or non-incumbent judge) found at [Michigan.gov/sos/elections/ballot-access](https://Michigan.gov/sos/elections/ballot-access)

### **File with City or Township Clerk:**

- City or Township offices

### **File with County Clerk:**

- State legislative offices contained within county
- Countywide offices
- County commissioner offices
- Probate court offices

### **File with Secretary of State:**

- State legislative offices overlapping more than one county
- Governor
- Federal legislative offices
- District, circuit and appellate court offices

# AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY

(continued)

## **School Board & Community College Candidates**

School board and community college offices are non-partisan and appear only on the general election ballot. The Affidavit of Identity (non-judicial) can be found at [Michigan.gov/sos/elections/ballot-access](https://Michigan.gov/sos/elections/ballot-access)

### **File with City or Township Clerk:**

- For school districts contained within the municipality

### **File with County Clerk:**

- For school districts overlapping more than one municipality
- For community college offices

## **Convention-Nominated Candidates**

The following candidates receive party nomination at a state convention and must complete the Affidavit of Candidacy (and any other filing requirements) prescribed by the state party: Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Supreme Court Justices, State Board of Education member or a state university board member.

# AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY

(continued)

When an Affidavit of Identity is filed, it must be accompanied by a Nominating Petition (signatures) - or if permissible, a \$100.00 filing fee.

## **Nominating Petition**

The number of signatures necessary for a nominating petition is based on the population of the district involved according to the most recent federal census. These numbers are specified in MCL 168.544f and in the table on the next page.

## **Filing Fee In Lieu of Nominating Petition**

The following candidates may submit a \$100.00 filing fee in lieu of a nominating petition:

- School board or community college
- City or township (municipal) office
- County office
- State legislative office



## Signatures Required for Nominating Petition

	Partisan Petition		Non-Partisan Petition	
Population	min	max	min	max
<b>0 - 10K</b>	3	10	6	20
<b>10K - 25K</b>	20	50	40	100
<b>25K - 50K</b>	50	100	100	200
<b>50K - 75K</b>	100	200	200	400
<b>75K - 100K</b>	200	400	400	800
<b>100K - 200K</b>	300	500	600	1,000
<b>200K - 500K</b>	500	1,000	1,000	2,000
<b>500K - 1M</b>	1,000	2,000	2,000	4,000
<b>1M - 2M</b>	2,000	4,000	4,000	8,000
<b>2M - 4M</b>	4,000	8,000	6,200	12,000
<b>Over 5M</b>	15,000	30,000	30,000	60,000

# CAMPAIGN FINANCE STATEMENTS

***Do you need a refresher on campaign finance?***  
*Review the Campaign Finance for Candidates Course.*

## **Annual Statement**

A candidate must file an annual statement in both election and non-election years (few exceptions).

- Closing Date: December 31
- Due Date: January 31

## **Election / Convention Statements**

In an election year, candidates must submit statements before and after each election or convention.

### **Pre-Election Statement**

- Closing Date: 16 days before election/convention
- Due Date: 11 days before election/convention

### **Post-Election Statement**

- Closing Date: 20 days before election/convention
- Due Date: 30 days after election/convention

## **Non-Election Year Statements**

In non-election years, candidates must submit two statements.

### **July Statement**

- Closing Date: July 20
- Due Date: July 25

### **October Statement**

- Closing Date: October 20
- Due Date: October 25

# ABSENTEE VOTING

In the early months of your campaign, it is important to campaign to your entire district of likely voters. But 2 – 3 months prior to election day, you must shift your focus entirely to registered absentee voters that are likely to support you.

**45 days before the primary or general election, the county clerks deliver absent voter ballots to the local clerks.** Time your campaign mailer to arrive in mailboxes the same day as absentee ballots!

Prepare a reliable “ballot chasing” method – to determine when your likely absentee-voting supporters have received their ballot, and when they have voted. This will allow you to reach out to them at the time they receive their ballot, either by phone or mailer, and remove them from your list once you have confirmation they voted. Consistently follow up with absentee voters who have not returned their ballots yet and remind them!

Approximately 1 – 2 weeks after absentee voting begins, shift your attention to your list of likely supporters that prefer to vote in person.

# MANDATORY EARLY VOTING

As of 2022, Michigan no longer has one in-person election day...voters can cast a ballot in-person for 10 days leading up to any primary or general election.

Time your campaign mailer to arrive in mailboxes the day before in-person voting begins! Mount a massive phone-banking effort on the eve of the first day of early voting to remind voters to cast their ballot for you.

**Get out the vote.** Make voters aware of the early voting dates and locations. You may even want to offer rides to the polls for elderly or disabled voters!

Just as you did with your absentee voter list, find a method of reliably determining when a voter from your likely supporters list has voted: then, remove them from your phone-banking/ mailing list. Consistently reach out to the voters on your list who have not yet cast a ballot, all the way through until the polls close on the final day of voting.

# ELECTION / CONVENTION DAY

## **Primary Election**

Tuesday after the first Monday in August

## **Party “Fall” Nominating Convention**

8 to 25 days after the Primary Election

## **General Election**

Tuesday after the first Monday in November