

- Petitions must be filed within 180 days after the date the first signature was collected.
- Petitions for national and state offices are filed in the office of the secretary of state.
- Petitions for county, city, school board and other local offices are filed with the county election office.
- If more than one circulator carries petitions for the same candidate, all must be submitted as a group to the appropriate filing office at one time.
- If a petition is determined to be insufficient, later or successive filings are not allowed. The petition circulation process must begin again.
- Pages must be grouped by county and circulator.

PROCESSING:

- For local offices, petitions are submitted to the county election office.
- For state offices, petitions are filed with the secretary of state. The secretary of state transmits copies to county election officials for verification.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Sedgwick County Election Office
Historic County Courthouse, Ground Floor
510 N. Main St., #101
316-660-7100
Fax: 316-660-7125
www.sedgwickcounty.org/elections
voterinformation@sedgwick.gov

Kansas Secretary of State
Memorial Hall, 1st Floor
120 SW 10th Avenue | Topeka, KS 66612-1594
800-262-VOTE (8683) or 785-296-4561 Fax:
785-291-3051
www.sos.ks.gov | www.voteks.org
election@sos.ks.gov

County information may be found at
www.sos.ks.gov/elections/elections_registration_ceo.asp

Legal Sources: K.S.A. 25-205, 25-303, 25-305, K.A.R. 7-28-1. Rev. 5/30/14 tc

A GUIDE TO CANDIDATE PETITION CIRCULATION



WWW.VOTEKS.ORG
800-262-VOTE (8683)

CANDIDATE PETITION CIRCULATION

This is a guide for circulating a nomination petition for a candidate to file for elective office in Kansas.

This guide applies to partisan candidates filing to run in a primary election, independent candidates filing to run in a general election, and candidates filing for nonpartisan offices. Independent candidates must be unaffiliated with any party.

Contact the office of the secretary of state or the county election office for information about candidate qualifications, filing locations and deadlines. The following is important information for a candidate petition circulation.

FORMS:

- Obtain nomination petition forms from the elections division of the secretary of state's office, a county election office, or online at www.sos.ks.gov/forms/forms.html.
- The partisan candidate petition is **Form PP**, the independent petition is **Form IP** and the non-partisan petition for local office is **Form CP**. There are separate petition forms for president, governor and district attorney.

CIRCULATORS:

- The candidate and petition circulators may circulate the petition throughout the election district.

- Circulators must possess the constitutional qualifications of electors (U.S. citizenship, Kansas residency, 18 years of age) but are not required by law to be registered voters in the election district.
- Each circulator must: (1) witness every signature on every page; (2) collect signatures from a single county on each page; (3) sign, and have notarized, an affidavit that is attached to or printed on the back of the petition form. One affidavit may apply to all pages submitted by a particular circulator if the circulator's petition pages are all together as one document and the affidavit is attached. An incorrect affidavit will invalidate all pages to which it applies.
- Circulators may not sign the front of a petition form that they are circulating because they may not witness their own signatures.

SIGNERS:

- No one may sign more than one petition for any office in a given election.
- All signers of a particular page of a petition must reside in the same county.
- Signers must be registered voters, residents of the election district and, in cases of partisan candidate petitions, affiliated with the political party of the candidate.
- Any registered voter may sign an independent candidate petition, regardless of party affiliation or lack thereof.
- Petition signers must include their printed name, signature, address, city, zip code and date of signature.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete the top section of the petition with the candidate's name, office sought, address and other information required. Make photocopies of the form as needed. Follow the rules for petition circulators and observe the filing deadlines.

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS:

The number of signatures required on a candidate nomination petition is a percentage of registered voters, a percentage of voters affiliated with the party, or a percentage of votes cast for the office of secretary of state. To obtain the exact signature requirement, contact the county election office or the secretary of state's office.

Some of the signatures submitted on a petition will invariably be invalid. It is advisable to obtain at least 25 percent more than the required number, although this will not guarantee sufficiency.

FILING:

- The petition filing deadline for partisan candidates is noon June 1 in the year of the election. If that date falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is noon the next business day.
- The filing deadline for independent candidates is noon the day before the state primary election on the first Tuesday in August.
- The deadline for petitions for local offices is noon June 1 in the year of the election. If that date falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline is noon the next business day.