























We will try to get back to you, but cannot guarantee a timely response.  
 If the Department says that you do not have enough signatures then you can submit an appeal to the State Board of Elections.

Submit your appeal **within 5 days** from when the disqualification notice was issued.

You will need to prove that you have the correct number of signatures from qualified voters before the deadline.

Find more information in [1 VAC 20-50-30](#).

### Things to remember about petitions:

Petition Pages must...

- be on the form from the Department of Elections, and you cannot alter it in any way.
- be either [letter](#) or [legal](#) size. Both are available on the Department of Elections [website](#).
- be one page printed on the front and back. You can make as many copies as you need.
- contain the signature, printed full name, and full residence address of each qualified voter and the date the voter signed. The last four (4) digits of the qualified voter’s Social Security number are helpful, but not required.

The petition circulator...

- must be a legal resident of the United States and must sign the affidavit for each page in front of a notary.
- cannot be a minor.
- can be an individual who was convicted of a felony only if his/her voting rights are restored.
- cannot be the circulator of the page on which they sign the petition.

When collecting your petition signatures, it is helpful to remember that...

- Because people who are not registered to vote often sign petitions for candidates, we recommended that you collect at least 1 ½ times the number of signatures required.
- [1VAC20-50-20](#) lists material omissions for petition signatures and pages. If your petition has a material omission, it may render the page or signature invalid.

<b>Office you seek</b>	<b>Number of petition signatures you need from qualified voters</b>
Senate of Virginia	250 signatures
House of Delegates	125 signatures

The next two requirements relate to Campaign Finance accounts and reporting.

☐ Fill out and submit [Statement of Organization for a Candidate](#).



Find in Virginia Code Title 24.2 [Chapter 9.3](#).



Within 10 days of one of the following:

- you accept a contribution.
- you spend any funds.
- you pay a filing fee.
- you file a Certificate of Candidate Qualification.
- you appoint a campaign treasurer, campaign committee, or campaign depository.



Submit copies to:

- The Department of Elections according to the instructions in [COMET](#)
- The [General Registrar](#) in the locality where you live (after filing through COMET)



If you do not submit this form you may have to pay penalties.

This does not disqualify you.

Learn about the [Campaign Finance Laws and Policies](#).

☐ Submit Campaign Finance Reports



Find in Virginia Code Title 24.2 [Chapter 9.3](#).



Submit reports according to the [schedule](#) published by the Department of Elections.



Submit copies to the Department of Elections through [COMET](#).

## How do I withdraw my candidacy?



Find in Va. Code § [24.2-612.2](#)



Submit your written withdrawal to your local [General Registrar](#)'s Office. The General Registrar will notify other affected General Registrars and/or the Department of Elections, as appropriate.



To be withdrawn from the ballot you must submit a signed written notice declaring your intent to withdraw from the election. Use the Department of Elections' [Candidate Withdrawal Form](#) (ELECT-612.2)

## Qualified Independent Candidate that Wishes to use Third Party ID on the Ballot.



Find in Virginia Code § [24.2-613](#).



File starting **January 3, 2023**.  
File ending **June 19, 2023 at 11:59 pm**.

Use this table to learn what, when, and where to file.

	What do I need to file?	Where do I file this letter?	When does filing open?	What is the deadline to file?
1.	<p>A letter signed by the State Chair stating the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group has been in existence for at least six months prior to the filing of its nominee.</li> <li>The group has a state central committee composed of registered voters from each of Virginia's 11 congressional districts in continual existence for the six months prior to the filing of its nominee.</li> <li>The group has a party plan and bylaws.</li> </ul>	With the Department of Elections.	Thursday, January 3, 2022.	Monday, June 19, 2023 at 11:59 pm.
2.	<p>A letter signed by the State Chair and signed by the candidate stating the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair certifies the candidate is the nominee of the party.</li> <li>The candidate accepts the nomination of the party.</li> </ul>	With the Department of Elections.	Thursday, January 3, 2022.	Monday, June 19, 2023 at 11:59 pm.



Submit these letters to the Department of Elections. Electronic submission of these letters is permissible ([ea@elections.virginia.gov](mailto:ea@elections.virginia.gov)).



The Department of Elections recommends that the Independent candidate provide this information to the State Chair of his/her party. This presumably will assure that the party will provide the nominee with what s/he needs to file with the Department of Elections by the appropriate deadline.

## General Disclaimer

The electronic version of this Candidate Bulletin can be found on the Department of Elections website:

<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/candidatepac-info/candidate-bulletins/index.html>

Candidates are responsible for complying with all current applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

This Candidate Bulletin provides an overview of Virginia electoral requirements only. It does not purport to provide legal advice or binding statements of official policy. Rather, the Candidate Bulletin describes election law found in the Code of Virginia. Applicable laws and regulations are subject to change in content and interpretation.