



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

P.O. BOX 300
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0300

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

LT. GOVERNOR TAHESHA L. WAY
Secretary of State

PETITION FILING INSTRUCTION SHEET 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION DISTRICT DELEGATES/ALTERNATES TO THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

This information sheet is not meant to encompass all of the statutory and constitutional requirements for filing petitions, but is to be used only as a guide. If you have any additional questions, you should seek legal counsel.

The New Jersey Division of Elections accepts petitions on behalf of the Secretary of State, who serves as the Chief Election Official of the State of New Jersey. Set forth below are qualifications for candidacy along with an overview of the statutory requirements for submitting petitions to conform with Title 19, the Election Laws of New Jersey.

Candidate petitions may be filed in person or by mail, but must be received by the deadline date, on or before 4:00 p.m. on *March 25, 2024*. (N.J.S.A. 19:23-14)

In accordance with the Rules governing the New Jersey Democratic State Committee Delegate Selection Plan for the 2024 Democratic National Convention, to qualify as a candidate(s) for the office of District Delegate or Alternate District Delegate, you must meet the following qualifications:

- shall have attained the age of 18 years by the day of the swearing into office
- a United States Citizen
- a resident of New Jersey by the day of the General Election
- a resident of the Delegate District
- a registered Democrat

All candidates should refer to the New Jersey Democratic State Committee Delegate Selection Procedures for more complete information. The Democratic State Committee may be contacted at (609) 392-3367 or <https://www.njdems.org/>.

Each candidate(s) should read and follow petition instructions.

In accordance with Title 19, petitions must meet the following requirements:

- Candidate's name, residence address, post-office address, and candidate's email address must appear on each petition. (N.J.S.A. 19:23-7); (Pages 2-5 of Petition)
- The circulator/witness is the person who collected the signatures on the petition and must complete and sign the **"Affidavit of Person who Circulates this Petition and Witnesses Signatures"** where indicated. If the same person circulates more than one petition, he/she must complete the Affidavit of Circulator in each booklet. **Note: Affidavit must be notarized** (N.J.S.A. 19:23-11); (Page 16 of Petition)
- The circulator does not have to be a signer of the petition but must be an individual who is affiliated with the same political party named in the petition, at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States and not otherwise disqualified from voting (N.J.S.A. 19:23-11);

- Candidate must sign an **“Oath of Allegiance.”**; **“Affirmation of Allegiance”** or **“Declaration of Allegiance”**; (N.J.S.A. 19:23-15); (Pages 18-35 of Petition)
Note: Oath of allegiance, Affirmation of allegiance or Declaration of allegiance must be notarized;
- Candidate must sign a **“Certificate of Acceptance to be Signed by Candidate.”** (N.J.S.A. 19:23-15); (Pages 36-41 of Petition)
- **“Candidate’s Request for Slogan on the Official Primary Election Ballot.”** A candidate may request a designation/slogan which must not exceed six (6) words. Further, “...no such designation or slogan shall include or refer to the name of any person or any incorporated association of this State unless the written consent of such person or incorporated association of this State has been filed with the petition of nomination of such candidate or group of candidates”. (N.J.S.A. 19:23-17); (Page 17 of Petition)
- Contain the names, addresses and signatures of at least 100 registered voters who are affiliated with the same political party named in the petition in the Delegate District on the **“Signature Sheet”**. (N.J.S.A. 19:24-4); (Pages 6-15 of Petition)
- If the Presidential candidate’s name is being utilized in the slogan, District Delegates and Alternate District Delegates must submit a letter from the Presidential candidate or his/her authorized representative stating that the candidate(s) are entitled to use the name of and run on the line, column or row with their respective candidate for President at the time petitions are filed. (N.J.S.A. 19:24-5)

Uncommitted Delegates should follow the above procedures except that a letter from the presidential candidate is not required.

The presidential candidate or his/her authorized representative may specify the order in which delegates and alternates are to be listed on their line, column or row.

The delegates for each presidential candidate will appear as a slate on the same ballot line, column or row.

The person submitting a petition will be asked to provide the day and evening telephone numbers in addition to an email address of the candidate, in order to notify him or her if a challenge to the petition is filed. The daytime phone number will also be used for public information purposes, i.e., press/citizen inquiry.

Completed candidate petitions can either be hand-delivered or mailed to the Division of Elections. Please find the contact information listed below.

Office Location:

225 W. State Street, 5th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608

Mailing Address for United States Postal Service:

P.O. Box 304
Trenton, NJ 08625-0304

Delivery address for all other carriers, i.e., UPS, FedEx, etc.:

225 W. State Street, 5th Floor
Trenton, NJ 08608

Schedule a candidate petition filing appointment:

In an effort to improve the petition filing experience, the Division of Elections offers petition filers an opportunity to schedule an appointment prior to the petition filing date. Scheduling an appointment will improve the petition filing process and help reduce the time spent filing your petition.

Schedule an appointment by visiting <http://nj.gov/state/elections/candidate-petitions.html>.

We suggest filing your petition as early as possible!