



Information for Political Party Qualification

Montana Secretary of State

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◆ Filing Deadlines ([13-10-Part 6](#), MCA)

- **February 4, 2022** Deadline to submit signed political party qualification petitions and affidavits of signature gatherers to [county election administrators](#), per [13-10-606\(3\)](#).
- **March 4, 2022** Deadline by which county election administrators shall ensure the petition is received by the Secretary of State, per [13-10-609\(2\)](#).
- **March 11, 2022** If a minor party petition is filed, the Secretary of State shall certify that the political party does or does not qualify by this date, [13-10-610\(3\)](#).
- **March 14, 2022** Deadline for political party candidates to file Declaration and Oath of Candidacy and pay filing fee (unless indigent) to appropriate filing officer.

◆ Links:

- [Political Party Qualification Petition](#)
- [Affidavit of Signature Gatherer](#)
- [2022 Election Calendar](#)
- [Title 13 Election Laws](#)

◆ Signature Requirements ([13-10-606](#),(2)&(3) MCA)

- According to [13-10-606\(2\)](#), MCA, the number of signatures required for political party ballot access is **5,000**, which must include the registered voters in at least one-third of the House districts equal to 5% or more of the total votes cast for the successful candidate for governor at the last general election in those districts or 150 electors in those districts, whichever is less. See table below.
- There is **no earliest date to gather** political party qualification petition signatures. However, **the earliest to submit** signed political party qualification petitions to county election administrators is 9 months (June 4, 2021) before the filing date with the secretary of state, as above, of March 4, 2022. (Also, candidate declaration forms cannot be filed with the appropriate filing officer before **January 13, 2022**, or the date by which the party is qualified, whichever is later.)

◆ Other Information

- A current list of qualified political parties is at sosmt.gov/Elections/Parties.
- If the party qualifies for ballot access, the deadline by which party candidates must file their filing form with the required filing fee is **March 14, 2022**. See [13-10-201](#), MCA.
- A candidate who files as an [indigent](#) candidate is not required to pay the filing fee, but must file petition signatures. See [Filing Information and Petition Signature Requirements for indigent candidate requirements](#).

Under [13-10-602](#), MCA, a political party and its regularly nominated candidates, members, and officers have the sole and exclusive right to the use of the party name. A candidate for office may not use any word of the name of any other political party or organization other than that by which the candidate is nominated in a manner that indicates or implies the individual is a candidate of the non-nominating party.



Signatures Required for Political Party Qualification

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House District	Votes for Last Successful Candidate for Governor	Petition Signatures Required (5% of Votes Cast for Last Successful Candidate for Governor)	House District	Votes for Last Successful Candidate for Governor	Petition Signatures Required (5% of Votes Cast for Last Successful Candidate for Governor)
1	3,568	150	51	2,537	127
2	4,711	150	52	2,231	112
3	3,435	150	53	6,610	150
4	5,106	150	54	4,132	150
5	3,027	150	55	3,402	150
6	4,899	150	56	3,456	150
7	2,604	130	57	4,571	150
8	4,045	150	58	4,303	150
9	3,349	150	59	4,473	150
10	5,206	150	60	3,030	150
11	4,754	150	61	3,148	150
12	3,699	150	62	2,603	130
13	5,090	150	63	2,272	114
14	4,052	150	64	4,489	150
15	1,476	74	65	3,702	150
16	1,054	53	66	1,847	92
17	4,016	150	67	3,996	150
18	3,204	150	68	4,148	150
19	3,861	150	69	4,980	150
20	4,045	150	70	5,336	150
21	2,841	150	71	5,069	150
22	2,377	119	72	4,134	150
23	2,024	101	73	1,730	87
24	2,207	110	74	1,411	71
25	2,194	110	75	4,344	150
26	1,615	81	76	2,244	112
27	3,930	150	77	2,759	138
28	2,275	114	78	2,247	112
29	4,035	150	79	2,753	138
30	4,432	150	80	4,842	150
31	1,436	72	81	2,627	131
32	1,529	76	82	2,639	132
33	3,575	150	83	2,294	115
34	4,242	150	84	2,761	138
35	4,506	150	85	5,200	150
36	3,989	150	86	3,889	150
37	5,252	150	87	4,987	150
38	3,002	150	88	4,481	150
39	4,167	150	89	2,237	112
40	5,500	150	90	1,785	89
41	1,636	82	91	1,129	56
42	1,766	88	92	3,094	150
43	3,251	150	93	2,814	141
44	2,986	149	94	2,767	138
45	3,161	150	95	1,328	66
46	3,717	150	96	3,483	150
47	1,997	100	97	3,404	150
48	2,406	120	98	2,377	119
49	1,597	80	99	2,471	124
50	2,063	103	100	1,073	54

† The total number of certified signatures required for political party qualification is **5,000**. The number of signatures must include the verified signatures of registered voters in at least one-third of the legislative districts equal to 5% or more of the total votes cast for the successful candidate for governor at the last general election in those districts or 150 electors in those districts, whichever is less. [13-10-606](#), MCA.