



**City of Tucson
Office of the City Clerk
2023 Candidate Nomination Procedures and
Signature Requirements**

Presently there are three (3) qualified political parties (Democratic, Republican or Libertarian) eligible to participate in the 2023 City of Tucson Primary Election. A qualified candidate may seek nomination by one of these political parties through the nomination petition process or as a write-in candidate in the Primary Election.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 16-311(J) and 16-312(D), except in cases where the liability is being appealed, the City Clerk shall not accept the nomination paper of a candidate if the person is liable for an aggregation of \$1,000 or more in fines, penalties, late fees or administrative or civil judgments, including any interest or costs, in any combination, that have not been fully satisfied at the time of the attempted filing of the nomination paper and the liability arose from failure to comply with or enforcement of A.R.S. Title 16 Chapter 6.

METHODS OF NOMINATION

Statement of Interest

Aspiring candidates must submit a Statement of Interest to the City Clerk **prior** to collecting nomination petition signatures. The Statement of Interest includes the candidate's name, party affiliation, and office sought. [A.R.S. § 16-311(H)] Petition signatures collected prior to submission of the Statement of Interest are invalid and subject to challenge pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-351.

1. Name Printed on Primary Election Ballot

File: Monday, March 6 through 5 p.m. Monday, April 3, 2023 [A.R.S. § 16-311(A)]

File the following with the City Clerk:

- Nomination Paper and Declaration of Qualification and Eligibility [A.R.S. § 16-311(A)(D)]
- Financial Disclosure Statement [A.R.S. § 16-311(I)]
- Nomination Petitions [A.R.S. § 16-314(A)]

NOTE: The City Clerk will not accept partial filings, late filings, or supplements to petitions already filed.

Signature Requirements

Candidates may use the Arizona Secretary of State's online candidate portal to obtain no more than the minimum number of required signatures. Instructions are available from the City Clerk's Office.

For candidates for Mayor, the number of valid signatures on the petition must be equal to at least five percent (5%), but not more than ten percent (10%), of the designated party vote in the City in the 2019 General Election. [A.R.S. § 16-322(A)(8); Tucson Code § 12-65(A)]

For candidates for Council Member, the number of valid signatures on the petition must be equal to at least five percent (5%), but not more than ten percent (10%), of the designated party vote in the ward in the 2019 General Election. [A.R.S. § 16-322(A)(9); Tucson Code § 12-65(B)]

	DEMOCRATIC PARTY		REPUBLICAN PARTY		LIBERTARIAN PARTY	
	MIN.	MAX.	MIN.	MAX.	MIN.	MAX.
MAYOR	2,591	5,181	1,432	2,863	29	56
WARD 1	432	863	109	216	3	5
WARD 2	532	1,063	502	1,003	7	13
WARD 4	343	685	402	803	6	11

Successful candidates in the Primary Election will have their names placed on the General Election ballot.

2. *Write-in Candidates for Primary Election*

An individual who is a member of a qualified party (Democratic, Republican or Libertarian) may become a write-in candidate in the Primary Election unless the individual filed a nomination petition for the August 1 Primary Election and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition signatures. [A.R.S. § 16-312(F)(3)]

File: Monday, March 6 through 5 p.m. Thursday, June 22, 2023 [A.R.S. § 16-312(B)]

File the following with the City Clerk:

- Nomination Paper and Declaration of Qualification and Eligibility [A.R.S. §§ 16-311(D), 16-312 (A)]
- Financial Disclosure Statement [A.R.S. § 16-312(C)]

Note: Pursuant to State Law, a write-in candidate in the Primary Election must get the number of votes equal to the minimum number of signatures required on nomination petitions for the same office to be placed on the General Election ballot. [A.R.S. § 16-645(E)]

3. Nomination Other Than by Primary for Placement on General Election Ballot

A candidate who is not a member of a qualified political party may seek election through this method. This process shall *not* be used to place on the general election ballot the name of:

[A.R.S. § 16-341(B)]

- A political party that fails to meet the qualifications specified for new political parties; or
- Any candidate representing such party; or
- An individual who filed a nomination petition as a candidate in the Primary Election, but failed to qualify as the result of an insufficient number of valid signatures.

Statement of Interest

Aspiring candidates must submit a Statement of Interest to the City Clerk **prior** to collecting nomination petition signatures. The Statement of Interest includes the candidate’s name, party affiliation, and office sought. **[A.R.S. § 16-311(H)]** Petition signatures collected prior to submission of the Statement of Interest are invalid and subject to challenge pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-351.

File: Monday, March 6 through 5 p.m. Monday, April 3, 2023 [A.R.S. § 16-341(C)]

- Nomination Paper and Declaration of Qualification and Eligibility [A.R.S. §§ 16-311(A), 16-341(J)]
- Financial Disclosure Statement [A.R.S. §§ 16-311(A), 16-341(J)]
- Nomination Petitions

NOTE: The City Clerk will not accept partial filings, late filings, or supplements to petitions already filed.

Signature Requirements [A.R.S. §§ 16-341(E)(F)]

Candidates may use the Arizona Secretary of State’s online candidate portal to obtain no more than the minimum number of required signatures. Instructions are available from the City Clerk’s Office.

The number of valid signatures on the “Nomination Other Than by Primary” (NOP) petition must be at least three percent (3%) of the total number of registered voters who are NOT members of a qualified political party (Democratic, Republican or Libertarian). For Council Member candidates, the total is calculated using the total number of registered voters in the ward for which the candidate is seeking office. According to State law, the number of valid signatures required on NOP petitions will be based on the voter registration figures for the City

of Tucson as of January 2, 2023. [A.R.S. § 16-341(F)] The City Clerk will provide signature requirements after that date.

Any registered voter can sign the petition for an NOP candidate, as long as they have not already signed a petition for another candidate running for the same office. For Council Member candidates, the signer must live in, and be a registered voter of, the ward for which the candidate is seeking office. [A.R.S. § 16-341(F)]

4. Write-in Candidates for General Election

An individual may become a write-in candidate for the General Election unless:

- The individual was defeated in the Primary Election; or [A.R.S. § 16-312(F)(1)]
- The individual filed nomination petitions for the Primary Election but did not collect a sufficient number of valid petition signatures; or [A.R.S. § 16-312(F)(2)]
- The individual filed a nomination petition for Nomination Other Than by Primary but did not collect a sufficient number of valid petition signatures. [A.R.S. § 16-312(F)(4)]

File: Monday, June 12, 2023, through 5 p.m. September 28, 2023

File the following with the City Clerk:

- Nomination Paper and Declaration of Qualification and Eligibility [A.R.S. §§ 16-311(D), 16-312 (A)]
- Financial Disclosure Statement; and [A.R.S. § 16-312(C)]

CIRCULATING NOMINATION PETITIONS

Petition forms are available from the City Clerk, and the requirements that such petitions must meet are set forth in A.R.S. §§16-314, 16-315, and 16-321 (for Nomination by Primary), and in A.R.S. §16-341 (for Nomination Other Than by Primary).

PETITION CIRCULATORS: [A.R.S. §§ 16-315(B), 16-321(D), 16-341(G)]

- Each circulator must complete and sign the back of each signature sheet.
- A nomination petition for any candidate may be circulated by a person who is not a resident of this state but who is otherwise eligible to register to vote in this state if that person registers as a circulator with the secretary of state before circulating petitions.

PETITION SIGNERS:

Each signer of a nomination petition shall be a voter who, at the time of signing, is entitled to vote for the candidate whose nomination petition they are signing. If signing a petition for council member, the signer must live in the ward for which the candidate is seeking nomination. [A.R.S. §§ 16-321(B), 16-322(A)(9)]

IF CANDIDATE PARTY IS	THEN SIGNER PARTY CAN BE	<i>SIGNER PARTY <u>NOT</u> ALLOWED</i>
DEMOCRATIC	Democratic Independent Any Party Except Those Not Allowed →	<i>Green Party Not Declared Republican Libertarian</i>
REPUBLICAN	Republican Independent Any Party Except Those Not Allowed →	<i>Green Party Not Declared Democratic Libertarian</i>
LIBERTARIAN	Libertarian Independent Any Party Except Those Not Allowed →	<i>Green Party Not Declared Democratic Republican</i>
NOMINATION OTHER THAN BY PRIMARY	Any Registered Voter (as long as they have not already signed a petition for another candidate running for the same office)	

An individual may sign only one petition for the same office. If an individual signs more than one nomination petition, the earliest signature will be valid, as determined by the date shown on the petition. If all the signatures are dated the same day, all the signatures are invalid. [A.R.S. § 16-321(C)]