



Election Outlook: Voters who do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID have additional options at the polls | [More about Identification Requirements for Voting](#)

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Republican or Democratic Party Nominees

In order to become the Republican or Democratic Party nominee for a particular office, you must file an [application \(PDF\)](#) for a place on the ballot with the county or state party chair, as appropriate (see chart). Tex. Elec. Code Ann. § 172.022. Candidates for federal office must file a [federal application \(PDF\)](#). The application must be filed between November 11, 2017 and by 6:00p.m. on December 11, 2017. Tex. Elec. Code Ann. § 172.023. The application for a place on the primary ballot must be accompanied by either a filing fee or a [petition in lieu of filing fee \(PDF\)](#) signed by a certain number of qualified voters. Certain judicial candidates in Bexar, Dallas, Harris, Tarrant and Travis must file [additional petitions \(PDF\)](#). Certain Statewide judicial candidates must also file additional petitions using the [Statewide Judicial Office on Primary Ballot petition form \(PDF\)](#).

See Tex. Elec. Code Ann. § 162.015 for more details about how primary voting or candidacy affects (or does not affect) candidacy in the general election.

| Public Office Sought in 2018 | Democratic or Republican Party Nominee | | Filing Fee | %Signatures ^e | Number of Signatures ^b |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | File App. with Party Chair | Nominating Petition in Lieu of Filing Fee | | | |
| | State | County | | | |
| United States Senator | x | - | \$5,000 | - | 5000 |
| United States Representative | x ^a | - | \$3,125 | 2% | 500 |
| Governor | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Lieutenant Governor | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Attorney General | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Comptroller of Public Accounts | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Commissioner of General Land Office | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Commissioner of Agriculture | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Railroad Commissioner | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Justice, Supreme Court ^d | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals ^d | x | - | \$3,750 | - | 5000 |
| State Senator | x ^a | - | \$1,250 | 2% | 500 |
| State Representative | x ^a | - | \$750 | 2% | 500 |
| Member, State Board of Education | x ^a | - | \$300 | 2% | 500 |
| Chief Justice and Justice, Court of Appeals ^b | x ^a | - | \$2,500 / \$1,875 ^f | 2% | 500 |
| District Judge ^b | x ^a | - | \$2,500 / \$1,500 ^f | 2% | 500 |
| Criminal District Judge ^b | x ^a | - | \$2,500 / \$1,500 ^f | 2% | 500 |
| Family District Judge ^b | x ^a | - | \$2,500 / \$1,500 ^f | 2% | 500 |
| District Attorney | x ^a | - | \$1,250 | 2% | 500 |
| Criminal District Attorney | x ^a | - | \$1,250 | 2% | 500 |
| County Judge | - | x | \$1,250 / \$750 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| Judge, County Court-at-Law ^b | - | x | \$2,500 / \$1,500 ^f | 2% | 500 |
| Judge, County Criminal Court ^b | - | x | \$2,500 / \$1,500 ^f | 2% | 500 |
| Judge, County Probate Court ^b | - | x | \$2,500 / \$1,500 ^f | 2% | 500 |
| District Clerk | - | x | \$1,250 / \$750 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| District & County Clerk | - | x | \$1,250 / \$750 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| County Clerk | - | x | \$1,250 / \$750 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| County Treasurer | - | x | \$1,250 / \$750 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| County Surveyor | - | x | \$75 | 2% | 500 |
| County Commissioner | - | x | \$1,250 / \$750 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| Justice of the Peace ^b | - | x | \$1,000 / \$375 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| Constable | - | x | \$1,000 / \$375 ^d | 2% | 500 |
| Source: Texas Election Code Section | | §172.022 | §172.024 | §172.025 | |

- a. File with county chair if district is comprised of only one county.
- b. Senate Bill 44 (2017) reinstated the petition requirement for certain judicial candidates. For candidates running for Courts of Appeals in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 14th Districts and all candidates running for judicial offices in Bexar, Dallas, Harris and Tarrant Counties, a 250-signature judicial petition is required in addition to the filing fee, or 750 signatures must be collected on the petition in lieu of filing fee.
- c. Percentage of all votes for all gubernatorial candidates cast in the applicable territory in the 2014 general election. If number is less than 50, the required number of signatures is the lesser of (1) 50 or (2) 20% of all votes for all gubernatorial candidates cast in the applicable territory in the 2014 general election.
- d. Pay higher fee if county has at least 200,000 inhabitants according to 2010 Census.
- e. Pay higher fee in Courts of Appeals Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 14. Tex. Elec. Code Ann. § 172.024(7), (8)
- f. Pay higher fee in Bexar, Dallas, Harris and Tarrant Counties. Tex. Elec. Code Ann. § 172.024(10), (12)
- g. Senate Bill 44 (2017) reinstated the petition requirement for certain judicial candidates. A candidate for the office of chief justice or justice, supreme court, or presiding judge or judge, court of criminal appeals, who chooses to pay the filing fee, must also accompany the application and fee with a petition. The minimum number of signatures that must appear on the petition is 50 from each of the fourteen court of appeals districts, for a total requirement of 700 signatures.
- h. The minimum number of signatures that must appear on a candidate's petition for statewide office is 5000. The minimum number of signatures that must appear on a candidate's petition for district, county or precinct office is the lesser of (1) 500 or (2) 2% of the total vote received in the district, county or precinct, as applicable, by all gubernatorial candidates in the 2014 general election, subject to (c) above. Tex. Elec. Code Ann. § 172.025.