



# How Do I Get On the Ballot?

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NOMINATING PETITION OVERVIEW

## **WHAT IS A NOMINATING PETITION?**

A formal written application requesting a certain number of Connecticut registered voters to place name(s) on the states election ballot by signing such application. This is usually referred to by many as Third Party or Independent Candidacies.

## **WHO MAY APPLY FOR A NOMINATING PETITION?**

Any Connecticut registered voter (registered with a party or not).

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR A NOMINATING PETITION?

Upon request, the Secretary of the State will forward an Application for Nominating Petition via U.S. Postal Service, or such Application may be down-loaded from our website ([sots.ct.gov](https://sots.ct.gov)) Once the application is returned to this office properly completed, a nominating petition will then be issued.

It is up to YOU to duplicate this 2-sided nominating petition. Petitions that are NOT 2-sided will not be accepted.

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATING PETITION

Secretary of the State  
P.O. Box 150470 – 165 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06115-0470, Tel. (860) 509-6100

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Pursuant to §9-453b of the General Statutes, I hereby apply for a nominating petition for each of the following persons as candidates for the offices specified at the municipal election to be held on November 2, 2021.

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Residence Address \_\_\_\_\_ Office (incl. District if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
(incl. ZIP)

The party designation of the above candidates on the petition will be:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*\*(If no party designation, insert "None")*

If a party designation is specified, a reservation of such party designation must be in effect for the office(s) included in this application, unless the designation is the name of a minor party which is qualified for different office(s) on the same ballot as the office(s) included in the application. **\*DO NOT INSERT REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRATIC AS THE PARTY DESIGNATION, DOING SO WILL DELAY THE PROCESS OF YOUR APPLICATION.**

\*To assist you in determining the number of circulators needed, please note that each petition page contains space for 30 or 40 signatures; a particular page may have only one circulator; and the total number of signatures required is equal to the lesser of (1) one percent of the total votes cast for the same office (or, if multiple-opening office, one percent of the total number of names checked as having voted) at the last preceding election, or (2) seven thousand five hundred. This office will determine the exact signature requirement at the time of issuance of the petition. Each applicant is issued one petition page which must be duplicated.

If address different from above, mail forms to:  
←

\_\_\_\_\_  
[ Phone # during business hours ] [ Phone # after business hours ]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant)

SO THAT WE MAY PROVIDE YOU WITH EXPEDITIOUS SERVICE, IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE YOUR PETITIONS VIA EMAIL PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS ON THE DESIGNATED LINE ABOVE.

**NOTE:** Be sure to enclose page 2, Statement of Consent signed by each candidate; page 3, Town Clerk's Statement, signed by clerk of each candidate's town of residence (multiple copies of page 3 may be attached if necessary); and Application for Reservation of Party Designation if required.

Nominating petition pages must be submitted to the town clerk of the town of voting residence of the signers or to the Secretary of the State by **4:00 p.m. of August 4, 2021**.

If this petition is filed under a party designation, **September 1, 2021 at 4 p.m.** is the last day that the party designation committee or minor party may file with the Secretary of the State Statements of Endorsement of candidates petitioning under this designation.

TOWN CLERK FILL IN THIS PORTION

Please Print or Type Names as They Appear on Registry List Even If Same as Above

CANDIDATES' NAMES

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Date

## **HOW SOON MAY I COLLECT SIGNATURES?**

You may begin to collect signatures on the first business day of January in the year the office you are seeking will be on the ballot.

When collecting signatures please be sure the person signing the petition is (1) a New Britain voter (for municipal elections), an Assembly/Senate District voter (for state local candidates) and (2) the PRINTED VOTER NAME is readable.

## **HOW MANY SIGNATURES MUST I COLLECT?**

Each petition shall be signed by a number of qualified electors equal to the lesser of (1) One percent of the votes cast for the same office(s) at the last preceding election, or (2) seven thousand five hundred. In regards to newly-created offices, the number of qualified electors is prescribed in § 9-380.

Not all signers of the petitions are registered voters. It is recommended that at least 25% or more signatures be collected to ensure you meet the state minimum signature requirement.

# CAN I APPEAR ON THE BALLOT UNDER A PARTY NAME?

Yes. On a form ED-601, Application for Reservation of Party Designation and Formation of Party Designation Committee. On this form you must indicate a party name that cannot be more than three words or twenty-five letters and must have the signatures of twenty-five Connecticut registered voters. This statement must include the names of two individuals who will be responsible for filing with this office a Statement of Endorsement.

From the Office of the Secretary of the State  
30 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106

Application for Reservation of Party Designation  
and Formation of Party Designation Committee

(Date)

Pursuant to Sections 9-453b and 9-453a of the Connecticut General Statutes, we the undersigned electors (see reverse side) who desire to be members of a party designation committee hereby apply to form a party designation committee and to reserve the party designation

under which candidates may petition for nomination for the following offices:<sup>2</sup>

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Insert office designation | City and/or District or Political Subdivision (if applicable) |
|---------------------------|---|

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

(Attach additional page(s) if more space is required)

The following two persons are authorized by the party designation committee to execute and file with the Secretary of the State statements of endorsement required by Section 9-453a, and certificates of reservation (if applicable) required by Section 9-450, of the Connecticut General Statutes:

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Name (print or type) | Complete Address |
|----------------------|------------------|

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

1. Party designation shall consist of not more than three words and not more than twenty-five letters; shall not incorporate the name of any major party; shall not incorporate the name of any minor party which is entitled to nominate candidates for any office which will appear on the same ballot with any office included in this statement; shall not be the same as any party designation for which a reservation with the Secretary of the State is currently in effect for any office included in this statement; and shall not be the word "none", or incorporate the words "unaffiliated" or "uncontrolled" or any similar negative term or the words "affiliated" or "controlled".

2. This statement shall not include an office unless at least one elector signing this application is entitled to vote at an election for such office.

3. At least twenty-five (25) electors must sign this application (see reverse side) as members of the Party Designation Committee.

For Use by Secretary of the State's Office Only

Statement Received By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Statement complies with requirements of statute; party designation reserved for offices indicated. For each office listed, this reservation shall continue in effect from date recorded until the day following any regular election at which no candidate appears on the appropriate ballot for that office under this party designation.

Statement does not comply with requirements of statute. Defects:

\_\_\_\_\_

(OVER)

## **WHAT IS A STATEMENT OF ENDORSEMENT?**

A Statement of Endorsement is a written document signed by the two individuals on the Application for Reservation of Party Designation, indicating that they are endorsing such candidate(s) to appear on the ballot under the party name specified.

## **CAN I APPEAR ON THE BALLOT AS A REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRATIC?**

No. The name of such party cannot incorporate the name of any major party. It cannot absorb a minor party which is entitled to nominate candidates for any office which will appear on the same ballot. It shall not be the same as any party name for which a reservation with the Secretary is currently in effect or it cannot be the words "none", or incorporate the words "unaffiliated", or "unenrolled".

## **IF I AM A CANDIDATE; MAY I CIRCULATE AND SIGN MY OWN PETITION?**

Yes. Each circulator of nominating petition page shall be a United States citizen, at least eighteen years of age and shall not be on parole for conviction of a felony.

## **I JUST RECEIVED MY PARTIES ENDORSEMENT; CAN I ALSO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT AS A NOMINATING PETITION CANDIDATE?**

The nomination of a candidate by a major party shall disqualify such candidate from appearing on the ballot by nominating petition unless (1) the petition is circulated by an existing minor party and (2) the minor party is otherwise qualified to nominate candidates on the same ballot, and (3) a candidate of the existing minor party received at least 15,000 votes for the office of Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, State Comptroller, or Attorney General in the previous state election for any such office.



## WHEN IS THE LAST DAY TO RETURN MY COMPLETED PETITIONS?

- ◆ Not later than 4:00 p.m. on the 90<sup>th</sup> day preceding the day of the regular election.

## WHERE SHALL I RETURN MY COMPLETED PETITIONS?

- ◆ The circulator shall return the petitions to either the Secretary of the State or to the town clerk in which the signer resides.
- ◆ The circulator **MUST** complete the back side of the petition in front of a Notary Public or Town Clerk or Secretary of the State. Per state elections law all petitions **MUST** be a two sided document (voter signatures on front, circulator endorsement on back). **No exceptions**. If not followed, petitions will **NOT** be accepted and signatures will **NOT** be counted.

**TO: The Secretary of the State of Connecticut**

|   |                         |  |                         |
|---|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| PETITION CIRCULATED IN THE TOWN OF        | SENATORIAL DISTRICT NO. | ELECTION DATE                                    | CANDIDATE'S NAME        |
|   | 1                       | Nov. 3, 2020                                     | Mark Stewart Greenstein |
| PARTY DESIGNATION (If none, write "None") |                         | CANDIDATE ADDRESS (including Connecticut town)   |                         |
| EPIC                                      |                         | 381 South Main Street<br>West Hartford, CT 06107 |                         |

We, the undersigned, are qualified electors in the Connecticut Town and District named above, in which District a State Election will be held on the date shown. We do hereby petition that, at this Election, there be placed on the voting machine ballot labels to be used in each town in said District the name of the above individual as a candidate for the office shown above and under the party designation shown (if any). By signing below, we are attesting to our identity and qualification as electors and sign under penalties of false signing pursuant to Sec. 9-453g of the General Statutes. **WARNING: It is a crime to sign this petition in the name of another person without legal authority to do so and you may not sign this petition if you are not an elector.**

| REJ* | SIGNATURE OF REGISTERED ELECTOR | PRINTED NAME OF ELECTOR | BIRTH DATE | STREET ADDRESS |
|------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------|
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| 2    |                                 |                         |            |                |
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\*REJECTION CODE  
 A - Not a Registered Elector B - Name illegible C - Voter signed petition twice D - Other (Indicate and Explain in detail on reverse side)

CIRCULATOR'S STATEMENT OF RESIDENCY AND ELIGIBILITY, and OF AUTHENTICITY OF SIGNATURES (To be signed by Circulator in presence of acknowledging Officer, after obtaining all signatures on this page and before filing it with the town clerk in the town in which the signers of the page reside.)

CIRCULATOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CIRCULATOR'S STREET ADDRESS (No. and Street): \_\_\_\_\_ CIRCULATOR'S TOWN OF RESIDENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

I, circulator of this Nominating Petition Page, state under the penalties of false statement that my street address is as stated above, in the town specified; that I am a United States citizen at least 18 years of age, a resident of a town in this state and that I am not on parole for conviction of a felony; that each person whose name appears on this page signed the same in person in my presence; and that I either know each such signer, or each such signer satisfactorily identified himself or herself to me.

DATE SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE OF CIRCULATOR: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGING OFFICER**

State of Connecticut  
 County of: \_\_\_\_\_ JSS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(city or town)

On this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, before me, the undersigned officer, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Statement of Circulator and I certify that the circulator signed the STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY OF SIGNATURES in my presence.

In Witness Whereof I hereunto set my hand.

NOTARIES PUBLIC ONLY: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge of a court of record; family support magistrate; clerk or deputy clerk of a court having a seal; commissioner of deeds or town clerk; notary

**CERTIFICATION OF THE NUMBER OF SIGNED NAMES OF ELECTORS (See Sections 9-453k and 9-453l, C.G.S.)**  
**BY TOWN CLERK OF THE TOWN OF ELECTORS WHO HAVE SIGNED THEIR NAMES**

DATE PETITION SUBMITTED: \_\_\_\_\_ NO. OF SIGNED NAMES OF ELECTORS: \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT NO. (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

I, Town Clerk of the town named below, certify that this Nominating Petition Page was submitted to me on the date shown above AND: (Check the applicable statement below.)

that it contains the above-noted number of signed names of electors whose names appear on the last-completed registry list of this town or who have been admitted as electors since the completion of such list, which electors are eligible to vote for the candidate(s) named in this petition

that I have delegated the checking of the names of persons whose signatures appear on the reverse side of this sheet to the registrars of voters, pursuant to Section 9-453L and the registrars have consented thereto.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TOWN OF: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED (Town Clerk): \_\_\_\_\_

**BY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (To be completed only if checking of signatures has been delegated by Town Clerk to Registrars of Voters and Registrars have consented thereto.)**

We, the Registrars of Voters of the town named below, certify that this Nominating Petition Page contains the number of signed names of electors, noted below, whose names appear on the last-completed registry list of this town or who have been admitted as electors since the completion of such list, which electors are eligible to vote for the candidate(s) named in this petition.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TOWN OF: \_\_\_\_\_ NO. OF SIGNED NAMES OF ELECTORS: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED (Registrar of Voters): \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED (Registrar of Voters): \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR USE BY TOWN CLERK OR REGISTRARS IN MAKING A RECORD OF OTHER REASONS FOR REJECTIONS OF SIGNED NAMES**



THANK YOU!