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SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS
PASCO COUNTY



Multi-County State and Federal Candidate Information Guide

Revised - 05-05-2026 - 02:55:08 PM

2026 Election Cycle

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Candidates for Multi-County, State, or Federal Office

FROM: Brian E. Corley

SUBJECT: Information Guide

While the Florida Election Code outlines your duties and responsibilities, there are unique policies and/or procedures for each of the sixty-seven Florida Counties. Therefore, this guide has been prepared specifically for candidates who are running for multi-county, state, or federal offices in an effort to familiarize them with the specific information unique to Pasco County. A few examples include sign ordinances, Pasco County's early voting schedule and locations, the public testing of voting equipment, etc.

Know that it is my intent that this information be a valuable reference to you in your campaign. However, questions will arise that have not been addressed in this guide. Please call my office at any time if you have additional questions or need clarification.

Also, please know that should any conflict of information arise between the enclosed information and Florida Statutes, the Florida Election Code will prevail. My staff and I stand ready to assist in any way that we are permitted by Florida law.

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I. CANDIDATE PETITIONS

A. CAN I QUALIFY AS A CANDIDATE BY PETITION?

Pursuant to **99.095, Florida Statutes**, a person seeking to qualify for nomination to any office may qualify to have their name placed on the ballot by means of the petitioning process. **HOWEVER**, signatures **MAY NOT** be obtained until the candidate has filed the appointment of campaign treasurer form pursuant to **106.021, Florida Statutes (Exception: Federal and Special District Candidates)**. Additionally, the signatures are only valid for the qualifying period immediately following such filings.

- < The format of the petition (**Form DS-DE 104**) shall be prescribed by the division and shall be used by the candidates to reproduce for circulation. Candidates will be required to obtain signatures of at least one percent (1%) of the total number of registered voters in their district. (The registration statistics used in computing the requisite number of signatures are those for the 2024 General Election.)
- < If you are qualifying by the petition process, the number of valid signatures you must secure is listed in a table on the Division of Elections website.
<https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/candidates-committees/qualifying/>
- < The statutory fee for signature verification is ten cents (\$.10) per signature verified. The fee is due when the petitioner submits the petitions for verification to the Supervisor of Elections. If filing an Affidavit of Undue Burden, you must submit the form at the same time you submit your first batch of petitions (to each county verifying your petitions).
- < **99.097(4), Florida Statutes**, allows you to file an Undue Burden Affidavit with the Supervisor of Elections exempting you from paying the ten cents (\$.10) per name checked. This oath must be filed with the Supervisor of Elections at the time petitions are submitted for verification. The form used will be the "Affidavit of Undue Burden." (**Form DS-DE 19A**)
- < The signed petitions must be submitted to the Supervisor of Elections **prior to 12:00 Noon on May 11, 2026**, for verification. The petition deadline for Judicial Candidates is **prior to Noon, March 23, 2026**.
- < The Supervisor of Elections will certify the number of valid petitions to the Division of Elections once the signatures have been verified. The deadline for the Supervisor of Elections to certify petitions to the Division of Elections is by 5:00 p.m. on April 13, 2026 for Federal, Judicial, State Attorney and Public Defender candidates and 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2026 for Statewide, District and Multi-County candidates.

- < If you meet the petition requirement for the office you are seeking, you will not be required to pay the qualifying fee and will be entitled to have your name printed on the ballot.

Note: If the candidate is running for an office which will be grouped on the ballot with two or more similar offices to be filled at the same election and the petition does not indicate the group or district office for which they are running, the signatures obtained on the petition will not be counted.

II. PUBLIC TEST

Section **101.5612(1), Florida Statutes**, requires all electronic or electromechanical voting systems shall be thoroughly tested at the conclusion of maintenance and programming. Tests shall be sufficient to determine that the voting system is properly programmed, the election is correctly defined on the voting system, and all of the voting system input, output, and communication devices are working properly.

Pursuant to **101.5612(2), Florida Statutes**, on any day not more than 25 days prior to the commencement of early voting as provided in **101.657, Florida Statutes**, the supervisor of elections shall have the automatic tabulating equipment publicly tested to ascertain that the equipment will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures.

The following **tentative** schedule will apply to the 2026 elections: (subject to change)

Primary Election –

Monday, August 3, 2026 3:00 p.m.

General Election –

Friday, October 16, 2026 3:00 p.m.

The testing location will be:

Supervisor of Elections – Election Service Center
Pasco County Technology Center
38283 McDonald Street
Dade City, Florida 33525

III. CAMPAIGN/POLITICAL SIGNS

As indicated in **106.1435, Florida Statutes**, after a candidate withdraws, is eliminated or elected, the candidate shall make a good faith effort to remove all political campaign advertisements within 30 days. However, in order to comply with the Land Development Code, political signs or posters must be removed within 5 days after the political issue has been decided. Please note the section entitled "Political Signs". This information was provided by the Pasco County Department of Land Development. A candidate is not expected to remove those political campaign advertisements which are in the form of signs used by an outdoor advertising business as provided in Chapter 479. The provisions herein do not apply to political campaign advertisements placed on motor vehicles or to campaign messages designed to be worn by persons.

If the political signs are not removed within the specified time, a political subdivision or government entity has the authority to remove advertisements and may charge the candidate the actual cost for such removal.

No political advertisements shall be erected, posted, painted, tacked, nailed, or otherwise displayed, placed, or located on or above any state or county road right-of-way.

NOTE: Some polling locations and early voting sites may not allow campaign signs to be erected, posted, painted, tacked, nailed, or otherwise displayed, placed, or located on their property except during polling hours.

Additionally: This does not preclude municipalities from imposing additional or more stringent requirements on the usage or removal of political campaign advertisement. Candidates should contact individual municipalities for information regarding their political campaign advertisements.

Dade City	352-523-5050	New Port Richey	727-853-1016
San Antonio	352-588-2127	Port Richey	727-816-1900
St. Leo	352-588-2622	Zephyrhills	813-780-0000

POLITICAL SIGNS

Candidates should familiarize themselves with Pasco County Board of County Commissioners Resolution 11-300. This resolution details the county’s policy on political signs at county owned facilities for both Early Voting periods and Election Days. A copy of this resolution is given to each person who pulls papers to run for office in Pasco County.

Permits are no longer required by Pasco County for political signs (defined as any sign identifying and urging support for or opposition to a particular issue, political party, or candidate for public office) but they remain subject to the Pasco County Land Development Code Section 406.1.6:

https://library.municode.com/fl/pasco_county/codes/land_development_code?nodeId=CH400PETYAP_S406MIPE

For clarification or additional information, contact the Zoning/Code Compliance Division at (727) 847-8142.

POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS IN ALL STATE RIGHT OF WAYS

Chapter **479.11, Florida Statutes**, mandates that political campaign signs may not be placed in the right of way of any state or national highway.

All political campaign signs placed on the State right of way will be picked up by the Florida Department of Transportation staff and placed in one of the department maintenance yards.

All campaign staff/workers should be made aware of the regulations for political sign placement. If workers are given a copy of this notice prior to distributing campaign signs, it may eliminate a trip(s) to the maintenance yard to retrieve the confiscated signs.

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS

- < Vote by Mail ballots are **tentatively scheduled** to be mailed the week of July 9, 2026, for the Primary Election and the week of September 24, 2026, for the General Election. Pursuant to Florida Statutes, military and overseas ballots will be mailed the week of July 3rd and September 19th respectively.
- < After the initial mailing, Vote by Ballots are mailed daily upon request through the tenth day prior to the election. **(101.62(2), Florida Statutes)**
- < Data for Vote by Mail ballot voters may be obtained through the Supervisor of Elections' office. However, this information is only available to those entitled to the data, per Florida Statutes. Candidates requesting this data must do so in writing, include their campaign contact information, and the candidate's signature.
- < Visit <https://www.pascovotes.gov/Candidates/Guide-for-Candidates/Data-Requests-for-information-on-data-requests-and-the-Vote-by-Mail-Ballot-Information-Request-Form>
- < Any registered voter may request/vote a mail ballot without cause. The Vote by Mail ballot may be requested in person, in writing, by email, or by telephone. All requests must contain all information required by Florida Statutes.
- < Pursuant to **101.68(2)(a), Florida Statutes**, the canvassing board may process returned Vote by Mail ballots through the tabulation equipment once the public test has been completed. However, **NO** results may be released until after the polls close.

- < The following dates are the **tentative** dates the Pasco County Canvassing Board will begin canvassing Vote by Mail ballots: (subject to change)

Primary Election	August 12, 2026	8:00 a.m.
General Election	October 26, 2026	8:00 a.m.

- < Reasonable access, upon request, to review or inspect ballot materials will be granted prior to canvassing or tabulation.

Vote by Mail Canvassing will be conducted at:

Supervisor of Elections – Election Service Center
 Pasco County Technology Center
 38283 McDonald Street
 Dade City, Florida 33525

NOTE: Candidates may pick up a ballot ONLY for themselves at any time. However, with a written request signed by the voter, the candidate may pick up a ballot for an immediate family member. Timeframes, forms, and requirements for picking up ballots are prescribed by Florida Statutes. All applicable requirements must be met prior to a ballot being produced.

B. EARLY VOTING

- < In Pasco County, Early Voting will be conducted for an eight (8) day period prior to the Primary Election. Early Voting will be conducted for a thirteen (13) day period prior to the General Election. The early voting locations listed below are subject to change.

- < Pasco County plans to use twelve (12) Early Voting sites in 2026. **The sites are:**
 - East Pasco Government Center, Lobby, Dade City
 - Alice Hall Community Center, Zephyrhills (**subject to change**)
 - New River Branch Library, Zephyrhills
 - Wesley Chapel District Park, Wesley Chapel
 - Land O’ Lakes Recreation Center, Land O’ Lakes
 - Utilities Administration Building, Land O’ Lakes
 - Odessa Community Center, Odessa
 - J. Ben Harrill Recreation Complex, Holiday
 - New Port Richey Recreation Center, New Port Richey
 - West Pasco Government Center, New Port Richey
 - Wiregrass Ranch Sports Campus, Wesley Chapel
 - Veterans Memorial Park, Hudson

NOTE: The Hudson Regional Library will be under construction and **unavailable** for 2026 for both Early Voting and Election Day. Early Voting **will no longer** be conducted at the Regency Park Library.

< **The dates for early voting are:**

Primary Election	August 8 th – August 15, 2026
General Election	October 19 th – October 31, 2026

< **The times for early voting are:**

Primary Election

All days 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

General Election

All days 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

C. SAMPLE BALLOTS

< Sample ballots include all races and are available online at *www.PascoVotes.gov* approximately one month prior to the election. **(101.20, Florida Statutes)**

< Precinct specific sample ballots will also be mailed to every eligible registered voter prior to the primary and general elections.

D. VOTER REGISTRATION DATA

< Requests for voter registration or mail ballot data may be made in person, by telephone, in writing or by email. (Supervisor of Elections' Office contact information listed on page 12)

< The voter information provided may include, but is not limited to name, address, ID number, precinct, party, gender, race, voting history, etc. Email addresses are only included when specifically requested. The data is in text file format and is sortable once opened in specific applications (such as Excel or Access). Contact the elections' office for more information on what is available.

< Data for Vote by Mail ballot voters may be obtained through the Supervisor of Elections' Office. However, this information is only available to those entitled to the data. Candidates requesting this data must do so in writing and include their campaign contact information and the candidate's signature. Vote by Mail data is not available until 60 days prior to the Primary Election.

< Visit <https://www.pascovotes.gov/Candidates/Guide-for-Candidates/Data-Requests> for information on data requests and the Vote by Mail Ballot Information Request Form

NOTE: Voter data is free of charge. Once data is requested, candidates will be assigned passwords for logging into the data retrieval program. Instructions for data retrieval will be given to each candidate once the request for data is made.

E. POLL WATCHERS

- < Submit your poll watcher designation forms (DS-DE 125) to the Pasco County Supervisor of Elections' Office by the designated due dates. Submissions can be sent by USPS or other mail carrier delivery, fax, or email.
 - You may fax your Poll Watcher Designation form(s) to 352-521-4319
 - You may email your Poll Watcher Designation form(s) to cand@pascovotes.gov
 - You may mail your Poll Watcher Designation form(s) to: PO Box 300, Dade City, FL 33526-0300

- < The elections' office will notify you of those that are approved or disapproved no later than the statutory deadline.

- < The elections' office will send authorization letters, name badges, and poll watcher guidelines to the approved poll watchers via USPS no later than the statutory deadline.

- < Names of approved poll watchers are given to the Precinct and Site Supervisors to aid in their supervision at the Polling Place and Early Voting site.

NOTE: If issues arise at a Polling Place or Early Voting site due to the actions of a poll watcher, the elections' office will notify your campaign as soon as possible so that you may correct the situation. If the situation continues, the Supervisor of Elections will take appropriate measures to alleviate the issues.

V. SAMPLE FORMS

CANDIDATE PETITION			
<p><i>Notes: - All information on this form becomes a public record upon receipt by the Supervisor of Elections. - It is a crime to knowingly sign more than one petition for a candidate. [Section 104.185, Florida Statutes] - If all requested information on this form is not completed, the form will not be valid as a Candidate Petition form.</i></p>			
<p>I, _____, undersigned, a registered voter (print name as it appears on your voter information card)</p>			
<p>in said state and county, petition to have the name of _____ placed on the Primary/General Election Ballot as a: [check/complete/apply, if applicable]</p>			
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Nonpartisan <input type="checkbox"/> No party affiliation <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Party candidate for the office of _____ (insert title of office and jurisdiction, such as circuit, group, seat number, if applicable)</p>			
<p>Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)</p>	<p>or Voter Registration Number</p>	<p>Address</p>	
<p>City</p>	<p>County</p>	<p>State</p>	<p>Zip Code</p>
<p>Signature of Voter</p>			<p>Date Signed (MM/DD/YY) [to be completed by Voter]</p>
<p>Rule 1S-2.046, F.A.C. DS-DE 104 (Eff. 09/11)</p>			

1. **Candidates are responsible for reproduction of the petition.**
2. **ALL petitions must be submitted to the Supervisor of Elections prior to Noon, May 11, 2026. Judicial petitions are due by Noon, March 23, 2026.**
3. **Petitions are verified on a first-come first-served basis.**

AFFIDAVIT OF UNDUE BURDEN FOR CANDIDATES

Notice: An undue burden affidavit may be filed by a candidate seeking to qualify if paying charges to verify signatures pursuant to section [99.097\(4\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#), Florida Statutes, would impose an undue burden on personal resources or other resources otherwise available to such candidate.

If any person is paid to solicit signatures on a petition, an undue burden oath may not be subsequently filed in lieu of paying the fees to verify the petition. If an undue burden oath has been filed and payment is subsequently made to any person to solicit signatures on a petition, the undue burden oath is no longer valid and a fee for all signatures previously submitted to the supervisor of elections and any that are submitted thereafter shall be paid as set forth in [s. 99.097\(6\)](#), Florida Statutes.

(1) If contributions as defined in section [106.011](#), Florida Statutes, are received, any surplus contributions must first be used to reimburse the supervisor of elections for any signature verification fees that were paid because of the filing of an undue burden oath. (2) Any candidate who qualifies for a petition process and who has surplus funds, must first apply the surplus funds to the reimbursement of signature verification fees (if applicable) upon terminating the campaign. See [s. 106.141\(7\)](#), Florida Statutes.

I certify under oath that I intend to qualify as a candidate for the office of _____ and that I am unable to pay the fee for verification of petition signatures for that office without imposing an undue burden on my personal resources or on resources otherwise available to me.

Print Name

Signature

Address

City

State

Telephone Number

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Signature of Notary Public
Print, Type or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public below:

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me
by means of online notarization
or physical presence
this _____ day of _____, 20____
Personally Known or Produced identification
Type of Identification Produced: _____

Section 1. Election **Official Use Only**

Election Date: _____
 Select Early Voting or Election Day: _____

Section 2. Category of Authorized Persons **Complete Only One of the Boxes Below:**

I am a candidate (or candidate designee*) for the following office in this election: _____
 I am the chair (or designee*) of the County Executive Committee of the following Party: _____
 I am the chair (or designee*) of the following Political Committee: _____
 * A candidate or chair as indicated above must first submit a written, signed designation to the supervisor of elections (or for statewide candidates/issues, to the Division of Elections) authorizing the designee to designate poll watchers on his or her behalf.

Section 3. Candidate/Chair/Designee

I request that the listed person(s) below (none of whom is a candidate or a sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer or other law enforcement officer), who are and registered voters of the county in which they will serve, be approved as poll watchers at the locations indicated below.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Email address: _____
 Phone: _____

By submitting this form, I certify that I am the person listed above and I am authorized under s. 101.131, Florida Statutes, to designate poll watchers.
 Date Submitted: _____ Note: This form becomes a public record when submitted to the Supervisor of Elections.

Section 4. List of Designated Poll Watchers **Official Use Only**

Name	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	Residential Address	Phone #	Polling Place / Early Voting Site (Either write "All Locations" or specify location)	Approved (Y/N)	Assigned Badge Number

Form DS-DE 125 (Eff. 8/2016) Rule 15-2.054, F. A. C. Early Voting Deadline - No later than noon at least 14 days before early voting begins
 Election Day Deadline - No later than noon of the 2nd Tuesday before the election

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Form DS-DE 125 (Eff. 8/2016) Rule 15-2.054, F. A. C. Early Voting Deadline - No later than noon at least 14 days before early voting begins
 Election Day Deadline - No later than noon of the 2nd Tuesday before the election

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me is not on the ballot.
 signing Early Voting and Election
 identify the person as a registered

the start of early voting and the

lar polling room/EV area does not
 tcher designated by the same
 ion Badge while in the polling room

6. Must bring his or her own materials and necessities.
 7. Is allowed within the polling room to observe the conduct of the election. He or she may not obstruct the orderly conduct of the election.
 8. May observe the voter check-in process. He or she may not come closer to the inspectors' table or the voting booths than is reasonably necessary to perform the poll watcher's functions.
 9. May not speak to or otherwise interact with voters nor provide assistance to a voter in any way with the voting of his/her ballot, unless a Request for Assistance Form is completed at the voter's request.
 10. May make and provide written voter challenges to the precinct clerk.
 11. Shall pose any questions regarding polling place procedures directly to the precinct clerk for resolution.
- Note: For further details or requirements governing the designation and conduct of poll watchers, refer to sections 101.131 and 101.111, Florida Statutes; Rule 15-2.034 of the Florida Administrative Code; and the rule's incorporated form, DS-DE 11, which contains the Polling Place Procedures Manual.

NOTES: