



ALEX PADILLA | SECRETARY OF STATE | STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ELECTIONS DIVISION

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Summary of
Qualifications and Requirements for the Office of
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR
WRITE-IN CANDIDATE

November 3, 2020, Presidential General Election

Only those names written on the ballot at the General Election for President of the United States, for which a group of 55 Presidential Electors pledge their votes to that write-in candidate, shall be counted as votes. § 8653¹

I. QUALIFICATIONS

A candidate for Presidential Elector must have a valid voter registration affidavit on file in the county of residence at the time nomination papers are obtained. There are no political party preference restrictions on electors; they need only be registered voters in California. § 201

In addition to qualifying the 55 Presidential Electors, the candidate for President of the United States must be a natural-born citizen of the United States, at least 35 years of age, and a resident of the United States for at least 14 years. U.S. Const., art. II, § 1, cl. 5

II. REQUIREMENTS

DECLARATION OF WRITE-IN CANDIDACY—PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR

1. Voters in the Presidential General Election are technically voting for the 55 Presidential Elector candidates, not directly for the candidates for President and Vice President. Therefore, in order to be a write-in presidential candidate, that candidate must have 55 write-in Presidential Elector candidates file papers pledging themselves to the presidential candidate.
2. The 55 write-in candidates for Presidential Elector who have pledged themselves to vote for a candidate for President and a candidate for Vice President must file a Declaration of Write-In Candidacy, which must be received by the Secretary of State on or before October 20, 2020 (E-14). §§ 8650-8653

¹ All code section references are to the California Elections Code unless otherwise stated.

There are two variations of the declaration form:

- a. Declaration of Write-In Candidacy — Presidential Elector - Multiple Signature Form. This form includes spaces for more than one Presidential Elector write-in candidate to sign.
- b. Declaration of Write-In Candidacy — Presidential Elector - Single Signature Form. This form allows each of the 55 Presidential Elector write-in candidates to sign and submit separate forms.
- c. The Secretary of State and county elections officials do not supply Declarations of Write-In Candidacy — Presidential Elector; however, attached are suggested formats for each.

In addition to the elector candidate's name, these forms must also include the elector candidate's residence address, the date of the Presidential General Election, a statement stating that he or she is a write-in candidate for the office of Presidential Elector, an oath of office which must be signed in front of an officer authorized to administer oaths, such as a county elections official or a notary public, and the names of the presidential and vice presidential candidates to whom the elector candidate is pledged. § 8651

The Declaration of Write-In Candidacy can be mailed to or filed in person in the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office at 1500 11th Street, 5th Floor, Sacramento, California, 95814, or at any county elections office.

Please indicate on the envelope "Declaration of Write-In Candidacy." The Declaration of Write-In Candidacy must be received no later than October 20, 2020 (E-14). § 8652

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. Because of the requirements of the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, candidates for federal office should contact the Federal Election Commission at 1050 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C., 20463, or call toll-free (800) 424-9530 for a copy of the Act, related regulations giving the filing requirements for reporting campaign contributions, and the forms on which to file.
- B. No filing fee is required from any person in order to file as a Presidential Elector.
- C. The term of office for United States President is four years, beginning January 20, 2021. U.S. Const., art. II, § 1; 20th Amend., § 1

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This information sheet of candidate qualifications and procedures is for general information only and does not have the force and effect of law, regulation, or rule. In case of conflict, the law, regulation, or rule will apply. The candidate should obtain the most up-to-date information available because of possible changes in law.



California Secretary of State
DECLARATION OF WRITE-IN CANDIDACY – Single Signature Form
Presidential Elector
 November 3, 2020, Presidential General Election (Elections Code §§ 200, 8651)

For County Elections and Secretary of State Official USE ONLY

| | | | |
|----------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| ! | Official Filing Form | Filed in County of _____ | |
| | _____ County Elections Official By: _____ Date Issued: _____ | _____ County Elections Official By: _____ Date Received: _____ | _____ Secretary of State Official |

Candidate Name, Address, and Pledges

1

I hereby declare myself a write-in candidate for the office of Presidential Elector to be voted for at the **Presidential General Election** to be held on **November 3, 2020**, and declare the following to be true:

My name is: _____
 My residence address is:
 Address (Street and Number): _____ Apt or Unit #: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

As a write-in candidate for Presidential Elector, I am pledged to:
 _____ for President of the United States
 (Name)
 _____ for Vice President of the United States
 (Name)

Oath of Office

2

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

X
Signature of Presidential Elector Write-In Candidate

Notary

3

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California
 County of _____
 Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this _____ day of _____, 20 _____, by _____, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) who appeared before me.
 (Seal) _____ Signature _____

Examined and certified by me this _____ day of _____, 20 _____.
 County Elections Official _____

WARNING: Every person acting on behalf of a candidate is guilty of a misdemeanor who deliberately fails to file at the proper time and in the proper place any declaration of candidacy in his or her possession that is entitled to be filed under the provisions of the Elections Code. (Elections Code § 18202.)



California Secretary of State
DECLARATION OF WRITE-IN CANDIDACY – Multiple Signature Form
Presidential Elector
 November 3, 2020, Presidential General Election (Elections Code §§ 200, 8651)

For County Elections and Secretary of State Official USE ONLY

| | | | |
|----------|---|---|--|
| ! | <p style="text-align: center;">Official Filing Form</p> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">County Elections Official By: _____ Date Issued: _____</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Filed in County of _____</p> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">County Elections Official By: _____ Date Received: _____</p> | <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Secretary of State Official</p> |
|----------|---|---|--|

Pledges 1 We, the undersigned, declare that we are write-in candidates for the office of Presidential Elector to be voted for at the **Presidential General Election** to be held on **November 3, 2020**, and declare the following to be true. As write-in candidates for Presidential Elector, we are pledged to:

_____ for President of the United States
 (Name)

_____ for Vice President of the United States
 (Name)

Oath of Office, Candidates Names, and Addresses 2 We, the below-named candidates for Presidential Elector, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that we will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that we will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that we take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that we will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which we are about to enter.

| | |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| Print: 1 | Residence Address: |
| Signature: | City or Town: _____ Zip _____ |
| Print: 2 | Residence Address: |
| Signature: | City or Town: _____ Zip _____ |
| Print: 3 | Residence Address: |
| Signature: | City or Town: _____ Zip _____ |
| Print: 4 | Residence Address: |
| Signature: | City or Town: _____ Zip _____ |
| Print: 5 | Residence Address: |
| Signature: | City or Town: _____ Zip _____ |

Notary 3

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California
 County of _____

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this _____ day of _____, 20____, by _____, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) who appeared before me.

(Seal) _____ Signature _____

Examined and certified by me this _____ day of _____, 20____.
 County Elections Official _____

WARNING: Every person acting on behalf of a candidate is guilty of a misdemeanor who deliberately fails to file at the proper time and in the proper place any declaration of candidacy in his or her possession that is entitled to be filed under the provisions of the Elections Code. (Elections Code § 18202.)