

CANDIDATE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

(Elections Code §13307,13308)

Candidate for the office of _____
(title of office sought)

of the _____
(name of local agency, city, county or district)

at the **Presidential Primary Election to be held March 5, 2024**

Notice to the candidate: This statement may include your age, occupation and a brief description of not more than 200 words of your education and qualifications. It is important that you check your statement carefully before filing as spelling, punctuation and grammar will not be corrected. Please refer to the “Candidate’s Guide for the County of Tehama” for further detailed instructions.

I, _____, submit the following statement:

Name: _____ Age: _____
(Optional)

Occupation _____
(Optional)

Education and Qualifications: (Statement and word count begin here)

initial

I do not wish to have a statement printed in the voter pamphlet.

initial

I wish to have my statement translated and printed in Spanish in addition to English, with the understanding that I will pay the actual cost incurred.

Initial

I agree to pay, upon billing, any additional cost involved in the printing and handling of the submitted statement if actual costs exceed the deposit and understand that a refund will be made if the deposit exceeds the cost. I certify under penalty of perjury that the candidate statement submitted is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature _____

Date _____ Place of Signing _____

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS GUIDELINES

(Elections Code §13307 Excerpts)

FILING PERIOD	The statement shall be filed with the filing officer for your jurisdiction, or the Registrar of Voters Office when nomination documents are returned for filing.
WHERE	Jurisdiction Filing Office or Tehama County Elections Department 633 Washington Street, Room 17 Red Bluff, CA 96080
CONTENTS	The statement may contain the name, age and occupation of the candidate and a brief description of no more than 200 words, of the candidate's education and qualifications expressed by the candidate.
EXAMINATION PERIOD	During the 10-calendar-day examination period following the deadline for submission of the statement any voter of the jurisdiction, or the Registrar of Voters, may seek a writ of mandate or an injunction requiring any or all of the material to be amended or deleted.
LIABILITY	Nothing in this section shall be deemed to make any such statement or the authors thereof free or exempt from any civil or criminal action or penalty because of any false, slanderous or libelous statements offered for printing or contained in the Voter Information Pamphlet.
FORMAT	<p>Candidates are asked to <u>TYPE</u> their statement SINGLE SPACED in BLOCK PARAGRAPHS on a form provided by the Registrar of Voters. The following <u>WILL NOT</u> be permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Handwritten statement ▪ Stars, Bullets, Graphics ▪ Copy from a fax machine ▪ <i>Italics</i>, Bold, All CAPS, <u>Underlined</u> ▪ Extra exclamation points <p>Please see the page following these "guidelines" for an example of an acceptable format. STATEMENTS WILL BE TYPESET EXACTLY AS SUBMITTED; candidates are therefore advised to carefully check their statements for errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar. The Registrar of Voters is authorized to make corrections only to the format of the statement.</p> <p>If the Registrar of Voter's form is not used, the statement must be typed, SINGLE SPACED in BLOCK PARAGRAPHS on plain white paper (8 ½" x 11") with MARGINS (both LEFT and RIGHT) of NO LESS than ½ inch. A fixed pitch font such as COURIER is recommended. Statements need to be submitted in Electronic Format along with the printed and signed copy.</p> <p>The California Elections Code intends uniformity of appearance of the candidates' statements. By preparing a candidate statement in accordance with the above guidelines, each statement will be uniformly printed and allowed the same amount of space in the Voter Information Pamphlet. This avoids favored composition or printing of one candidate's statement over another.</p> <p>The statement will be printed in 8-point type in the Voter Information Pamphlet. Only the candidate's name, age and occupation will be printed in 10-point type. (SAMPLE FOLLOWING IN THIS SECTION)</p>
RESTRICTIONS	The candidate's statement shall not include the party affiliation of the candidate, no membership or activity in partisan political organizations. Candidate's photographs are not permitted.
WITHDRAWAL	The statement may be withdrawn, but not changed, after 5:00 p.m. on the next business day after the close of the nomination period.

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS GUIDELINES (Continued)

CONFIDENTIAL	The candidate's statement shall remain confidential until the close of the nomination period. (E.C. Sec. 13311)
SUPERIOR COURT	Any candidate's statement submitted pursuant to Section 13307 by a candidate for Superior Court shall be limited to a recitation of the candidate's own personal background and qualifications, and shall not in any way make reference to other candidates for judicial office or to another candidate's qualifications, character, or activities. The elections official shall not cause to be printed or circulated any statement which the elections official determines is not so limited or which includes any such references. (E.C. Sec. 13308)
COST	Candidates' statements are paid for at the time they are filed. All money is held and if, for any reason, the statement is not printed, the money will be refunded. The cost is calculated to recover expenses typesetting, printing, addressing, and mailing of the candidate statement portion of the sample ballot pamphlets. Schedule of required deposit by jurisdiction follows these instructions.
WORD COUNT	The following shall apply to the counting of words: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Punctuation is not counted. 2. Each word shall be counted as one word except as specified in this section. 3. All geographical names shall be considered as one word; for example, "County of Tehama" shall be counted as one word. 4. Each abbreviation for a word, phrase, or expression shall be counted as one word. 5. Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available dictionary shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word. 6. Dates consisting of a combination of words and digits shall be counted as two words. Dates consisting only of a combination of digits shall be counted as one word. 7. Any number consisting of a digit or digits shall be considered as one word. Any number which is spelled, such as "one," shall be considered as a separate word or words. "One" shall be counted as one word whereas "one hundred" shall be counted as two words. "100" shall be counted as one word. 8. This section shall not apply to counting words for ballot designations under Elections Code Section 13107. (E.C. Sec. 9)

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS GUIDELINES (Continued)

CANDIDATE'S OWN QUALIFICATIONS	<p>Court Decision Prohibits Any Reference to Opponents</p> <p>All prospective candidates should be aware of the Court of Appeals ruling in the recent court case of Dean v. Superior Court. The 1998 decision analyzed California Elections Code section 13307, the statute governing the content of a candidate's statement for local office. The Court of Appeals concluded that the statement prepared by a candidate for inclusion in a voter's pamphlet may include comments on one's own qualifications, but may not include comments on one's opponents' qualifications, or lack thereof.</p> <p>"The Dean Decision is clear Candidates are not to refer to their opponents in any manner in the candidate's statement."</p> <p>All candidates should confine their voter pamphlet statement to a listing of their particular qualifications and pertinent biographical information.</p> <p>Importantly, persons seeking office that use the candidate's statement as a forum for attacking an opponent are subject to legal action by the opponent. The opponent can request that the court strike all improper content in a candidate's statement. If successful in this effort, the candidate can request and the court can order the losing candidate to pay the attorney's fee and costs incurred by the opponent in challenging the candidate's non-conforming statement. Accordingly, it is in each candidate's best interest to use his or her allotted words wisely and within the permissible scope of Elections Code section 13307.</p> <p>Prospective candidates are solely responsible for preparation and submittal of candidate's statements that are in conformance with Elections Code section 13307 and other pertinent provisions of the California Elections Code. The Registrar of Voters and its employees and agents do not have the legal authority to reject or modify candidate statements containing improper content. Challenges to written material in a voter's pamphlet are governed by Elections Code section 13313, which authorizes the courts to amend or delete false, misleading or inconsistent material.</p>
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Deposits Required for Candidate's Statement

Registered Voters within Election Jurisdiction	Amount of Deposit Required
Non-countywide contests*	\$500.00
Countywide contests*	\$750.00
GC 85601 – State Offices Accepting Campaign Limits*	\$800.00
*Spanish translations and printing are available for an additional fee – Check with Election Official.	

- ❖ Costs to the candidate could easily be higher or lower than the deposit. Candidates will be billed or refunded the difference accordingly.

NOTE: EC 18351 provides that any candidate for a local nonpartisan office in an election who prepares a candidate statement and knowingly makes a false statement of a material fact with the intent to mislead the voters is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.