

# FAQ

The LCBER is providing this document as a courtesy. Where your legal rights are involved, do not rely on this information. Please review the law yourself or consult your attorney.

## ***I'm running as an independent? When and what do I file?***

Independent candidates only appear on the general election ballot in November and typically require verified voter petition signatures to qualify. Contact our office to learn about the process and deadlines.

## ***How do I get my forms?***

Stop by the office or visit [in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/](https://in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/)

## ***Do I have to deliver my forms in person?***

The Lake County Board of Elections and Registration can ONLY accept *original, hand-signed* candidate declaration forms in person or by mail. No email, pdfs, or faxes. If your form is already notarized, someone can drop this off on your behalf.

## ***How can I get my forms notarized?***

The LCBER offers free notary services for candidate filing. If utilizing these services, DO NOT sign your forms until you are with our notary.

## ***What ID do I need?***

The notary will require a state ID with a picture (ie driver's license).

## ***How do I learn more about how to run for office?***

The Purdue Extension and Lake County Clerk's office are co-hosting a local training on 01/21/26 from 5-7pm CT. You can register at [cdext.purdue.edu](https://cdext.purdue.edu) or call 219.755.3240. Or check out the Secretary of State's 2026 Candidate Guide at [in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information](https://in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information). If you are running as a member of a major party, contact your party chair.

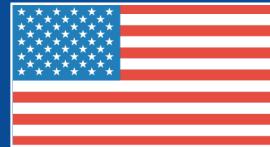
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## Need help?



LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF  
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

2293 N Main St  
Crown Point, IN 46307  
Office hours: M-F, 8:30am-4:30pm  
[lakecountyin.gov/departments/voters](https://lakecountyin.gov/departments/voters)  
219.755.3795



ARE YOU  
READY TO  
SERVE?



GUIDE TO  
RUNNING FOR OFFICE

2026



LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF  
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

TYPE

OFFICE

FILE  
FORM

WITH

FROM

FEDERAL	United States Representative, District 1	See 2026 Candidate Guide at <a href="http://in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/">in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/</a>	State of Indiana Election Division	<b>Opens</b> 01/07/2026
				<b>Closes</b> NOON ET on 02/06/26
STATE	Secretary of State State Comptroller Treasurer of State	See 2026 Candidate Guide at <a href="http://in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/">in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/</a>	Nomination at state party convention	Check with respective state party
	Indiana State Senator, District 1 Indiana State Senator, District 6 Indiana State Representative, All Districts Prosecuting Attorney, 31 <sup>st</sup> Circuit	See 2026 Candidate Guide at <a href="http://in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/">in.gov/sos/elections/candidate-information/</a>	State of Indiana Election Division	<b>Opens</b> 01/07/2026 <b>Closes</b> NOON ET on 02/06/26
COUNTY	Lake County Circuit Court Clerk Lake County Auditor Lake County Treasurer Lake County Sheriff Lake County Assessor Lake County Commissioner, District 1 Lake County Council Member, All Districts	CAN 2 Declaration of Candidacy  CAN 12 Statement of Economic Interest	Lake County Board of Elections	<b>Opens</b> 01/07/2026 <b>Closes</b> NOON CT on 02/06/26
	Township Assessor* Township Trustee* Township Board Member (3 Per Township)	CAN 2 Declaration of Candidacy  CAN 12 Statement of Economic Interest	Lake County Board of Elections	<b>Opens</b> 01/07/2026 <b>Closes</b> NOON CT on 02/06/26
TOWNSHIP <small>Calumet, Cedar Creek, Center, Eagle Creek, Hanover, Hobart, North, Ross, St. John, West Creek, Winfield</small>	Town Council* <small>Cedar Lake, Dyer, Lowell, Schererville, St. John, Winfield</small>	CAN 2 Declaration of Candidacy  CAN 12 Statement of Economic Interest	Lake County Board of Elections	<b>Opens</b> 01/07/2026 <b>Closes</b> NOON CT on 02/06/26
	<small>*See public officials directory for specific districts/wards</small>			
TOWN	School Board, All Districts*	CAN 12 Statement of Economic Interest	Lake County Board of Elections	<b>Opens</b> 05/19/26 <b>Closes</b> NOON CT on 06/18/26
	<small>*General election only</small>	CAN 34 Petition of Nomination...		
PARTY	<b>Democrat only:</b> Precinct Committeeman*	CAN 37 Declaration of Candidacy for Precinct Committeeman or State Convention Delegate	Lake County Board of Elections	<b>Opens</b> 01/07/2026
	<b>Democrat and Republican</b> State Delegates*	<small>*Primary only</small>		<b>Closes</b> NOON CT on 02/06/26