

Arizona recount procedures (ARS 16-661A)

A recount of the vote is required when the canvass of returns in a primary or general election shows that the margin between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for a particular office, or between the number of votes cast for and against initiated or referred measures or proposals to amend the Constitution of Arizona, is less than or equal to the lesser of the following:

1. One-tenth of one per cent of the number of votes cast for both such candidates or upon such measures or proposals.
2. Two hundred votes in the case of an office to be filled by state electors and for which the total number of votes cast is more than twenty-five thousand.
3. Fifty votes in the case of an office to be filled by state electors and for which the total number of votes cast is twenty-five thousand or less.
4. Two hundred votes in the case of an initiated or referred measure or proposal to amend the constitution.
5. Fifty votes in the case of a member of the legislature.
6. Ten votes in the case of an office to be filled by the electors of a city or town or a county or subdivision of a city, town or county.

Per Statute, (16-661.B) Section A does not apply to elections for precinct committeemen, school district governing boards, community college district governing boards, fire district boards or boards of other special districts.

A recount is required (automatic) if the statutory threshold is met. There is no need for a candidate, citizen or party, etc... to request a recount.

A recount is a judicial process conducted by the court (not the Board of Supervisors).

By statute, the recount must be performed on an automatic tabulating system with a program that differs from the program used in the original tabulation.

Subject to political party participation, a hand count audit of the recount performed.

The result of the recount is presented to the court and the court shall announce the result of the recount and enter an order setting forth its determination.

For more information, please see ARS Title 16, Chapter 4, Article 12