

Important Information about Date Changes for 2020 Primary Election

During the last legislative session, the Arizona State Legislature passed SB 1154, which changes the date of the primary election to the first Tuesday of August. **The primary will be on August 4, 2020** instead of on August 25, 2020. The date of the general election will stay the same. However, the filing window for candidates for both elections has also changed. Here are the new dates:

For partisan candidates: March 9 to April 6, 2020 at 5:00pm

For 16-341 candidates: March 9 to April 6, 2020 at 5:00pm

For non-partisan candidates: June 8 to July 6, 2020 at 5:00pm

These changes have also pushed up the date for calculating signature requirements. These will be based on the January 2, 2020 voter registration figures. Signature requirements will be posted on our website approximately 2 weeks after this date.

Petitions that were circulated with the old primary election date on them will still be accepted.

For more information, follow this link to read a copy of the bill:

<https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/GetDocumentPdf/471544>

Important Information about New Candidate Filing Requirements for 2020

The Arizona State Legislature also passed SB 1451, which requires candidates to file a “statement of interest” prior to gathering petition signatures. This law goes into effect on August 27, 2019. This is a separate form from the Statement of Organization. It needs to be filed with the filing office where you file your petitions. In the case of candidates for county office, it would be filed with us here at the Elections Department. In the case of school district candidates, it should be filed with the Superintendent of Schools. Precinct Committeemen and candidates running for special taxing districts such as fire and water districts are exempt.

Petition signatures collected by candidates who started collecting signatures before August 27, 2019 may not be challenged on the basis of their collection before the filing of a statement of interest so long as the candidate files a statement of interest no later than January 2, 2020.

There is a PDF of the Statement of Interest on our website in the candidate information packets.

For more information, follow this link to read a copy of the bill:

<https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/54leg/1R/laws/0315.htm>