



NEW YORK • 2026 INDEPENDENT BALLOT ACCESS

NEW YORK GOVERNOR

Independent Candidate Ballot-Access Packet

CANDIDATE PACKET

Your 2026 path to the ballot

PUBLIC-FACING EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE • NOT LEGAL ADVICE • SOURCE-CITED GUIDANCE

BEFORE YOU RELY ON THIS PACKET

Confirm any item marked for recheck before acting. This packet is an informational and educational resource, not legal advice; it does not guarantee ballot placement or replace candidate-specific advice from qualified election-law counsel.

REFERENCE • RELIANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY

Rules and official guidance can change, and ballot-access disputes can arise even after a filing. Use the source labels throughout the packet to trace important requirements, recheck filing-critical items against current official sources, and involve qualified election-law counsel when a disputed or high-consequence issue requires it.

CANDIDATE-SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

Prior or parallel candidacy, nomination, primary, party, or filing activity can sometimes change the rules that apply; if any such circumstance applies to you, confirm its effect before relying on the affected step.

NAVIGATION

Contents

01	Route and eligibility
02	Candidate intake and items to resolve
03	Official forms - ballot access
04	Acceptance, fees, guidance, and current Board status
05	Petition signatures and page assembly
06	Signature validity and petition requirements
07	Master calendar
08	Master checklist
09	Where to file
10	Filing day and proof of filing
11	Campaign finance forms
12	Reporting calendar and current filer status
13	Ethics / Financial Disclosure Statement
14	If the petition is challenged / confirming ballot status
15	The mistakes that can end the filing
16	Before you file: final check
17	FAQ, glossary, and contact script
18	Official Resource Directory
19	Sources and 2026 update status

HOW TO USE THIS PACKET

Use the contents as the packet map. Most pages simply state the rule and what to do. Special cues appear only when the candidate needs to act, recheck something, or stop before a filing step. Source labels such as [So3] stay visible so important instructions can be traced to the source list at the end.

Packet status key

REFERENCE	Background or explanation that helps you use the packet.
ACTION	A step for the candidate or campaign to complete.
CONFIRM BEFORE PROCEEDING	Recheck the current rule, form, fact, or status before acting.
STOP / RESOLVE FIRST	Do not proceed with the affected filing step until the issue is resolved.

Color supports the cue, but the written label carries the meaning in print, grayscale, and assistive use.

or • ROUTE & ELIGIBILITY

Route and eligibility

This packet covers the 2026 New York statewide independent-nomination route for Governor. Fill in the candidate, Lieutenant Governor nominee, independent-body name, address, filing-history, and current ballot-status fields as they become known. New York requires an independent nomination for Governor and Lieutenant Governor to be made jointly. [So3]

Question	Current rule / record	What to do
Is this the right route?	Independent statewide nomination is the Article 6 route for a non-official-party line. Independent-body name: _____ . [So2][So3]	Preserve the petition/body record; do not relabel the route from memory.
Must Governor run with Lt. Governor?	Yes. The independent petition is valid only if it jointly nominates both offices. [So3]	Treat Governor + Lieutenant Governor as one joint petition route; enter both candidate names before execution.
Does the candidate meet office qualifications?	Governor must be a U.S. citizen, at least age 30, and a New York resident for the five years immediately before the election. [Si0]	Confirm the candidate-specific citizenship, age, and five-year domicile facts.
What signature rule applied?	45,000 or 1% of the prior gubernatorial vote, whichever is less, plus district distribution. For 2026 the official calendar states 45,000. [So1][So4]	Use 45,000 for the 2026 filing record; never import a proposed 15,000 threshold.
What determines current ballot status?	Use current NYSBOE candidate records and the official General Election certification / candidate-list record for the public status check. [So1][Si1]	Refresh the official record before any ballot-status statement; do not infer status from a filing receipt or campaign statement.
Could the independent-body name or emblem collide?	Yes. The name/emblem may not create confusion with an existing party or a previously filed independent body for the same office. A duplicate selection can trigger Board notice and a short replacement window. [So3]	Pre-screen the proposed name/emblem; monitor Board mail/notices immediately after filing; keep a compliant backup selection ready.

RESIDENCE EVIDENCE

Keep a simple qualification file: five-year New York domicile timeline; ordinary residence records; voter-registration history; identification/address records; citizenship/age proof; and any facts needed to explain a change in domicile. Keep these records to support the candidate's eligibility history; they are not themselves a statutory checklist of required filing exhibits.

- Confirm the candidate's legal name and intended ballot name against the petition/form record.
- Confirm the five-year New York residence qualification and age/citizenship facts.
- Confirm and preserve the joint Governor/Lieutenant Governor ticket record.
- Preserve the independent-body name and emblem exactly as filed.
- Verify the current NYSBOE candidate / ballot record before any status claim.

02 • CANDIDATE INTAKE

Candidate intake and items to resolve

Complete the candidate-specific fields below before relying on this packet for a filing decision. If a fact is unknown, leave it unknown until it can be confirmed.

Candidate fact	Record	What to do
Legal name	_____	Enter and confirm
Office	Governor of New York • 2026	
Lieutenant Governor nominee	_____	Enter and confirm
Independent body	_____	Enter and confirm
Name intended / used for ballot	_____	Confirm from filed petition
Residential address	_____	Enter privately
Five-year NY residence start	_____	Resolve before filing
U.S. citizenship / age 30+	_____	Resolve before filing
§6-146 acceptance filed by applicable deadline	Yes / No / Unknown	Confirm before relying
Committee on vacancies	_____	Confirm from filed petition
Campaign-finance filer / committee	_____	Keep current
Public Campaign Finance participation	Yes / No / Unknown	Keep current
2026 FDS filing date / confirmation	_____	Confirm
Eligibility at start of term under §6-122	Yes / No / Unknown	Resolve before filing
Independent-body name/emblem conflict notice	None / Received / Unknown	Watch for notice; correct promptly
Current court case / order, if any	_____	Counsel review if applicable

IMPORTANT 2026 TIMING

The 2026 petition-circulation window is closed; do not restart circulation for this election. Do not describe a petition as pending or valid based on filing alone. Do not treat campaign-finance or ethics filings as proof of ballot qualification. The 2026 independent petition filing and acceptance dates are already past. [SOL]

03 • OFFICIAL FORMS

Ballot-access forms

The forms below are official NYSBOE samples. Because the 2026 petition window is closed, use them to understand the required format and to compare against the filed record rather than to start a new 2026 petition.

For Sample Independent Nominating Petition

OFFICIAL SAMPLE • 2026 ROUTE FORM | Issuer: New York State Board of Elections

Purpose: The statutory-format statewide petition for an independent body and joint Governor/Lieutenant Governor ticket.

How to use it: Use the official sample as the baseline for checking the filed petition: election date, candidates/offices, residences, independent-body name/emblem, signer data, witness statement, and committee on vacancies if used. [So2][So5]

Where it goes: NYSBOE for statewide offices.

[OPEN OFFICIAL FORM / RESOURCE](#)

BEFORE YOU USE THIS: The 2026 circulation and filing window is closed; do not use this form to begin a new 2026 circulation effort.

Fo2 Sample Cover Sheet

REQUIRED WHEN PETITION HAS 10+ SHEETS | Issuer: New York State Board of Elections

Purpose: Identifies and indexes a multi-sheet petition filing under current NYSBOE/Part 6215 requirements.

How to use it: For a 10+ sheet petition, use the current NYSBOE cover-sheet requirements and reconcile every volume/page to the actual cover sheet and distribution material. [So2][S17]

Where it goes: Filed with the petition at NYSBOE.

[OPEN OFFICIAL FORM / RESOURCE](#)

BEFORE YOU USE THIS: Use the filed 2026 cover sheet as evidence; do not manufacture a replacement for a completed filing.

WHY PAGE ASSEMBLY MATTERS

New York petition review can turn on facial page counts, sheet form, witness execution, cover-sheet information, and geographic distribution. A complete page-and-volume log helps check volumes, signatures, and district distribution before filing and during any review. [So2][So4]

04 • ACCEPTANCE & STATUS

Acceptance, guidance, fee, and Board status

F03 Sample Certificate of Acceptance §6-146**FILING-CRITICAL IF REQUIRED** | Issuer: New York State Board of Elections**Purpose:** Records a candidate's acceptance of an independent-body nomination where Election Law requires it.**How to use it:** For the 2026 independent route, May 29 was the ordinary acceptance/declination deadline. If other nomination or primary activity affected the candidate, confirm whether a later statutory declination rule applied before concluding the record was untimely. [S01][S06][S08]**Where it goes:** New York State Board of Elections.[OPEN OFFICIAL FORM / RESOURCE](#)**BEFORE YOU USE THIS:** The deadline is past. Treat the filed record, not a new certificate, as the operative evidence.**G01 NYSBOE Petition Information****CURRENT OFFICIAL GUIDANCE** | Issuer: New York State Board of Elections**Purpose:** Explains petition form fields, sample forms, cover-sheet requirements, filing locations, and current witness guidance.**How to use it:** Use it as the current practical companion to Article 6 and the 2026 Political Calendar; note when you checked it because guidance can change.**Where it goes:** Reference only.[OPEN CURRENT PETITION GUIDANCE](#)**BEFORE YOU USE THIS:** Witness guidance has changed under federal litigation; edge-case witness questions require current legal review.**CHECK THE CURRENT RECORD**

Before relying on any 2026 ballot-status conclusion, confirm the current NYSBOE candidate /filing record and the official General Election certification / candidate list when issued. Keep the official source and date of check. [S01][S11]

BALLOT-ACCESS FILING FEE

No ballot-access filing fee was located in the official petition sources reviewed for this statewide route. That does not prove there is no fee. Confirm the current NYSBOE record for this office and route before relying on "no fee."

05 • PETITION SIGNING & ASSEMBLY

Petition signatures and page assembly

LEGAL MINIMUM

For a 2026 statewide independent nomination, the official minimum was 45,000 signatures. The petition also needed at least 500 signatures, or 1% of enrolled voters if less, from each of one-half of New York’s congressional districts – at least 13 districts under the 26-district map. [So1][So4]

What to check	Official rule / source	What you should do
Who may sign	Registered voters of the political unit; same-office duplicate effective petition signing can defeat counting. [So3]	Validate voter and duplicate status against the 2026 record.
First valid signing date	Apr. 14, 2026. Earlier signatures do not count under the six-week rule. [So1][So3]	Check dates; early signatures cannot be fixed after filing.
Signature medium	Official sample is an ink-signature petition; electronic signatures are not accepted. [So2]	Protect originals and preserve high-quality scans.
Witness statement	Current NYSBOE guidance reflects Schmidt v. Kosinski; some witness scenarios need added service-address language. [So2]	Flag nonresident/out-of-district witness edge cases for counsel.
Joint ticket / body	Governor + Lt. Governor must be jointly nominated; independent-body name/emblem rules apply. [So3][So5]	Check every petition face for consistent candidates/body/emblem.
Cover sheet	Required for 10+ sheets under current NYSBOE requirements. [So2]	Reconcile filed volumes/pages to the actual cover sheet.
Distribution	Statewide route requires qualifying signatures in at least half the congressional districts. [So1][So4]	Preserve the filed distribution schedule and district counts.

Petition page and volume log

Volume / page	Witness	Raw	Issues to check	District	Filed

06 • SIGNATURE VALIDITY & PETITION REQUIREMENTS

Signature validity & petition requirements

STOP • DO NOT PROCEED • A SIGNATURE COUNT ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH

A petition can meet the numerical threshold and still lose signatures or entire sheets because of signer-line errors, witness execution, page assembly, or filing-format defects. Treat those details as part of the filing itself, and use only requirements supported by current official sources.

Petition requirements that can invalidate signatures or sheets

What to check	Official rule / source	What you should do	Candidate cue
Signature medium	Each independent-nomination petition sheet must be signed in ink. [So5]	Use original handwritten ink signatures only.	
Electronic signatures	NYSBOE says its petition forms may be completed by hand and electronic signatures are not acceptable. [So2]	Do not collect electronic signatures for this route.	
Ink color	The reviewed NYSBOE / Election Law sources require ink but do not specify a particular ink color. [So2][So5]	Do not invent a blue/black-only rule. Recheck the current form/instructions before circulation and surface any later color requirement immediately.	Recheck current instructions
Signer fields	The statutory form calls for date, signer name, residence, and town/city (or county in NYC), with present residence truly stated opposite the signature. [So5]	Screen every line for required signer information before counting it as usable.	
Witness execution	Each sheet carries a signed witness statement; the witness states the number of signatures and that signers subscribed in the witness's presence. [So5]	Do not leave witness count, signature, date, residence, or execution details for later reconstruction.	
Witness identification	Town/city and county identification information must be completed before filing for the sheet to be valid. [So5]	Run a sheet-by-sheet witness-identification check before assembly.	
Corrections / alterations	NYSBOE warns that omissions, errors, or unexplained alterations/corrections in required witness information may invalidate an entire page. [So2]	If a witness block was altered, have counsel review it; do not overwrite, erase, or white-out required filing fields.	High risk
Page numbering	Petition sheets must be numbered sequentially at the foot of each sheet. The NYSBOE 2026 Election Law Update notes that failure to number can invalidate the petition, although page-number defects fall within the statutory cure process. [S19][S23]	Number and check every page before filing. Do not rely on a later cure opportunity; respond immediately to any Board defect notice.	
Fastening / binding	Two or more petition sheets must be securely fastened so pages remain in numerical order; any means that actually holds them together may be used. [S19]	Do not file loose sheets. Use a secure method that preserves numerical order; do not assume a specific staple rule unless current authority says so.	
Cover sheet / volumes	Petitions with 10 or more sheets require a cover sheet. NYSBOE's 2026 Election Law Update explains that when a required cover sheet is entirely omitted during the filing period, the defect is not curable and is fatal; defects in a filed cover sheet/binding may instead enter the Part 6215 cure process. [So2][S19][S23]	Run a literal presence check before filing: required cover sheet exists, identifies every volume correctly, and the statewide distribution schedule is attached. Do not plan to cure a completely missing cover sheet after the deadline.	Do not file without it
Paper size / paper color	No specific paper-size or paper-color requirement was located in the reviewed official source set for this route. [So2][So5][S19]	Use the current official sample without ad-hoc redesign; if an authority/form adds a physical-format rule, treat the point as unresolved and confirm it before filing.	Recheck current instructions
Witness eligibility — standard path	A standard independent-petition witness must be a qualified New York voter and must not previously have signed another petition for another candidate for the same office. Current NYSBOE guidance also reflects the Schmidt alternative witness path. [So2][So5]	Screen every witness before circulation. If using the Schmidt alternative path, use the current required appended statement and service-address language exactly as current guidance requires.	Counsel if using edge-case witness path
Corrections to signature or date	Current NYSBOE guidance states corrections or alterations in the date or signature must be initialed by the person making the correction. [So2]	Do not “clean up” date/signature entries informally. If a correction is made, preserve the required initials and recheck the sheet.	
Witness signature-count understatement	If the witness statement understates the number of signatures on the sheet, the sheet is treated as containing only the number stated; excess signatures at the end are deemed not filed. [S20]	Recount each sheet before the witness statement is finalized. Reconcile the stated count to actual lines and treat a mismatch as a lost-signature risk.	

What to check	Official rule / source	What you should do	Candidate cue
Signer-line completion	The signer need only sign the petition; other required signer-line information may be entered by another person, but it must still be accurate. [So2][S20]	Do not discard an otherwise valid signature merely because another person completed non-signature fields; check the information for accuracy and preserve proof relevant to any objection.	
Signer town/city accuracy	Current NYSBOE guidance requires the signer line to include town or city (or county in New York City). The 2026 Election Law Update notes that an incorrect town/city on a signer line is typically fatal to that signature. [So2][S23]	Check every signer line against the address and town/city before counting it. Treat a wrong municipality entry as a likely lost-signature risk, not a cosmetic typo.	High signature-loss risk
Witness-information completion sequence	Required witness information is mandatory. Current NYSBOE guidance and §6-134 distinguish information preceding the witness signature from identification information following it; omissions/errors can invalidate the entire sheet, and pre-sign witness information completed by another person must be completed before the witness signs or in the witness's presence. [So2][S20][S23]	Finish each sheet in the required sequence: complete the required pre-sign witness information and count, then have the witness sign/date; confirm the remaining identification fields are complete before filing.	Entire sheet at risk
Schmidt witness subpoena compliance	For the Schmidt alternative witness path, NYSBOE states that if a properly subpoenaed alternative witness fails to appear or produce required documents and a court so finds, all signatures purportedly witnessed by that person are deemed invalid. [So2]	Do not treat the alternative witness form as complete resolution of the issue. Maintain current service/contact information and route any subpoena immediately to counsel and the witness.	Signatures may be lost after filing
Statewide distribution schedule	Part 6215 requires a statewide independent-nomination petition to be accompanied by a schedule identifying the volume/page locations containing at least 500 voters in each of at least one-half of the congressional districts. [S19]	Build the distribution schedule from the final assembled petition, then independently reconcile every cited volume/page and district before filing.	Required before filing

Before circulation: petition setup check

- ☐ Open the current official petition form and petition instructions - not a saved campaign copy.
- ☐ Confirm signature method, any ink-color instruction, required signer fields, witness/circulator language, and permitted correction practice.
- ☐ Confirm any paper size/color, printing scale, duplex, page-number, fastening, cover-sheet, volume, county/district grouping, or notarization rule that applies.
- ☐ If a material petition requirement is not resolved from official authority, flag it for confirmation before proceeding rather than guessing.

Before filing: signature and petition review

- ☐ Compare total signatures with screened/usable signatures; preserve a buffer above the legal minimum.
- ☐ Check every sheet for signer fields, dates, witness execution, unexplained alterations, page numbering, and assembly defects.
- ☐ Reconcile cover sheet, volumes, distribution schedule, and actual page inventory.
- ☐ Resolve any defect that could invalidate signatures, a sheet, a volume, or the filing before relying on the count; involve counsel when the issue is legally disputed or high consequence.

REFERENCE • IF A FORMAT RULE IS UNCLEAR

Do not guess. Recheck the current official petition form and instructions for ink, paper/printing, signer fields, dates/addresses, witness execution, corrections, page numbering, fastening, cover sheets/volumes, originals/copies, and filing delivery. If the official sources reviewed do not establish a rule, treat the point as unresolved and recheck before acting rather than guessing.

07 • KEY DATES

Master calendar

The calendar below distinguishes completed 2026 ballot-access events from upcoming campaign-finance and ballot-certification dates.

When	Action	Timing / source	Proof to keep
Apr. 14, 2026	First day for independent petition signatures.	Completed date • [So1]	Source copy + earliest sheets
May 19–26, 2026	File statewide independent nominating petition.	Closed • [So1]	Filed copy / receipt / mailing proof
May 29, 2026 (ordinary)	Ordinary deadline to accept or decline independent nomination; candidate-specific circumstances can affect later declination timing. [So1][So6]	Completed ordinary date • [So1][So6]	Acceptance / declination record
June 1, 2026 (ordinary)	Ordinary deadline to fill a vacancy caused by declination; a later-triggered vacancy requires separate timing review. [So1][So6]	Completed ordinary date • [So1][So6]	Substitution/vacancy record if any
Before Sept. 9, 2026	Refresh NYSBOE candidate / filing records before ballot-certification review.	Recheck • [S11]	Dated official-status snapshot
Sept. 9, 2026	NYSBOE certification of General Election ballot nominations filed in its office.	Upcoming • [So1]	Official certification / candidate list
Oct. 2, 2026	32-Day Pre-General campaign-finance report, if filer remains obligated.	Upcoming • [S13]	EFS confirmation
Oct. 23, 2026	11-Day Pre-General campaign-finance report, if filer remains obligated.	Upcoming • [S13]	EFS confirmation
Nov. 3, 2026	General Election.	Upcoming • [So1]	Final ballot / official election record
Nov. 30, 2026	27-Day Post-General campaign-finance report, if applicable.	Upcoming • [S13]	EFS confirmation

DEADLINE RULE

For the completed 2026 petition filing: documents filed with NYSBOE outside New York City could qualify through the statutory mail/overnight rule only if timely dispatched and received within two business days. Ordinary filing hours are 9:00 AM–5:00 PM unless otherwise provided. Late receipt can be fatal. [So1][So7]

08 • MASTER CHECKLIST

Master checklist

PETITION & SIGNATURES

- ☐ Run the petition and signature check before circulation and again before filing; ink/method, signer fields, witness execution, alterations, page numbering, fastening, cover-sheet/volume and any current physical-format rule.
- ☐ Check every signer line for the correct town/city (or NYC county), residence, date, and signature; treat an incorrect town/city as a likely invalid signature. [S02][S23]
- ☐ Before any witness signs a sheet, reconcile the signature count and all required pre-sign witness information; before filing, confirm the post-sign witness identification fields are complete. [S02][S20][S23]
- ☐ Confirm every required cover sheet exists before the filing deadline; do not confuse a correctable defect in a filed cover sheet with the fatal omission of the required cover sheet itself. [S19][S23]
- ☐ Independently reconcile the statewide congressional-district distribution schedule to the final volume/page assembly. [S19]

FILING RECORD & PROOF

- ☐ Secure the complete filed 2026 petition and all volumes/pages.
- ☐ Secure the filed cover sheet and statewide distribution schedule.
- ☐ Secure filing receipt, delivery/postmark evidence, and any volume intake record.
- ☐ **Secure and verify any required §6-146 acceptance for both members of the joint ticket.**
- ☐ Save the current NYSBOE candidate / filing record and any official status correspondence.

AFTER FILING / CHALLENGES

- ☐ Reconcile all retained petition volumes/pages against the cover sheet, distribution schedule, and filing receipt.
- ☐ Confirm the joint-ticket names, residences, independent-body name, emblem, and committee-on-vacancies record.
- ☐ **Review petition dates, witness statements, cover-sheet requirements, and district distribution for counsel review.**
- ☐ Do not collect new signatures for the closed 2026 filing window.
- ☐ Identify any current objection, Board proceeding, or court record affecting the nomination.
- ☐ Calendar and monitor any Part 6215 / §6-134 correctable-defect notice; a regulatory noncompliance determination can create a three-business-day cure window. [S20]
- ☐ If general objections are filed, preserve the objection, specifications, service/proof records, and exact timestamps; specifications ordinarily follow within six days. [S09]
- ☐ If the Board determines the petition invalid, immediately calculate the Election Law §16-102 court deadline; do not wait for an informal follow-up. [S21]
- ☐ Monitor any independent-body name/emblem collision notice and preserve any timely replacement certificate. [S03]
- ☐ Reopen NYSBOE sources before any public ballot-status statement.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE & ETHICS

- ☐ Confirm campaign-finance registration, filer ID, treasurer, and committee structure.
- ☐ Determine whether the campaign participates in the NYS Public Campaign Finance Program.
- ☐ Install and follow the 2026 campaign-finance reporting calendar that actually applies.
- ☐ Confirm the 2026 Financial Disclosure Statement filing status with COELIG.

BALLOT CONFIRMATION

- ☐ On/after Sept. 9, preserve the official General Election certification / candidate-list evidence that controls ballot status.

KEEP PROOF OF EACH IMPORTANT STEP

After every consequential action, keep the evidence another person would need to prove what happened: exact form/source version, complete petition set, cover/distribution material, acceptance, receipt/postmark, official Board correspondence, court papers/orders if any, campaign-finance confirmations, ethics filing evidence, and final ballot certification.

BEFORE MAKING A BALLOT-STATUS CLAIM

Before any public ballot-status statement, refresh the current NYSBOE candidate / ballot records and any controlling official record. A filing receipt, campaign statement, or prior snapshot is not a substitute for current official evidence.

09 • WHERE TO FILE

Where to file

Filing type	Authority	What goes there	Current contact
Ballot-access petition	New York State Board of Elections	Statewide independent petition, cover/distribution material, acceptance/declination/substitution records.	40 North Pearl St., Suite 5, Albany, NY 12207 • 518-474-6220 • elections.ny.gov [S11][S18]
Campaign finance	NYSBOE Campaign Finance / PCFB where applicable	Registration/authorization and disclosure reports; PCFB participants use the program's committee-registration route.	elections.ny.gov/campaign-finance [S12][S13]
Ethics / FDS	NYS Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government	Financial Disclosure Statement for statewide candidate.	ethics.ny.gov [S14][S15]
Judicial relief, if any	Court / counsel-directed filing	Only a verified current case, deadline, venue, and service rule.	Confirm with counsel / current court docket

- Confirm with NYSBOE before any status claim
- The current NYSBOE candidate / filing and ballot-status record.
- Any current Board action, court order, or certification affecting nomination status.
- How to obtain the complete filed petition, cover sheet, distribution schedule, acceptance(s), and receipt records.
- The official September 9 General Election ballot certification and final candidate-list record once available.
- Any campaign-finance filing obligations that continue regardless of ballot-access status.

HOW TO FILE AND PROVE DELIVERY

Do not file petition papers by email or fax. For statewide filings with NYSBOE, use the methods permitted by current law/guidance and retain a stamped copy, traceable receipt, or other proof. A phone call or email can confirm process; it is not a substitute for controlling written authority. [S01][S07]

10 • FILING DAY

Filing day and proof of filing

Use this page to prepare for filing. If filing has already occurred, use it to document what was filed, when it was filed, and what proof was retained.

48 hours before filing

- ☐ Reopen the official political calendar, petition guidance, form, witness rule, and filing location.
- ☐ Reconcile every petition page, cover sheet, distribution schedule, and signature count against the legal minimum.
- ☐ Confirm the joint Governor/Lieutenant Governor ticket and independent-body details.
- ☐ Create a complete duplicate filing set and preserve scans of originals.

At the filing counter / delivery

- ☐ Submit the complete package to NYSBOE using a permitted timely method.
- ☐ Ask the receiving official to identify any obviously missing intake item without treating that check as legal approval.
- ☐ Obtain dated proof of receipt showing what the office accepted and when.

2026 filing record

Item	Official record
Candidates	Governor: _____ • Lieutenant Governor: _____
Independent body	_____ independent body
Filing authority	New York State Board of Elections
2026 petition window	May 19–26, 2026 [So1]
Statutory minimum	45,000 statewide + geographic distribution [So1][So4]
General ballot certification	Scheduled by NYSBOE for Sept. 9, 2026 [So1]

Proof of filing / receipt record

Receipt record	Fill in
Original filing date / exact time	_____
Delivery method / tracking	_____
Receiving official / intake ID	_____
Pages / volumes tendered	_____
Cover / distribution records	_____
Acceptance record	_____
Filed-copy / receipt location	_____

II • CAMPAIGN FINANCE FORMS

Campaign finance forms

CAMPAIGN FINANCE IS SEPARATE FROM BALLOT ACCESS

Ballot access and campaign-finance compliance are connected but different. Ballot-access status does not by itself establish whether campaign-finance registration or reporting obligations continue. Confirm the campaign's actual filer status and current obligations with NYSBOE. [S12][S13]

CF01 CF-02 Type I - Authorized Single Candidate Committee

USE IF NON-PCFB AUTHORIZED COMMITTEE ROUTE APPLIES | Issuer: New York State Board of Elections

Purpose: Registers a standard authorized single-candidate committee and obtains a Filer ID.

How to use it: NYSBOE states the form is due within five days of choosing a treasurer/depository and before receiving or spending funds. Pair with CF-03 and candidate CF-16 when the committee makes all campaign disclosures. [S12]

Where it goes: NYSBOE Campaign Finance.

[OPEN REGISTRATION / AUTHORIZATION FORMS](#)

BEFORE YOU USE THIS: Statewide candidates participating in the NYS Public Campaign Finance Program use the PCF-21 committee registration route instead of these standard registration forms.

CF02 CF-03 + CF-16 authorizations

AUTHORIZATION PAIR WHEN APPLICABLE | Issuer: New York State Board of Elections

Purpose: Documents committee authorization and the candidate's choice to have the authorized committee make all required campaign financial disclosures.

How to use it: Verify the actual committee structure before filing. Original signatures are required on current NYSBOE forms. [S12]

Where it goes: NYSBOE Campaign Finance.

[OPEN REGISTRATION / AUTHORIZATION FORMS](#)

BEFORE YOU USE THIS: Do not duplicate forms if the campaign is registered through the Public Campaign Finance Program or a different lawful reporting structure.

CF03 CF-04 Candidate Registration

USE IF CANDIDATE REPORTS WITHOUT AUTHORIZED COMMITTEE | Issuer: New York State Board of Elections

Purpose: Obtains a Filer ID for a candidate who is personally reporting campaign financial activity.

How to use it: Use only if the candidate does not have an authorized committee disclosing all activity, or otherwise fits NYSBOE's described CF-04 scenario. [S12]

Where it goes: NYSBOE Campaign Finance.

[OPEN REGISTRATION / AUTHORIZATION FORMS](#)

BEFORE YOU USE THIS: Confirm the campaign's actual filer record before choosing this route.

12 • CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING

Reporting calendar and current filer status

The 2026 NYSBOE filing calendar lists the General Election on November 3, 2026. The reporting dates below are calendar dates; confirm which ones actually apply to the candidate or committee. [S13]

Report /event	Cut-off	Filing date /period	Action
July 2026 Periodic	July 11	July 15 • PAST	Verify whether filed and preserve EFS proof.
32-Day Pre-General	Sept. 28	Oct. 2	Confirm whether filer obligation continues; calendar if yes.
24-hour notice	N/A	Oct. 20-Nov. 2	Current calendar requires rapid notice for qualifying >\$1,000 contribution/loan events.
11-Day Pre-General	Oct. 19	Oct. 23	Calendar if filer remains obligated.
General Election	—	Nov. 3	Ballot status is a separate election-law question.
27-Day Post-General	Nov. 26	Nov. 30	Calendar if filer remains obligated.

Campaign-finance status checklist

- ☐ Confirm the current NYSBOE / PCFB Filer ID and authorized committee name.
- ☐ Confirm treasurer, depository, and whether the standard CF-02/03/16 forms or PCF-21 route applies.
- ☐ Check the July Periodic filing history and any delinquency/correction notices.
- ☐ Confirm which future reporting obligations continue based on the campaign's actual filer status - do not assume.
- ☐ Preserve EFS receipts, submitted PDFs/data, amendments, notices, and termination records.
- ☐ Keep donor/account details out of this candidate-facing packet unless necessary for a specific compliance task.

NO BALLOT-ACCESS SHORTCUT

A campaign-finance registration, report, filer ID, or public-finance participation does not qualify a petition or restore a nomination. Keep the two systems separate.

13 • ETHICS / FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Ethics - Financial Disclosure Statement

Candidates for statewide elected office are required to file a Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) with the New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government. COELIG states that candidate FDS filings are due within 10 days of becoming a candidate. [S14] [S15]

Eor Candidate Financial Disclosure Statement

REQUIRED FOR STATEWIDE CANDIDATE | Issuer: NYS Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government

Purpose: Discloses financial and professional interests under Public Officers Law §73-a for statewide candidates.

How to use it: Determine the candidate-specific date on which the 2026 filing obligation was triggered, then verify whether the candidate's 2026 FDS was timely filed. Preserve the actual confirmation or delinquency-resolution record. [S14]

Where it goes: New York State Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government.

OPEN FDS INFORMATION

BEFORE YOU USE THIS: Do not infer 2026 compliance from the candidate's historical 2018 filing record. Verify the 2026 filing itself.

KEEP THIS RECORD

Record the 2026 FDS filing date, filing method, confirmation number, any extension or cure notice, and the source used to determine the "became a candidate" trigger. This is a separate compliance requirement; completing it does not cure a ballot-petition problem.

Ethics checklist

- ☐ Confirm which 2026 candidate event triggered the FDS deadline.
- ☐ Locate the actual 2026 FDS submission confirmation or identify the gap.
- ☐ Check COELIG's current candidate/delinquency resources for any unresolved notice.
- ☐ Keep FDS evidence in the permanent candidacy compliance record, separate from petition volumes.
- ☐ If a filing is missing or disputed, obtain current COELIG instructions and qualified legal review before representing compliance.

14 • IF THE PETITION IS CHALLENGED**If the petition is challenged / confirming ballot status**

New York petition challenges and Board determinations can move quickly. General objections and specifications operate on compressed statutory timelines, and any judicial review must be tracked as a separate legal record. Preserve the actual objection papers, Board record, and any court docket or order that affects the nomination. [S09]

IF A CHALLENGE OR NOTICE ARRIVES — ACT QUICKLY

What happened	Deadline / consequence	What you should do
Facial / regulatory noncompliance	A determination of noncompliance with petition-delivery regulations gives the candidate three business days to cure. [S20]	Monitor immediately after filing; preserve the notice and cure record; route uncertain defects to counsel.
General objections	Written objections ordinarily must be filed within three days after the petition/certificate filing. [S09]	Record the actual filing/service time and preserve the complete objection.
Specifications	Specifications ordinarily must be filed within six days after the general objections; NY law also imposes service/proof requirements. [S09]	Organize the retained petition by line, page, and volume for counsel; preserve the complete objection and service records.
Judicial proceeding	A petition proceeding under §16-102 generally must be instituted within 14 days after the last petition-filing day or within three business days after a Board invalidity determination, whichever is later. [S21]	Escalate to NY election-law counsel immediately; docket the outside date and preserve the Board record.
Independent-body name/emblem collision	For a duplicate previously filed name/emblem, the Board sends notice not later than two days after the later petition filing; the later candidate may file a different selection within seven days after notice was mailed. [S03]	Monitor mail and Board communications daily; keep an alternative compliant name/emblem ready.
Keep in one file	Why	
Complete filed petition + cover/distribution records	Shows exactly what was tendered and how the statewide filing was assembled.	
Filing receipt / delivery proof	Establishes filing timing and method.	
Acceptance(s) and vacancy records	Shows compliance with post-petition nomination steps, if applicable.	
Current NYSBOE candidate / ballot-status record	Provides dated official status evidence for the nomination when available.	
Every petition challenge / objection paper	Preserves compressed objection/specification timelines where relevant.	
Every court pleading / order / docket notice	Needed to determine whether an administrative status was stayed, reversed, or otherwise changed.	
Sept. 9 ballot certification / final candidate list	Provides the official pre-general-election ballot-status evidence once issued.	
Every cure / objection / specification / Board determination / service record	Proves what deadline was triggered, what defect was asserted, what was cured or defended, and when.	

- ☐ Confirm final ballot status
- ☐ On or after Sept. 9, check the official NYSBOE General Election ballot certification for Governor.
- ☐ **Check the official candidate-list / Who Filed records for the candidate, Lieutenant Governor nominee, and independent body.**
- ☐ If counsel identifies a later order or case, preserve the docket-stamped order and verify its present effect.
- ☐ When the final sample ballot is available, verify whether the ticket/body appears exactly as claimed.
- ☐ Preserve a dated copy of the official record used for the ballot-status conclusion.

WHEN TO INVOLVE ELECTION-LAW COUNSEL

Do not infer a court case, remedy, filing deadline, venue, standing theory, or current judicial status from the ballot-access rules alone. If judicial relief is being pursued, New York election-law counsel and the actual docket or order governs.

15 • COMMON FILING RISKS

The mistakes that can end the filing

Failure point	Prevention
Planning around a proposed 15,000 threshold	Use current enacted §6-142: 45,000 or 1% whichever less; for 2026 official calendar = 45,000.
Forgetting the joint ticket	Independent Governor petition is valid only if it jointly nominates Governor + Lieutenant Governor.
Meeting 45,000 but missing distribution	Also satisfy the congressional-district distribution rule and preserve the distribution schedule.
Signing too early	Do not count signatures before the permitted six-week window; 2026 first day was Apr. 14.
Electronic signatures / stale form	Use official petition form and ink signatures; reopen current NYSBOE guidance.
Witness-statement defect	Apply current Schmidt v. Kosinski guidance; send edge cases to counsel.
Missing / defective cover sheet	For 10+ sheets, use current cover-sheet/Part 6215 requirements and reconcile all volumes.
Late filing	Use the exact official filing window and lawful receipt/postmark rule; late delivery can be fatal.
Missing acceptance	Verify §6-146 acceptance by the applicable deadline; May 29 was the ordinary 2026 deadline. [So1][So6][So8]
Assuming “no fee” from silence	Confirm with the filing authority; the official sources reviewed did not identify a core petition fee, but that does not prove the fee is zero.
Confusing campaign finance / FDS with ballot access	Track both separately; neither substitutes for ballot-access qualification.
Relying on stale ballot-status information	Refresh current NYSBOE candidate / ballot records before any public status statement.
Relying on campaign statements instead of official records	Use current official Board, court, or certification records for consequential status claims.
Using an ineligible standard witness	Pre-screen witness eligibility and same-office petition-signing history; use the Schmidt alternative only with the current required statement/service-address treatment.
Uninitialed correction to a signature or date	Do not alter signature/date entries casually; current NYSBOE guidance requires maker initials for such corrections.
Witness count understates actual signatures	Reconcile the witness statement count to the page before filing; excess signatures beyond the stated count can be treated as not filed.
Missing a three-day / six-day / court-response clock	Calendar the post-filing challenge deadlines before filing; treat every Board, objector, and court notice as same-day review material.
Ignoring an independent-body name/emblem collision notice	Pre-screen the line name/emblem, monitor notices, and preserve any timely replacement certificate.
Wrong town/city on a signer line	Check the signer’s town/city as a signature-validity item; the NYSBOE 2026 update describes an incorrect town/city as typically fatal to that signature. [S23]
Required cover sheet never filed	Perform a presence check before deadline. A completely missing required cover sheet is not the same as a correctable defect in a filed cover sheet and can be fatal. [S23]
Witness block completed in the wrong sequence	Complete each page using the required witness sequence; missing or incorrect pre-sign witness information can jeopardize the entire sheet. [So2][S20][S23]
Alternative witness ignores a subpoena	Keep the Schmidt witness’s current service/contact information and escalate any subpoena immediately; a court finding of noncompliance can eliminate all signatures that witness handled. [So2]
Statewide distribution schedule does not match final pages	Rebuild and check the schedule only from the final numbered volume/page assembly and check the district page references. [S19]

16 • BEFORE YOU FILE

Before You File: Final Check

If you are preparing to file, complete every box below before submission. If filing has already occurred, use the same list to check the retained filing record and identify anything that still needs confirmation.

- ☐ Every material signature/petition requirement has been checked against current official sources; unresolved details are confirmed before proceeding, not assumed.
- ☐ Every signer line has been checked for town/city, residence, date, and signature accuracy; known likely-invalid lines are excluded from the usable count. [So2][S23]
- ☐ Every required cover sheet is physically present before the deadline, and the statewide distribution schedule matches the final volume/page numbers. [S19][S23]
- ☐ Every witness sheet has been checked for the required completion/signature sequence; any Schmidt alternative witness has current service/contact information and a subpoena-response plan. [So2][S20][S23]
- ☐ The current political calendar and enacted Election Law have been rechecked.
- ☐ The joint Governor/Lieutenant Governor ticket and all qualification facts are confirmed.
- ☐ The statewide legal minimum and congressional-district distribution are independently verified.
- ☐ The independent-body name and emblem are cleared against current filing rules.
- ☐ The current official petition form and witness statement are being used.
- ☐ All witness eligibility/service-address edge cases have been resolved before circulation.
- ☐ Every witness has been assigned to a verified standard or Schmidt-alternative eligibility path; same-office witness conflicts have been screened. [So2][So5]
- ☐ The post-filing challenge deadlines are calendared for cure notices, objections/specifications, Board determinations, and any §16-102 court deadline. [So9][S20][S21]
- ☐ The independent-body name/emblem has been conflict-screened and a response plan exists for any duplicate-selection notice. [So3]
- ☐ **Every petition page, volume, cover sheet, and distribution schedule matches the final filing record.**
- ☐ The complete package is ready for timely receipt/delivery at the correct authority.
- ☐ **Acceptance, declination, and vacancy deadlines are calendared, and the required proof/records are ready.**
- ☐ Campaign-finance registration/reporting is activated under the correct standard or PCFB route.
- ☐ The candidate FDS obligation is calendared and filing evidence is preserved.
- ☐ For this 2026 candidacy specifically: the current official nomination /ballot status has been verified from the controlling Board, court, or certification record.

FINAL SELF-CHECK

Could another person, using only the official sources and records in the file, reproduce why the filing was timely, used the right forms, met the signature and distribution rules, went to the right authority, completed required acceptance, and reached its present legal status?

17 • FAQ & CONTACT HELP

FAQ, glossary, and contact script

Frequently asked questions

Question	Answer
Is this an “independent candidate” route?	Yes in ordinary language. New York law uses an independent nominating petition and an independent body for the ballot line.
Does the candidate file for Governor alone?	No. An independent Governor/Lieutenant Governor petition must jointly nominate both offices. [S03]
How many signatures were required in 2026?	45,000 statewide, plus at least 500 or 1% enrolled voters (whichever less) in each of at least 13 congressional districts. [S01][S04]
Can new 2026 signatures be collected now?	No. The 2026 filing window closed May 26. [S01]
Where is the current candidate / ballot status confirmed?	Use current NYSBOE candidate records and official ballot-certification / candidate-list materials; refresh before reliance. [S01][S07]
Does a filing receipt prove ballot qualification?	No. A receipt proves filing or delivery, not final ballot qualification. Use current official status records for that conclusion.
Is there a ballot-access filing fee?	No core petition fee was identified in the official sources reviewed, but confirmation with NYSBOE is still required; do not turn source silence into “zero.”
Do campaign-finance and FDS filings still matter?	Yes as separate compliance systems. Their exact continuing obligations must be confirmed from the campaign’s filer status and current agency rules.

Key terms

Term	Meaning here
Independent body	The ballot-line organization name selected for an independent nomination; here, _____ independent body.
Independent nominating petition	The Article 6 petition used to place independent-body candidates on the general-election ballot.
Legal minimum	The minimum valid signatures required by controlling law; 45,000 statewide for the 2026 route.
Distribution requirement	Minimum qualifying signatures in at least one-half of congressional districts.
Cover sheet	Required multi-sheet petition cover sheet under current NYSBOE rules.
Prima facie review	Board review of facial/statutory filing defects before or apart from a full merits review.
Acceptance	Candidate’s signed/acknowledged acceptance of nomination when required.
Ballot certification	Official Board certification of nominations for the General Election ballot.

Short confirmation script

CALL OR EMAIL SCRIPT

“I am reviewing a 2026 statewide independent nominating petition for Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Please confirm the current Board-record status; where I can obtain the complete filed petition, cover sheet, distribution schedule, acceptance(s), and receipt record; and where the General Election ballot certification / candidate list is published.”

Record the official’s name, role, date/time, and response. A script is not proof of the answer.

18 • OFFICIAL RESOURCES

Official Resource Directory

Use official sources first for filing-critical decisions. Each resource below is classified by its role in this packet; currentness still must be checked when used.

So1 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

2026 Political Calendar - NYSBOE. Sets out 2026 independent petition signing/filing dates, acceptance/declination, statewide signature table, and Sept. 9 ballot certification. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2025/12/2026-political-calendar-quad-fold-12.9.2025-final.pdf>

So2 CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE

Petition Information - NYSBOE. Official sample forms, petition fields, cover-sheet requirements, filing information, and current witness guidance. Official source checked 2026-09-06

<https://elections.ny.gov/petition-information>

So3 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-138 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Independent nomination rules, signer rule, six-week rule, joint Governor/Lt. Governor nomination, independent-body name/emblem. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-138>

So4 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-142 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Statewide 45,000-or-1% threshold and congressional-district distribution. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-142>

So5 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-140 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Statutory independent petition form, including joint statewide ticket fields. Official source checked 2026-09-06

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-140>

So6 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-158 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Filing, acceptance, declination, and vacancy timing framework. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-158>

So7 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §1-106 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Filing hours and mail/overnight receipt rules outside NYC. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/1-106>

So8 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-146 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Acceptance/declination rules and joint-ticket vacancy consequences. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-146>

So9 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-154 - New York Senate Open Legislation. General objection/specification challenge framework. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-154>

Si0 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

New York Constitution, Art. IV §2 - Governor/Lt. Governor citizenship, age, and five-year New York residence qualifications. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/CNS/A4S2>

Si1 CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE

Running for Office - NYSBOE candidate guidance and contact point. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://elections.ny.gov/running-office>

Si2 CURRENT / OFFICIAL FORMS

Registration and Authorization Forms - NYSBOE campaign-finance registration/authorization and PCFB routing guidance. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://elections.ny.gov/registration-and-authorization-forms>

Si3 CURRENT / CYCLE-SPECIFIC

2026 Campaign Finance Filing Calendar - NYSBOE campaign-finance reporting calendar for the 2026 General Election. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://elections.ny.gov/filing-calendars>

Si4 CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE

Candidate FDS / Delinquent Filings - COELIG. Statewide candidates must file FDS; agency states filing due within 10 days of becoming a candidate. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://ethics.ny.gov/view-candidates-delinquent-filings>

Si5 CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE

Financial Disclosure - COELIG FDS filing information and filing options. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://ethics.ny.gov/financial-disclosure>

S16 CURRENT / OFFICIAL SAMPLE

Sample Independent Nominating Petition - NYSBOE official sample for the statewide independent nomination petition. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/10/sample-independentnominatingpetition.pdf>

S17 CURRENT / OFFICIAL SAMPLE

Sample Cover Sheet - NYSBOE official cover-sheet sample for multi-sheet petition filings. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://elections.ny.gov/sample-cover-sheet>

S18 CURRENT / CONTACT

NYSBOE Contact - State Board contact and official agency navigation. Official source checked 2026-08-29

<https://elections.ny.gov/>

S19 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Rules & Regulations — NYSBOE, 9 NYCRR Part 6215. Sequential page numbering, secure fastening, cover-sheet and volume requirements. Official source checked 2026-09-06

<https://elections.ny.gov/petition-information>

S20 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-134 — New York Senate Open Legislation. Designating-petition rules incorporated through §6-138, including three-business-day cure, correction rules, signer completion, and witness-count understatement. Official source checked 2026-09-06

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-134?page=1>

S21 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §16-102 — New York Senate Open Legislation. Judicial proceeding deadline for petition invalidity/nomination challenges. Official source checked 2026-09-06

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/16-102>

S22 CURRENT / CONTROLLING

Election Law §6-122 — New York Senate Open Legislation. Eligibility restrictions and qualification-at-term-start requirement. Official source checked 2026-09-06

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ELN/6-122>

S23 CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE

2026 Election Law Update — New York State Board of Elections. Official NYSBOE update summarizing current petition case law and operating consequences, including signer town/city defects, witness-information failures, fatal omission of a required cover sheet, and page-number/cure treatment. Official source checked 2026-09-06

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/04/2026-election-law-update.pdf>

19 • SOURCE STATUS

Sources and 2026 update status

This packet separates controlling authority, official guidance/forms, cycle-specific material, samples, and contact resources. Source review dates are preserved in the underlying entries.

Source	Status	Use / limitation
S01	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	2026 Political Calendar - NYSBOE. Sets out 2026 independent petition signing/filing dates, acceptance/declination, statewide signature table, and Sept. 9 ballot certification. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S02	CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE	Petition Information - NYSBOE. Official sample forms, petition fields, cover-sheet requirements, filing information, and current witness guidance. Official source checked 2026-09-06
S03	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-138 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Independent nomination rules, signer rule, six-week rule, joint Governor/Lt. Governor nomination, independent-body name/emblem. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S04	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-142 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Statewide 45,000-or-1% threshold and congressional-district distribution. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S05	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-140 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Statutory independent petition form, including joint statewide ticket fields. Official source checked 2026-09-06
S06	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-158 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Filing, acceptance, declination, and vacancy timing framework. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S07	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §1-106 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Filing hours and mail/overnight receipt rules outside NYC. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S08	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-146 - New York Senate Open Legislation. Acceptance/declination rules and joint-ticket vacancy consequences. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S09	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-154 - New York Senate Open Legislation. General objection/specification challenge framework. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S10	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	New York Constitution, Art. IV §2 - Governor/Lt. Governor citizenship, age, and five-year New York residence qualifications. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S11	CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE	Running for Office - NYSBOE candidate guidance and contact point. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S12	CURRENT / OFFICIAL FORMS	Registration and Authorization Forms - NYSBOE campaign-finance registration/authorization and PCFB routing guidance. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S13	CURRENT / CYCLE-SPECIFIC	2026 Campaign Finance Filing Calendar - NYSBOE campaign-finance reporting calendar for the 2026 General Election. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S14	CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE	Candidate FDS / Delinquent Filings - COELIG. Statewide candidates must file FDS; agency states filing due within 10 days of becoming a candidate. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S15	CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE	Financial Disclosure - COELIG FDS filing information and filing options. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S16	CURRENT / OFFICIAL SAMPLE	Sample Independent Nominating Petition - NYSBOE official sample for the statewide independent nomination petition. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S17	CURRENT / OFFICIAL SAMPLE	Sample Cover Sheet - NYSBOE official cover-sheet sample for multi-sheet petition filings. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S18	CURRENT / CONTACT	NYSBOE Contact - State Board contact and official agency navigation. Official source checked 2026-08-29
S19	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Rules & Regulations — NYSBOE, 9 NYCRR Part 625. Sequential page numbering, secure fastening, cover-sheet and volume requirements. Official source checked 2026-09-06
S20	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-134 — New York Senate Open Legislation. Designating-petition rules incorporated through §6-138, including three-business-day cure, correction rules, signer completion, and witness-count understatement. Official source checked 2026-09-06
S21	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §16-102 — New York Senate Open Legislation. Judicial proceeding deadline for petition invalidity/nomination challenges. Official source checked 2026-09-06
S22	CURRENT / CONTROLLING	Election Law §6-122 — New York Senate Open Legislation. Eligibility restrictions and qualification-at-term-start requirement. Official source checked 2026-09-06
S23	CURRENT / OFFICIAL GUIDANCE	2026 Election Law Update — New York State Board of Elections. Official NYSBOE update summarizing current petition case law and operating consequences, including signer town/city defects, witness-information failures, fatal omission of a required cover sheet, and page-number/cure treatment. Official source checked 2026-09-06

2026 / LIVE-RECORD UPDATE GATE

Before any new filing or public ballot-status reliance: re-run the official-source check for the applicable election calendar, current New York Election Law and regulations, NYSBOE petition guidance/forms, campaign-finance calendar, candidate/ballot certification records, and any superseding court or agency material. Any material conflict is a HOLD until resolved.

RELIANCE BOUNDARY

Educational/informational resource. Not legal advice. No ballot-placement guarantee. Candidate reliance is not authorized. Publication, review, delivery, or successful rendering does not convert this packet into legal review or candidate-reliance authorization.

Key requirements and their sources

Key requirement	What the packet tells you	Source label / authority
Joint ticket	Treat Governor + Lt. Governor as one independent nomination.	[So3] §6-138 • [So5] §6-140
45,000 + distribution	Use the 2026 statewide threshold and at least 13 qualifying CDs.	[So1] calendar • [So4] §6-142
2026 filing dates	Apr. 14 first signing; May 19-26 filing; May 29 ordinary acceptance/declination deadline.	[So1] calendar • [So6] §6-158
Current ballot-status check	Use current NYSBOE candidate / ballot records before any status statement.	[So1] calendar • [Si1] candidate guidance
Campaign-finance route	Resolve standard NYSBOE vs PCFB registration before forms.	[Si2] NYSBOE forms guidance
FDS	Verify separate statewide-candidate FDS compliance.	[Si4][Si5] COELIG
Petition corrections / signature-loss risks	Use §6-134 correction and witness-count rules together with current NYSBOE guidance.	[So2] Petition Information • [S20] §6-134
Challenges / court deadlines	Calendar objections/specifications and any §16-102 proceeding immediately after filing/notice.	[So9] §6-154 • [S21] §16-102
Signature / sheet / cover high-risk checks	Check town/city accuracy, witness completion sequence, cover-sheet presence, page numbering, and statewide distribution before filing.	[So2] Petition Information • [Si9] Part 6215 • [S20] §6-134 • [S23] 2026 NYSBOE Election Law Update

Built under OBI Candidate Packet Family v1.0.5 • Current family pointer: iRr5UCVRdFLs2mDsUOJf9YoHGdiGzLL30 • Source-end component revision: 2026-09-14