



Candidate Guide

Mayor and Board of Supervisors

November 5, 2024, General Election

Nomination Period occurs May 17 – June 11

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I. Introduction

This candidate guide has been prepared by the San Francisco Department of Elections (the Department) to assist candidates for Mayor and Board of Supervisors for the November 5, 2024, General Election, with information about nomination-related processes. The information within this guide is not all-encompassing. In the event there is a conflict between this guide and the law, regulation, or rule, the statutory requirements shall apply. As such, candidates, committees, and campaign staff should also examine the applicable laws and regulations. Candidates who do not meet every filing requirement within the nomination filing process will not be eligible to appear on the ballot, as there are no extensions or provisions for missed or late filings.

The Department recommends that anyone filing for candidacy:

- **Begin the process as early as possible.** This will ensure that you do not miss important deadlines or neglect to submit paperwork that may be important to your candidacy. The Department recommends allotting at least 30 minutes for a nomination filing. Department personnel will provide you with the necessary forms and documents, conduct intake of all documents and fees, and assist you with questions related to the nomination process.
- **Schedule an appointment with Department personnel**, using our online appointment form: sfelections.org/tools/csappt or contact us by phone. The Department will prepare documents ahead of time, answer any questions you may have, and expedite your visit.

San Francisco Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl, Rm 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 554-4375

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

II. Candidate Resources

In addition to this guide, the Department encourages candidates and campaigns to familiarize themselves with other important resources:

- A. The Department hosts Candidate Workshops on such topics as signatures-in-lieu-of-filing fees, nomination procedures, and voter registration drives.
- B. The Department’s website, sfelections.sfgov.org contains information for candidates and voters, including registration and voting calendars, details about ranked-choice voting, opportunities to observe elections processes, and up-to-date results reports from Election Night through certification of the results.
- C. Candidates may apply to purchase voter registration information for election-related purposes.
- D. The San Francisco Ethics Commission publishes a general candidate guide that explains state and local requirements concerning campaign finance and campaign disclosure; the Ethics Commission and the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) also provide information regarding laws that govern political literature and advertising.
- E. The California Secretary of State (SOS) and FPPC play a role in the administration and enforcement of laws regulating candidates and elections. The FPPC has created “Campaign Disclosure Manual 2”, available online at fppc.ca.gov which details filing and disclosure requirements for local candidates.

This guide will reference the various state and local laws that regulate nomination processes. The table below lists the citations to these laws and regulations referenced in this guide.

Code References: <i>the following abbreviations are used throughout this guide for citations of supporting legal codes</i>	
CA Const.	California Constitution
CAEC	California Elections Code
CA Gov. Code	California Government Code
CA Admin. Code	California Administrative Code
CCR	California Code of Regulations
SFC	San Francisco Charter
SFC&GCC	S.F. Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code
SFMEC	San Francisco Municipal Elections Code
SOS	Secretary of State
FPPC	Fair Political Practices Commission

III. Important Dates

Dates	Description	Code Reference(s)
<i>Open until the end of Nomination Period</i>	Declaration of Intention to Solicit or Accept Contributions for Local Office & Declaration of Candidacy The period during which candidates can file initial paperwork to run for local office. Candidates must file their declaration of candidacy on the same day as they file for their declaration to accept or solicit campaign contributions.	SFMEC §201 SFGC §1.122(a)
03 / 18 / 2024 – 05 / 13 / 2024 E-232- E-177	Signatures-In-Lieu-of-Filing Fees The period during which candidates can pick up and file in-lieu petitions in order to pay for all or part of their filing fees by obtaining signatures of qualified voters. These signatures are due on or before the signatures-in-lieu deadline.	CAEC §8106; SFMEC §§205, 230, 840
05 / 17 / 2024 – 06 / 11 / 2024 E-172 - E-147	Nomination Period The period during which candidates may obtain and must file nomination documents. Filing fees are due upon filing of nomination documents. All nomination documents must be filed no later than 5 p.m. on the last day of the nomination period. In the event an eligible incumbent does not file by the nomination period deadline, the filing period shall be extended by five calendar days for candidates other than the incumbent.	CAEC §§10220 - 10225; SFMEC §205(a)
05 / 17 / 2024 – 06 / 11 / 2024 E-172 - E-147	Candidate Qualification Statement and Publication Fee Candidates who choose to submit a candidate qualification statement shall file the statement with the Department of Elections when the candidate returns their nomination papers for filing. A candidate for Mayor or the Board of Supervisors may withdraw, but not change, their candidate qualification statement by filing with the Director of Elections a signed and sworn statement of withdrawal no later than 5:00 p.m. of the 126th day prior to the election.	SFMEC §220
06 / 12 / 2024 Noon – 06 / 24 / 2024 Noon E-146 – E-136	Public Examination Period: Candidate Materials Period of public review and possible legal challenge of candidate legal names, qualification statements, ballot designations, and translated or transliterated Chinese names.	SFMEC §§401, 590(a)
09 / 09 / 2024 – 10 / 22 / 2024 E-57 - E-14	Statement of Write-In Candidacy and Nomination Papers During this period, all write-in candidates for any office must file their Statements of Write-In Candidacy and Nomination Papers with the Department of Elections.	CAEC §8601

** If the legal deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the deadline will move forward to the next working day.*
CA Gov. Code §6707

IV. Office Information and Candidate Eligibility

CAEC §201; SFC §§2.101, 3.101, 13.101.5, 13.106, 13.110(e)

The Mayor is the chief executive officer and official representative of the City and County of San Francisco. The Mayor, appointed or elected city-wide, is limited to serving two successive four-year terms. In the case of an appointment, the appointee serves until a successor is selected at the next scheduled election to fill the unexpired term. A part of a term that exceeds two years shall count as a full term. There shall be no limit on the non-successive terms that a person may serve.

The Board of Supervisors is the legislative branch of the City and County of San Francisco, consisting of 11 members, elected by voters registered within the Supervisorial District in which they reside. Members of the Board of Supervisors, appointed or elected, are limited to serving two successive four-year terms. In the case of appointment, the appointee serves until a successor is selected at the next scheduled election to fill the unexpired term.

A. Essential Requirements

In addition to the responsibilities associated with filing documents with the Department, candidates must also meet the following requirements:

1. Must be a resident of San Francisco when nomination documents are issued and, if elected, reside in San Francisco throughout the term of office
2. Must be registered to vote in San Francisco when nomination documents are issued and, if elected, remain registered to vote in San Francisco during the term of office
3. A candidate for Board of Supervisors must reside and be registered to vote in their district for at least 30 days immediately preceding the date they file their Declaration of Candidacy. If elected, they must continue to reside in the Supervisorial District they represent for the duration of their term.
4. If a candidate or elected official moves, they must complete a new voter registration form.

B. Authorization for Candidate Representatives

Candidates may provide written notification to the Department that will allow an individual to represent them and pick up filing forms, file petitions, and obtain Voter Registration Information on behalf of the candidate. The Department provides a form to assist with this assignment, however another form of written notification, including email, is also acceptable. Candidates are responsible for any errors or omissions made by the agent acting on behalf of the candidate.

C. Permission to Post Information to the Internet and the Code of Fair Campaign Practices

CA Gov. Code §6254.21

The Department maintains a website in which potential and qualified candidates for all local offices are listed. The office sought, filing date and name of candidate are all listed; however, candidates have the option to provide additional contact information to the Department to post on our candidate list. Candidates may amend the information posted through any written notification (letter or email).

V. Initial Filing Requirements

SFC&GCC §1.122, §4.101.1; SFMEC §201

Potential candidates must first file a Declaration of Intention to Solicit and Accept Contributions and a Declaration of Candidacy with the Department. This form is provided by the Department, and may be filed for one City elective office per election. If you are a member of a City board, commission, or other body established by the San Francisco Charter, filing your Declaration of Candidacy may, with certain exceptions, result in forfeiture of your seat. A candidate may authorize any representative to obtain and return documents on their behalf by completing a form provided by the Department.

A. Declaration of Candidacy

CAEC §8040

Each candidate must file a Declaration of Candidacy form which consists of several sections:

1. Declaration of filing under legal name
2. Sworn Statement
3. Oath of Office
4. If a candidate personally obtains and files the nomination documents, the Declaration of Candidacy must be executed in the presence of Department personnel. If a candidate authorizes another person to obtain and file the nomination documents, the candidate must execute the declaration, including the oath of office, in the presence of a notary public.

Candidates may be subject to other financial filing requirements before they obtain or file nomination documents. Candidates must contact the San Francisco Ethics Commission at [\(415\) 252-3100](tel:4152523100) or sfethics.org for further assistance regarding public financing, fundraising, or campaign finance requirements.

VI. Filing Fee Paid When Submitting Nomination Papers

CAEC §§8104(b), 8105-8106; SFMEC §§230, 810

A. Filing Fee

Candidates must pay a non-refundable filing fee when filing their nomination documents. The filing fee may be submitted by cashier's check, money order, credit card, certified or campaign (company) check, or cash. Checks should be made payable to the San Francisco Department of Elections. The filing fee for Mayor is subject to change each fiscal year.

B. Signatures-in-Lieu-of-Filing Fee

Prior to submitting nomination papers, candidates may circulate petitions-in-lieu-of-filing fees to reduce costs or remove filing fees. During this period, candidates can obtain Signatures-in-Lieu forms from the Department to circulate to offset the required filing fee. Each valid signer reduces the filing fee by \$0.50. In-Lieu Forms may be submitted to cover a portion of or the entire fee. The signers on In-Lieu Forms may also be used towards nomination requirements if the In-Lieu Forms are accompanied by a written request at the time of filing the In-Lieu Form.

From March 18, 2024 through May 13, 2024, candidates can obtain and file in-lieu petitions in order to pay for all or part of their filing fees by obtaining signatures of qualified voters. These signatures are due on or before the signatures-in-lieu deadline. Any portion of the filing fee not covered by the signatures must be paid in full when a

candidate files their nomination documents. Please refer to the chart below to examine filing fees and the number of valid signatures necessary to reduce the filing fee to zero.

The Department is responsible for verifying signers. If a candidate submits between 101 and 2,000 signers, the Department will utilize a random sampling method to identify which signers to review. The sampling shall include 5% of signers if more than 2,000 are submitted. The percentage of valid signers contained within the sample will be applied and projected to the total amount submitted.

Filing Fee and Signature Equivalent			
Office	Filing Fee	Value of Each Signer	In-Lieu Signers
Mayor	\$7,020* (2% of salary for FY 2023 - 2024)	\$0.50	14,040
Member, Board of Supervisors	\$500	\$0.50	1,000

**Mayoral filing fee subject to change with new Fiscal Year*

C. Petition Circulator Information
CAEC §§104, 106, 2138, 2158

Candidates may circulate and sign their own in-lieu petitions.

The petition contains an Affidavit of Circulator. The circulator must complete each affidavit by hand, sign the affidavit, and return the petition to the candidate or to a person authorized by the candidate. The circulator may not complete a section of the affidavit and then duplicate the petition. When making a copy of a petition form, the candidate or circulator must ensure that no fields have been prefilled.

For a voter’s signature to be valid, the voter must indicate a residential address on the petition that matches the address in his or her registration record. A candidate or circulator may obtain voter registration cards from the Department to register and to provide to voters to update their residential addresses. Registration cards must be returned to the Department within three days of receipt from a voter.

Circulating a petition knowing it contains false, forged, or fictitious names is a misdemeanor.

D. Invalid Petition Signers
CAEC §§100, 100.5, 102, 105

The California Elections Code imposes strict rules governing the verification of petition signers. For example, a petition signer is invalid and cannot be counted if:

1. The signer does not provide a San Francisco residential address

2. The signer provides a different residential address from the address listed in their voter registration record
3. The signer provides a post office box, mail drop, or business address, rather than a residential address
4. The signer's address is pre-printed
5. The signer uses ditto marks for an address
6. The signature does not match the signature in the voter's registration record
7. The signature appears as a voter's mark but is not witnessed
8. The petition circulator fails to complete or sign the affidavit portion of the petition
9. The circulator is not 18 years of age or older

Each signer must personally place their own information on the petition and sign the form, unless unable to do so. If a signer is unable to personally affix on a petition his or her own information, the signer may request another person to print the signer's name and place of residence on the appropriate spaces of the petition, but the signer shall personally affix his or her mark or signature on the appropriate space of the petition. The mark or signature must be witnessed by another person. The witness must also sign the petition to indicate that the witness in fact witnessed the mark or signature.

VII. Nomination Documents

CAEC §§ 8041, 8061, 8062(a)(3)

The nomination period begins May 17, 2024, and ends June 11, 2024. The Department recommends that candidates allot approximately one half-hour to file nomination papers. Candidates must submit all nomination documents to the Department of Elections at the same time – no later than 5 p.m. on June 11, 2024.

If a candidate personally obtains and files the nomination documents, the Declaration of Candidacy must be executed in the presence of Department personnel. If a candidate authorizes another person to obtain and file the nomination documents, the candidate must execute the declaration, including oath of office, in the presence of a notary public.

A. Nomination Petition

CAEC §§100, 100.5, 102, 104-106, 8062(a)(3), 18200-18205

Each candidate must file a nomination petition with the Department of Elections containing a minimum of 20 valid signers. The Department of Elections can accept a maximum of 40 signers and strongly recommends that candidates submit more than 20 signers in the event some signers are invalid.

Public terminals are available at the Department of Elections for candidates to verify the validity of signers in their possession prior to filing them with the Department of Elections.

All signers must be registered San Francisco voters and members of the same Supervisorial District, if applicable, as the candidate. No signer shall sign nomination petitions for more candidates than there are seats to be filled. For example, since there is one open seat for Mayor and each Board of Supervisors Office, and 7 candidates, a voter may only sign one nomination petition associated with each office.

Each signer must print their name and address.

Ditto marks are not permitted when successive signers have the same address.

Circulator affidavits must be complete when petitions are submitted.

1. Petition Circulator Information

CAEC §§102, 104, 106, 2138, 2158-2159.5, 8106, 18200, 18610-18614

A candidate may circulate and sign their own petition. The petition contains an Affidavit of Circulator. The circulator must complete each affidavit by hand, sign the affidavit, and return the petition to the candidate or a person authorized by the candidate. The circulator may not complete a section of the affidavit and then duplicate the petition. When making a copy of a petition form, the candidate or circulator should ensure that no fields have been prefilled.

For signers to be eligible to nominate a candidate, the signer must indicate a residential address on the petition that matches the address in their voter registration record. A candidate or circulator may obtain voter registration cards for signers to complete. Registration cards must be turned in to the Department within three days of receipt from a voter.

Circulating a petition knowing it contains false, forged, or fictitious names is a misdemeanor.

2. Invalid Petition Signers

CAEC §§100, 100.5, 102, 104, 105

The California Elections Code imposes strict rules governing the verification of petition signers. For example, a petition signer is invalid and cannot be counted if:

- a. The signer is not a registered voter in the appropriate district, if applicable
- b. The signer does not provide a San Francisco residential address
- c. The signer provides a different residential address from the address listed in their voter registration record
- d. The signer provides a post office box, mail drop, or business address, rather than a residential address
- e. The signer is registered under a different political party affiliation than the available seat
- f. The signer's address is pre-printed
- g. The signer uses ditto marks for an address
- h. The signature appears as a voter's mark but is not witnessed
- i. The petition circulator fails to complete or sign the affidavit portion of the petition
- j. The circulator is not 18 years of age or older

B. Name in Chinese Characters / Transliteration

SFMEC §401

For bilingual English / Chinese ballots, each candidate's name will appear on the ballot in Chinese characters, as well as in English. Candidates may, but are not required to, submit a proposed translated or transliterated Chinese name.

Please note that the Department uses traditional Chinese characters, rather than simplified. If a candidate does not submit a proposed Chinese name, the Department's translator will prepare a transliteration of the candidate's name. The Director of Elections determines whether to accept a candidate's proposed Chinese name based on the following:

1. Information submitted by the candidate regarding established use of the proposed name
2. Information regarding how the Chinese community refers to the candidate at community meetings or in the media
3. Whether or not a proposed translation or transliteration has another meaning in the Chinese language
4. Any other information the Director deems relevant in order to prevent voter confusion

The Director of Elections' determination whether to accept a candidate's proposed Chinese name shall be final. The submitted or transliterated Chinese names of all candidates for local office are available for public review and possible legal challenge for ten calendar days.

C. **Ballot Designation / Ballot Designation Worksheet**

CAEC §§13107-13107.5

A candidate may request that their occupation appear below their name on the ballot; statement of occupation is considered as the candidate's "ballot designation". The nomination packet provided to all candidates includes a copy of the most recent ballot designation regulations issued by the Secretary of State which may also be found on the [Secretary of State's website \(sos.ca.gov\)](http://sos.ca.gov)

The **Ballot Designation Worksheet** is a required document, designed to guide a candidate's proposed ballot designation or an alternate, that shall be filed with the Department at the same time that the candidate files their Declaration of Candidacy. Candidates should attach copies of any supporting documentation. The Ballot Designation Worksheet is available at the Department as well as the Secretary of State's website: sos.ca.gov/elections/upcoming-elections

If a candidate does not want a designation to appear on the ballot under their name, the candidate must write the word "none" on the ballot designation section of the Declaration of Candidacy and sign the form. The word "none" will not appear on the ballot. Instead, this space will remain blank.

No candidate may change their designation after the deadline for filing nomination documents except as specifically requested by the Department under CAEC§13107(g) or by a writ issued by San Francisco Superior Court.

1. **Acceptable Designations**

CAEC §13107(a)

Each candidate may choose one of the following types of designation (or no designation):

- a. Elective Office Title:** The office title is the word or words designating the office (federal, state, county, city, district, or judicial) that the candidate holds at the time of filing nomination documents and to which the candidate was elected by a vote of the people (or was appointed, in the case of appointed office holders). If the candidate is seeking election to a nonpartisan office, this title may not include political party affiliation.
Acceptable Examples: "City Attorney," "Member, Board of Supervisors," "Sheriff."
- b. Incumbent:** The word "incumbent" may be used if the candidate is running for the same office that the candidate holds at the time of filing nomination documents and to which the candidate was elected by a vote of the people or was appointed.

- c. **Appointed Incumbent or Appointed and Office Title:** If the candidate was appointed to an office and is filing as a candidate for election to the same office, the words “appointed incumbent” or the word “appointed” and the title of the office may be used. The appointed officeholder may not use the unmodified word “incumbent.”
- d. **No More than Three Words Designating the Candidate’s Principal Professions, Vocations, or Occupations:** The candidate may use up to three words to describe the principal profession, vocation, or occupation that he or she currently holds or held during the preceding year; however, California geographical names such as “City and County of San Francisco” are considered one word. Hyphenated words that appear in a Standard English dictionary are also considered one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words will be as separate words.

If a candidate has more than one principal profession, vocation, or occupation, the candidate may use slashes or commas to separate them. Dashes may be used only if required in the spelling. **Example: “Attorney / Accountant” or “Teacher, Mother”**

Basic Test of Acceptable Ballot Designation:	Answer:
Is it true?	Yes
Is it factually accurate?	Yes
Does it mislead?	No
Is it generic?	Yes
Is it neutral?	Yes
Is it how the candidate makes a living?	Yes

VIII. Candidate Qualification Statement

CAEC §§13307, 13311, 13312, 18351; SFMEC §220

Candidates may, but are not required to, submit a statement of their qualifications for publication in the Voter Information Pamphlet. The Candidate Qualification Statement may include 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. The statement must be filed with the nomination documents by 5 p.m. on the last day of the nomination period. A candidate may withdraw, but not change, the Candidate Qualification Statement by filing a signed and sworn statement of withdrawal with the Department no later than 5 p.m. on the 126th day before the election.

The Department translates candidate qualification statements into Chinese, Spanish, and Filipino for the translated versions of the Voter Information Pamphlet.

Any candidate who knowingly makes a false statement of material fact in their candidate statement with the intent to mislead the voters in connection with their campaign for nomination or election may be punished by a fine of up to \$1,000.

A. **Nominators and Letters of Endorsement or Support**

SFMEC §§220(c), 250

If a candidate wishes to include in their Candidate Qualification Statement the names of nominators or supporters, the names and any identification will be counted toward the 200-word limit. If the candidate includes names of people who have not signed the candidate’s nomination paper, the candidate must file a signed letter of endorsement or support from each individual whose name is included. The endorsement

letter should include the name of the candidate, the elective office, the date of the election, and the supporter's signature.

A Candidate Qualification Statement that indicates that an organization or entity supports the candidate must be accompanied by a statement of confirmation signed by an officer or authorized representative of the organization or entity.

Supporters who are not nominators but who authorized use of their name in a Candidate Qualification Statement may withdraw this authorization by filing with the Department a signed and sworn statement of withdrawal at any time up until 5 p.m. on the last day of the nomination period. No endorser or supporter may withdraw authorization after this deadline.

B. Format

CAEC §§13307

Candidate Qualification Statements should follow these guidelines:

1. The candidate's name at the top of the statement should match the name to be used on the ballot
2. Type the statement exactly as it should appear, with clear spacing between paragraphs
3. Do not include underlining, **bold**, or *italicized* type, all capital letters (except for acronyms), or unusual spacing. By law, the Department must print all statements in type of uniform size and darkness and with uniform spacing.
4. The Department strongly recommends that candidates do not submit handwritten or hand-annotated statements. If the handwriting is illegible or any intended changes are unclear, the Department may need to interpret. In such cases, a statement may not be printed as the candidate intended.
5. Proofread the statement prior to submitting it. Statements are printed exactly as they are submitted. No corrections are permitted after submission, and the Department cannot correct spelling or grammatical error.

C. Restrictions

CAEC §§13307, 13308

For nonpartisan offices, candidate statements must not include a candidate's party affiliation nor membership or activity in partisan political organizations. Statements also must not refer in any manner to other candidates for that office.

If a candidate refers to any subject other than their qualifications, the candidate could be subject to legal action (see *John F. Dean v Superior Court of Orange County, Court of Appeals, Fourth District, Division 3, California, No. G023111*).

D. Word Limit and Rules for Counting Words

CAEC §9; SFMEC §220(a)

The Candidate Qualification Statement may not exceed 200 words. The Department uses the following guidelines for counting words. The decision of the Director of Elections concerning word count is final.

Examples	Number of Words
Title of document, signature	n / a
Punctuation	n / a
Abbreviations or acronyms (SFSU, PTA, SFPD, U.S.M.C.)	1
Proper nouns, including geographical names (San Francisco, San Franciscans, California, Haight Ashbury)	1
Dates, whether numbers or a combination of words and numbers (6/7/2016, June 7, 2016)	1
Numbers consisting of one or more digits (1,000), percentages (12%), fractions (1/2)	1
Numbers that are spelled out (one hundred)	Varies; count each word separately
Characters used in place of a word or number (&, #)	1
Phone numbers or internet addresses	1

IX. Financial Disclosures (FPPC Forms)

CA Gov. Code §§87201, 87202

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) is the state body that promotes the integrity of state and local government through the enforcement of political campaign, lobbying, and conflict of interest laws. The FPPC provides a series of forms that campaigns and or candidates must complete and file with the San Francisco Department of Elections or the San Francisco Ethics Commission as a part of the nomination process. These forms are available for download from the FPPC website: fppc.ca.gov

1. **Form 501: Candidate Intention Statement – [Contact the San Francisco Ethics Commission](#)**
The Form 501 is required for candidates for state and local offices, it must be filed before candidates solicit or receive any contributions or make any personal expenditures on behalf of their candidacy.
2. **Form 700: Statement of Economic Interests**
[File with the Department of Elections during Nomination Period](#)
The Form 700 requires candidates for state and local offices to disclose any interests in real property and income during the 12 months preceding the election. The statement is not required for candidates who have filed a statement for the same jurisdiction within the 60 days prior to filing a Declaration of Candidacy.
3. **Form 410: Statement of Organization – [Contact the San Francisco Ethics Commission](#)**
The Form 410 must be filed if candidates or office holders use personal funds totaling over \$2,000 in a calendar year to seek or hold office. These funds are considered campaign contributions and will count towards qualifying as a recipient committee. This form must be filed within 10-days of receiving a \$2,000 or more contribution.

X. Withdrawal of Candidacy

SFMEC §260

Candidates for Mayor and Board of Supervisors may withdraw their candidacy by filing a signed and sworn statement of withdrawal with the Department no later than 5 p.m. on the 126th day before the election.

XI. Write-In Candidacy Period

CAEC §§8600 - 8604

Any voter who wants to be a write-in candidate must obtain and file the following documents no later than 5 p.m. on the 14th day before the election:

- A. Nomination paper with the required number of nomination signatures
- B. Statement of Write-In Candidacy, including the oath of office
- C. Statement of Economic Interests (FPPC Form 700)
- D. Code of Fair Campaign Practices (optional)
- E. Write-in candidates' names do not appear on the ballot. Filing fees, ballot designations, and candidate qualification statements are not applicable to write-in candidates. Campaign finance laws apply to all candidates, including write-in candidates.

XII. Public Examinations and Challenges

CAEC §§13313, 13314; SFMEC §590(a)

All nomination documents are available for public review during the 10-calendar-day period starting at noon the day after the nomination period ends. During this period, any voter of the jurisdiction in which the election is being held, or the Department, may challenge a candidate's legal name, ballot designation, or a translated or transliterated Chinese name requested by a candidate. Chinese transliterations of candidates' names that are provided by the Department's translator are also available for a 10-day examination period, which starts at noon on the 146th day before the election.

Any challenges must be submitted to the Department in writing during the 10-day public examination period. The challenge must demonstrate that the material is inconsistent with election law requirements and that action by the court to correct or remove the material will not substantially interfere with the conduct of the election. Following the close of the public examination period for each category of material, the Department may proceed with publication of that material.

XIII. Ranked-Choice Voting

SFC §13.102

Candidates for Mayor and Members of the Board of Supervisors are elected using ranked-choice voting. Voters passed ranked-choice voting as an amendment to the San Francisco City Charter in March 2002.

For more information about ranked-choice voting, visit sfelections.org

XIV. Election Day Through Certification of Results

A. Election Day

CAEC §§319.5, 18370

The polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

Electioneering, which is any visible or audible activity that advocates for or against any candidate or measure on the ballot, is prohibited within 100 feet of the entrance of a building that contains a Polling Place or Voting Center, or within 100 feet of Ballot Drop-off Boxes. Examples of prohibited materials and activities include displaying a candidate's name, likeness, or logo; buttons, hats, pencils, pens, shirts, signs, or stickers with information about candidates or issues on the ballot; or any audible broadcasting of information about candidates or measures on the ballot. Electioneering also includes soliciting petition signatures within 100 feet of a polling place. Violations can be charged as misdemeanors.

B. Election Results Reports

On Election Night, the Department will release the first preliminary summary report of election results at approximately 8:45 p.m. This report will provide the results from the vote-by-mail ballots processed before Election Day.

Approximately hourly after that, the Department will release additional summary results reports that include votes cast at the polling places.

After all polling places have reported, the Department will release a final summary report.

The Department will release updated results reports at approximately 4 p.m. on every day on which it counts ballots. On any days during which no ballots are counted, the Department will post a notice on sfelections.org stating that no update will be issued.

The Department will release final election results at the end of the official canvass period, no later than 30 days after the election.

If no candidate receives a majority of votes for a nonpartisan office, the candidates with the two highest vote totals will appear on the ballot for the general election.

For more information about results reporting, visit sfelections.org