COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
MICHAEL G. ADAMS

TO: POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

FROM: MICHAEL G. ADAMS, SECRETARY OF STATE

Candidates for the following offices shall file with the county clerk to attain ballot access and should contact the county clerk of their county of residence for filing procedures and requirements: Circuit Clerk, County Judge Executive, County Clerk, County Attorney, Sheriff, Jailer, Coroner, Property Valuation Administrator, Surveyor, Magistrate/Justice of the Peace, County Commissioner, Constable, Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, Mayor, City Legislative Body, and Board of Education.

Candidates for the following offices shall file with the Office of the Secretary of State: President of the United States, Vice President of the United States, United States Senator, United States Representative in Congress, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Auditor of Public Accounts, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture, State Senator, State Representative, Supreme Court Justice, Judge of the Court of Appeals, Circuit Judge, District Judge, and Commonwealth Attorney.

Following are guidelines for candidates filing with the Office of the Secretary of State:

1. Complete all applicable blanks on the filing form. The Office of the Secretary of State will make the necessary copies for distribution.
2. If the filing form requires notarization, the candidates and signers must have their signatures acknowledged by a Notary Public and the expiration date of the notary's commission must be stated.
3. Checks should be made payable to the Kentucky State Treasurer.
4. Candidates may file in person or by mail at the following address:

   Office of the Secretary of State
   Election Division
   1025 Capital Center Drive
   Suite 201
   Frankfort, KY 40601

Questions relating to campaign finance procedures and requirements should be directed to the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance at (502) 573-2226. In addition, KREF's website, http://www.kref.ky.gov, provides for the downloading of required reporting forms and a book titled Guide to Campaign Finance.
Questions relating to campaign finance matters for federal candidates should be directed to the Federal Election Commission at 1-800-424-9530.

If our Office may be of further assistance to you, please contact our election staff at (502) 564-3490 or by email at sos.elections@ky.gov.

OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
1025 CAPITAL CENTER DRIVE
SUITE 201
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

PHONE: (502) 564-3490
WEBSITE: www.sos.ky.gov
EMAIL: sos.elections@ky.gov

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION
REPUBLICAN and DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES

The Office of President of the United States will appear on the 2028 ballot.

Filing Deadline Date (4:00 p.m., local time)	**January 7, 2028**
Filing Fee	$1,000.00
Filing Official	Secretary of State

Political Party Definition: A "political party" is an affiliation or organization of electors representing a political policy and having a constituted authority for its government and regulation, and whose candidate received at least twenty percent (20%) of the total vote cast at the last preceding election at which presidential electors were voted for. KRS 118.015 (1).

Republican and Democratic party candidates may select **one** of the **four** following **methods** for attaining ballot access in a presidential preference primary:

1. Filing Notice of Candidacy when nominated by the Kentucky State Board of Elections for those candidates who have qualified for matching federal campaign funds.

   Pursuant to KRS 118.581, the Kentucky State Board of Elections will meet in Frankfort on the third Tuesday in December preceding a presidential preference primary for the purpose of **nominating** those candidates who have **qualified for matching federal campaign funds**. A list of those candidates is provided by the Federal Election Commission.

   A notification of nomination from the Secretary of State will be sent to each candidate by certified mail, with return receipt requested, that he/she will appear as a candidate on the primary ballot of his/her party, provided that the candidate returns the Notice of Candidacy form sent by the Secretary of State and the $1000 filing fee not later than 4:00 p.m., local time on the first Friday following the first Monday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary election.

2. Filing certified petition containing at least 5,000 signatures of Kentucky registered voters of the same party as the candidate.

   Pursuant to KRS 118.591 (1-4), the filing of a Presidential Preference Primary Petition (SBE 65 and SBE 65-2) containing at least 5,000 signatures of registered voters of the same party and $1000 filing fee with the Secretary of State not later than 4:00 p.m., local time on the first Friday following the first Monday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary election.

   The petition shall be signed by the candidate and by the Chairman of the group circulating the petition. The chairman's signature must be acknowledged by a notary public and the expiration date of the notary's commission must be stated. Petitioners shall be registered and qualified voters in the Commonwealth, members of the same party as the candidate and shall include date petition was signed, date of birth, signature of petitioner and residence address.

3. Filing certification by the Federal Election Commission that candidate has qualified for matching federal campaign funds and a Notice of Candidacy.

   Pursuant to KRS 118.591, filing with the Secretary of State a Notice of Candidacy, $1000 filing fee and certification by the Federal Election Commission that the candidate has qualified for matching federal campaign funds when such occurs subsequent to the Kentucky State Board of Election's meeting in December preceding the presidential preference primary. All documents shall be filed no later that 4:00 p.m., local time on the first Friday following the first Monday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary election. The Notice of Candidacy must have original signature of candidate.

4. Filing evidence from 20 other states that candidate is qualified to appear on their presidential preference ballot of his/her political party and Notice of Candidacy.

   Pursuant to KRS 118.591 (5), filing with the Secretary of State a Notice of Candidacy, $1000 filing fee and evidence from twenty (20) other states that the candidate is qualified to appear on the presidential preference ballot of his/her political party. Documents shall be filed no later than 4:00 p.m., local time on the first Friday following the first Monday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary election. The Notice of Candidacy must have original signature of candidate. Sufficient documentation from the twenty (20) other states is deemed to be signed certification by the Chief Election Official, or the appropriate governing election authority of the state.

Please Note: All information contained in this packet is subject to change per Kentucky Revised Statutes.

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METHOD #1

DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY CANDIDATE BALLOT ACCESS PURSUANT TO KRS 118.581

The Kentucky State Board of Elections will meet in Frankfort, Kentucky on December 21, 2027, for the purpose of nominating as Presidential Preference Primary candidates all those candidates of the political parties for the office of President of the United States who have qualified for matching federal campaign funds.

The Kentucky State Board of Elections will contact the Federal Election Commission just prior to the December 21, 2027, meeting to obtain a list of these candidates. Immediately upon completion of this requirement, the board will transmit a list of all the nominees selected to the Secretary of State and will also release the list to the news media.

A notification of nomination and notice of candidacy from the Secretary of State will be sent to each person nominated by certified mail, with return receipt requested, that they will appear as a candidate on the primary ballot of their party, provided that the candidate:

a. **Deposits with the Secretary of State the filing fee of $1000;**
and
b. **Returns the completed Notice of Candidacy form to the Secretary of State.**

NOTE: The filing fee and completed Notice of Candidacy must be received no later than the deadline filing date, **January 7, 2028, at 4:00 p.m., local time**, in the Office of the Secretary of State, 1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 201, Frankfort, KY 40601.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact Heather Quinn or Jeremy Foster by calling 502-564-3490.

OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
1025 CAPITAL CENTER DRIVE
SUITE 201
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D

PHONE: (502) 564-3490
WEBSITE: www.sos.ky.gov
EMAIL: sos.elections@ky.gov

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
MICHAEL G. ADAMS

Title FName MName LName
Address 1
Address 2
Address 3

Re: Notification of Nomination KY Presidential Preference Primary KRS 118.551-118.611

Salutation LName:

The Kentucky State Board of Elections has nominated you as a presidential candidate for the (Party) and your name will appear upon Kentucky's Presidential Preference Primary ballot on May 16, 2028, provided the following requirements are met:

1. Complete and return the attached Notice of Candidacy to the Kentucky Secretary of State;
   and
2. Deposit with the Kentucky Secretary of State a filing fee of $1000. Check should be payable to Kentucky State Treasurer.

The one thousand dollar ($1000) filing fee and the completed Notice of Candidacy form must be received by the Kentucky Secretary of State no later than **January 7, 2028, at 4:00 p.m., local time**.

The required filing documents may be filed in person or mailed to the Office of the Secretary of State, 1025 Capital Center Drive, Suite 201, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Heather Quinn or Jeremy Foster by calling 502-564-3490.

Sample

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NOTICE OF CANDIDACY

I hereby notify the Kentucky Secretary of State that I have received the notification of nomination for the Kentucky Presidential Preference Primary, and request my name to appear as a _____ candidate upon my party's primary ballot on May 16, 2028.

(Party)

Name as desired on ballot pursuant to KRS 118.129:

_____

(Print or Type name of candidate in full as desired on ballot per KRS 118.129)

_____

(Signature of Candidate) (Date)

_____

(Candidate's Residential Address)

_____

(City) (State) (Zip)

NOTE: Notice of Candidacy and required filing fee of $1000 must be received **no later than January 7, 2028, at 4:00 p.m., local time**. Return documents to:

Michael G. Adams
Secretary of State
1025 Capital Center Drive
Suite 201
Frankfort, KY 40601