

Minor Party & Independent Candidates

How to appear on Washington State's presidential ballot in 2016

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SOS

Office of the Secretary of State

Kim Wyman



Secretary of State

Kim Wyman

One of the foundations of democracy is the involvement of our citizens in our political system. The procedures for running for President and Vice President of the United States are grounded in our tradition of encouraging citizens to participate in our self-government.

This publication explains Washington State's major requirements to appear on our 2016 Presidential ballot. Please note, this is not intended to be a substitute for the statutes governing this process. Rather, this publication should be read in conjunction with the Revised Code of Washington Title 29A, Chapters 32 and 56.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division. We will be happy to help you.



Kim Wyman

Kim Wyman

Secretary of State

Office of the Secretary of State
Elections Division
520 Union Avenue SE
PO Box 40229
Olympia, Washington 98504-0229

Phone: (360) 902-4180, (800) 448-4881

Fax: (360) 664-4619

Email: elections@sos.wa.gov

Website: www.vote.wa.gov



Alternate document formats are available upon request.

1 Required documents & other information

Required documents

Due **10 days** after convention adjourns:

- Slate of electors

Due by **August 5, 2016**:

- Affidavit(s) of public notice of convention
- Pledges signed by each elector (x12)
- Petition with at least 1,000 valid signatures
- Certificate of nomination
- Consent to nomination (President)
- Consent to nomination (Vice President)
- Voters' Pamphlet statement & photos

Call (360) 902-4180 to schedule an in-person appointment, or submit by mail to:

Office of the Secretary of State
Elections Division
520 Union Avenue SE
PO Box 40229
Olympia, Washington 98504-0229

Important dates

May 7	First day to hold convention
July 23	Last day to hold convention
August 2	Last day to submit slate of electors
August 5	All required documents due

What's a minor political party or independent candidate?

A *minor party* in Washington State is any political party or organization whose nominees for President and Vice President failed to receive at least five percent of the total votes cast at the last (2012) presidential election. Washington State does not require prior registration of a political party. By completing this nominating process, your party will be recognized.

An *independent candidate* is not affiliated with a political organization.

No filing fee

Washington State does not collect filing fees for the offices of President and Vice President.

Report campaign funding

All candidates expending or collecting funds for a federal office must register with the Federal Election Commission at www.fec.gov.

Campaign signs

Washington has strict rules regarding campaign signs. Contact the Washington State Department of Transportation at (360) 705-7296 for more information.

Write-in candidates

A declaration of write-in candidacy may be submitted no later than 18 days before the general election. Write-in candidates must meet all the qualifications for that office. Declaration forms are available at www.vote.wa.gov.



Republicans & Democrats should *not* use this guide

Presidential candidates for the Republican and Democratic parties are selected by delegates attending that party's national convention.

2 Hold a nominating convention

Checklist

- Publish public notice
- Hold a nominating convention
- Obtain 1,000 petition signatures
- Submit slate of electors **10 days** after convention adjourns

Public notice & affidavit of publication

At least 10 days before the convention begins, a newspaper notice must be published within the county where it will be held.

The notice must include:

- The date, hour, and place of the convention.
- The mailing address of the person or organization sponsoring the convention.

Affidavit(s) of publication for notice of convention must be submitted with the certificate of nomination. The newspaper can provide a notarized affidavit (see example, p. 5).

Convention requirements

A nominating convention is an organized meeting of registered Washington voters supporting political party or independent candidates for President and Vice President. A convention may only nominate one candidate for President and one candidate for Vice President.

Multiple meetings may be held at different times and locations, and still qualify as a single convention. At least 100 registered Washington voters must attend each meeting.

Conventions must be held May 7 – July 23, 2016.

Slate of electors

No later than 10 days after adjourning the convention, the presiding officer must provide the names and mailing addresses of the 12 electors selected at the convention to the Secretary of State (use form on p. 6-7).

Elector's pledge of intent

Each elector must sign a pledge of their intent to vote for the nominated candidates, and provide their name and address.

Pledges of intent must be submitted with the certificate of nomination (use form on p. 8).

Petitions

At least 1,000 registered Washington voters attending the convention must sign the petition to nominate candidates for President and Vice President (use petition sheet on p. 9).

No person may sign more than one nominating petition for the same office.

If multiple conventions are held, petitions signed at qualifying meetings may be added together to reach the required 1,000 signatures.

Nominating petition sheets must:

- Clearly identify the name of the independent or party candidate as it appears on the certificate of nomination.
- Contain a statement that the person signing the petition is a registered Washington State voter.
- Provide space for the voter's signature, printed name, and address.

Submit petition signatures with the certificate of nomination.

Examples

A. Public notice of convention

The **[party name]** of Washington State, pursuant to RCW 29A.56.620, will hold a convention for the purpose of selecting electors and nominating candidates for President and Vice President of the United States on **[date]**, **[hour]** at **[name of building]**, **[street address]** in **[city]**, WA.

For information contact **[name of convention organizer]**, **[convention organizer's mailing address]**.

B.

<h3>Affidavit of Publication</h3>																															
<p>STATE OF WASHINGTON County of Thurston County</p> <p>Legal #1981 Notice of Convention</p> <p>The Justice Party of Washington State, pursuant to RCW 29A.20.131, is holding a convention from June 17-July 1, 2012, at the Olympia Food Coops, 3111 Pacific Ave. SE & 921 Rogers St. NW, Olympia, WA, from 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States. FMI: Chris Stegman, 360-705-3928; 3173 Carpenter Hills, Ln SE Lacey WA 98503.</p> <p>Publish: June 6, 2012</p>	<p>ss. The undersigned being first duly sworn on oath deposed and says: That she is the Principal Clerk of The Olympian which is a legal newspaper printed and published in the city of Olympia, Thurston County, Washington: of general circulation in said City, County and State;</p> <p>that the Notice of Convention In the case of Justice Party of Washington State</p> <p>of which the attached is a printed copy, was published in said newspaper:</p> <table><tr><td>On the</td><td>6th</td><td>day of</td><td>June</td><td>2012</td></tr><tr><td>the</td><td></td><td>day of</td><td></td><td>2012</td></tr><tr><td>the</td><td></td><td>day of</td><td></td><td>2012</td></tr><tr><td>the</td><td></td><td>day of</td><td></td><td>2012</td></tr><tr><td>the</td><td></td><td>day of</td><td></td><td>2012</td></tr><tr><td>the</td><td></td><td>day of</td><td></td><td>2012</td></tr></table> <p>that the said newspaper was generally circulated during all of said time, and has been published for more than six months prior to the dates of the publication of this legal document, and that said notice was published in the newspaper proper and not in supplement form.</p> <p>The amount of fee charged for this publication – \$66.45 -- PREPAID</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Senya Nelson</i> _____ Principal Clerk</p> <p>Subscribed and sworn to me this <u>10th</u> day of <u>June</u> 2012</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Janera J. McLee</i> _____ Notary Public in and for the State of Washington Residing at Olympia, Thurston County, Washington</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Note – The above affidavit and fee is in compliance with RCW 63.16.030 and Sec. 3, Chapter 34, Laws of 1977.</p>	On the	6 th	day of	June	2012	the		day of		2012	the		day of		2012	the		day of		2012	the		day of		2012	the		day of		2012
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The Olympian has been appointed as a legal newspaper by order of the Superior Court of the State of Washington for Thurston County, dated July 10, 1941, in the county in which said newspaper is published in accordance with RCW 65.16.020 and RCW 63.16.040.

Slate of Electors

Submit no later than 10 days following convention (RCW 29A.56.660)

**party or
candidate
name**

- _____ Party
- Independent Candidate's name _____

signature

I, the presiding officer of the convention, verify that the following list of electors is true and correct.

presiding officer's signature

electors

1. name

address

2. name

address

3. name

address

4. name

address

5. name

address

6. name

address

Slate of Electors (continued)

electors

7. name

address

8. name

address

9. name

address

10. name

address

11. name

address

12. name

address

Pledge of Elector's Intent

Each elector must sign an affidavit (RCW 29A.56.320)

**party or
candidate
name**

_____ Party

Independent Candidate's name _____

**elector's
pledge**

I, _____,

as an elector for the above party or independent candidate, pledge to vote for the candidates nominated by that party.

elector's signature

Nominating Petition for U.S. President / Vice President

(RCW 29A.56.630)

name & party of nominees

Presidential nominee: _____ Party _____

Vice Presidential nominee: _____ Independent Candidates

voter's oath

I, the undersigned, declare that,

- I am a registered voter of the State of Washington.
- I personally attended a nominating convention held on _____, 2016 in the city of _____.
- I support with my signature the nominees listed above.
- I have not signed another nominating petition for this election year.

	voter's signature in support of nominees	voter's name (print)	voter's street address	city & ZIP
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				

3 Submit certificate of nomination

Checklist

- Sign the certificate of nomination
- Sign the Presidential nominee's consent
- Sign the Vice Presidential nominee's consent
- Get signatures notarized

Certificate of nomination

The certificate of nomination must:

- Identify the political party or independent candidate holding the convention.
- List the nominees in the appropriate office section, including residence, and desired ballot name.
- Document all conventions attended by at least 100 registered voters where petition signatures were gathered.
- Be verified by both the presiding convention officer and secretary.

(Use form on p. 11-12)

Consent to nomination

The nominees for both President and Vice President must each sign a consent form (see p. 13).

Signatures requiring a notary

Notarized signatures are required by the certificate of nomination on the following:

- Certificate of nomination
- Consent of Presidential nominee
- Consent of Vice Presidential nominee

Finalizing the nominations

The Office of the Secretary of State will determine if all requirements for certificates of nomination (RCW 29A.56.640) have been met.

The presiding officer will be notified when the nomination is accepted or rejected. Appeals must be filed with the Thurston County Superior Court no later than **five days** after notification.

Appearance on the ballot

When the race for President and Vice President appears on a general election ballot, the candidates for these offices must be paired together.

The full name of the political party (not an abbreviation) must be provided for each pair of candidates with a designation that these candidates are the nominees of the party. The first letter of each word in the political party name must be capitalized. For example:

Example Party Nominees

If candidates run as independent, that description must be provided for the pair of candidates. The first letter of each word in the description must be capitalized. For example:

Independent Candidates

The order that candidates appear on the ballot is based on their political party, as established by RCW 29A.36.161. Independent candidates and minor parties must follow major parties and be listed in chronological order of their qualification with the Secretary of State.

Minor party and independent candidate nominating petitions are processed in the order in which they are submitted to the Secretary of State.

Washington State Certificate of Nomination

(RCW 29A.56.640)

political party

The attached documents, submitted in support of nominations for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States, reflect decisions of the legally convened convention held by:

- _____ Party
- Independent Candidate

nominee for President

_____ legal name _____ state of residence

_____ exact ballot name, as given in the consent to nomination

nominee for Vice President

_____ legal name _____ state of residence

_____ exact ballot name, as given in the consent to nomination

campaign information

for publication in the voters' pamphlet

_____ campaign address _____ city / state / ZIP

_____ email address _____ phone number - include area code

_____ website

staff contact

for internal use only - not for publication

_____ name _____ phone - include area code

_____ email

Washington State Certificate of Nomination (continued)

convention locations	location	date
	location	date
	location	date
	location	date
	location	date

adjourned	The final convention meeting adjourned:		
	location	date	time (a.m. / p.m.)

presiding officer	I certify the information provided in this Certificate of Nomination is true and correct:		
	signature	telephone / email	
	mailing address	city / state / ZIP	

secretary	I certify the information provided in this Certificate of Nomination is true and correct:		
	signature	telephone / email	
	mailing address	city / state / ZIP	

notary	STATE OF WASHINGTON)
) SS
	COUNTY OF _____)
		AND
	presiding officer's signature	secretary's signature
	<i>Each being first duly sworn, on oath individually deposes and says, each for himself or herself that: They are respectively the presiding officer and secretary of the convention described above. Each has read this certificate together with all the attachments and believes them all to be true.</i>	
		notary's signature
		date
	SEAL	address of notary public in and for the state of Washington
		commission expires: _____

Consent to Nomination

Submit separate consent forms for President & Vice President

political affiliation

- _____ Party
 Independent Candidate

ballot information

- I am the nominee for the office of:
 President of the United States
 Vice President of the United States

_____ **exact name I want printed on the ballot**

nominee information

_____ residential address _____ city / state / ZIP
_____ phone number _____ email

nominee's consent

I consent to my nomination by the political organization listed above and, as such, agree to have my name appear on the 2016 General Election ballot in Washington State as that organization's nominee.

sign here

[]

date

[]

notary

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
) SS
COUNTY OF _____)

notary's signature

date

SEAL

address of notary public in and for the state of Washington

commission expires: _____

4 Voters' pamphlet instructions

Checklist

Email the following to voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov by 5 p.m. on August 5, 2016:

- photographs for President & Vice President
- biographies for President & Vice President
- one statement for President only
- campaign contact information

1. Photograph

Submit a color self-portrait of the head and shoulders for the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates. Photos must be no more than five years old.

Digital photos must be at minimum 300 dpi resolution and no smaller than 2.5 x 3 inches (750 x 900 pixels). Photos may not be digitally altered.

Clothing or insignia that suggest a public office are banned. Examples: judicial robes, and law enforcement or military uniforms.

2. Biography

Both the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates may provide a 100-word biography using the following headings (headings do not count toward the word limit):

Elected Experience

Other Professional Experience

Education

Community Service

If a heading is left blank, "No information submitted" will be inserted.

SAMPLE

of the printed voters' pamphlet

1



Warren G. Magnuson

[Minor Party] Nominee
President

2

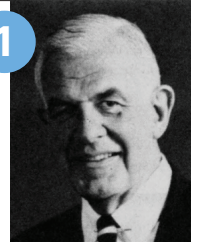
Elected Experience: Clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia for two years.

Other Professional Experience: Farmer/Rancher, Owner of Hailey Company, Inc. our 4th generation family farm. Public service volunteer, former 4-H leader, PTA President, continuing classroom volunteer.

Education: Graduate Paschal High School, Ft. Worth, TX. Graduate of Eastern Washington University, 1980. Law degree from Gonzaga University, 1956.

Community Service: Inland Northwest Humane Society; Walk for Life participant.

1



Tom Foley

[Minor Party] Nominee
Vice President

2

Elected Experience: Advocate for agriculture issues on local, state, and national levels. Advocate for children's issues.

Other Professional Experience: 1999 - 2009: Served as Director of Public Affairs, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, a high-tech manufacturer in Pullman; 1985 - 1999.

Education: No information submitted

Community Service: Chair, Boys and Girls Clubs Board of Directors; neighborhood watch participant; long time recycler.

Statement: Senator Magnuson has always given the highest priority to advocating for children and families, including veterans, the elderly and disabled. Scourges such as identity theft, methamphetamine users and dealers have been the subject of his legislative efforts to increase penalties and protect victims.

District growth has been more than 30% over the past two years, creating a strain on schools and other services. He helped make difficult choices to balance needs and restrain the budget, working to secure funding for the Pierce County Skills Center in Frederickson, the Yelm Loop, the Cross Base Highway, the Orting Bridge for kids, the Nisqually-Mashel State Park, an upgraded early warning system and work to keep transportation dollars here at home.

Warren advocated for in-home intervention, home health care, support and chore services for children with developmental or behavioral disabilities, seniors and the disabled. He worked to extend the property tax deferral program – helping people whose homes have increased in value, but have not had an increase in income.

He believes the WASL should only be one of several tools used to measure academic success. Warren is honored to represent you and he is and always will be, there for you.

Contact: (509) 123-4567; warren@magnuson.net
www.magnuson.com

4 Voters' pamphlet instructions

3. Statement

Only Presidential candidates are allowed a statement in the Voters' Pamphlet.

Statements must be **300 words** or less. Websites or URLs are not allowed in the statement. Hyphenated words count as two words. Statements exceeding the word limit will be shortened by deleting full sentences from the end.

Statements and biographies will be printed exactly as submitted. Changes are not allowed unless requested by the Office of the Secretary of State or required by court order.

Use only *italics* to emphasize words or phrases. Bold, underline, and all caps are not allowed. Tables, lists, and bullets are not allowed. Text must be written in paragraphs.

Correct

I approve of *justice* for all, *fairness* of the law, and *rehabilitation*.

Incorrect

- I approve of:
- JUSTICE for all
 - **Fairness** of the law
 - Rehabilitation

Naming people, such as an opponent or endorsement, delays processing and could result in court-ordered changes to your statement. Obscene, profane, libelous, and defamatory language will be rejected.

Tips from voters

- Treat this as a resume and proofread carefully.
- Offer your vision. Be positive.
- What do you want to accomplish, if elected?
- Describe what sets you apart from your opponent.
- Avoid criticism of your opponent.
- Who endorses your candidacy?
- Avoid technical terms and abbreviations.

SAMPLE

of the printed voters' pamphlet

Warren G. Magnuson

[Minor Party] Nominee
President



Elected Experience: Clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia for two years.

Other Professional Experience: Farmer/Rancher, Owner of Hailey Company, Inc. our 4th generation family farm. Public service volunteer, former 4-H leader, PTA President, continuing classroom volunteer.

Education: Graduate Paschal High School, Ft. Worth, TX. Graduate of Eastern Washington University, 1980. Law degree from Gonzaga University, 1956.

Community Service: Inland Northwest Humane Society; Walk for Life participant.

Tom Foley

[Minor Party] Nominee
Vice President



Elected Experience: Advocate for agriculture issues on local, state, and national levels. Advocate for children's issues.

Other Professional Experience: 1999 - 2009: Served as Director of Public Affairs, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, a high-tech manufacturer in Pullman; 1985 - 1999.

Education: No information submitted

Community Service: Chair, Boys and Girls Clubs Board of Directors; neighborhood watch participant; long time recycler.

3

Statement: Senator Magnuson has always given the highest priority to advocating for children and families, including veterans, the elderly and disabled. Scourges such as identity theft, methamphetamine users and dealers have been the subject of his legislative efforts to increase penalties and protect victims.

District growth has been more than 30% over the past two years, creating a strain on schools and other services. He helped make difficult choices to balance needs and restrain the budget, working to secure funding for the Pierce County Skills Center in Frederickson, the Yelm Loop, the Cross Base Highway, the Orting Bridge for kids, the Nisqually-Mashel State Park, an upgraded early warning system and work to keep transportation dollars here at home.

Warren advocated for in-home intervention, home health care, support and chore services for children with developmental or behavioral disabilities, seniors and the disabled. He worked to extend the property tax deferral program – helping people whose homes have increased in value, but have not had an increase in income.

He believes the WASL should only be one of several tools used to measure academic success. Warren is honored to represent you and he is and always will be, there for you.

Contact: (509) 123-4567; warren@magnuson.net
www.magnuson.com

4 Voters' pamphlet instructions

4. Campaign contact info

The following campaign contact information will be published with your statement. Contact information does not count toward the word limits, but long web addresses such as Facebook or blogs are not allowed.

Campaign phone
Campaign email
Campaign website

Questions?

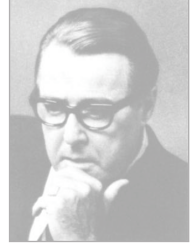
1 (800) 448-4881
voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov

SAMPLE

of the printed voters' pamphlet

Warren G. Magnuson

[Minor Party] Nominee
President



Elected Experience: Clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia for two years.

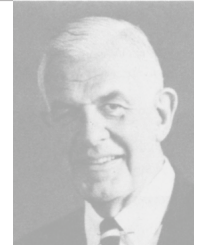
Other Professional Experience: Farmer/Rancher, Owner of Hailey Company, Inc. our 4th generation family farm. Public service volunteer, former 4-H leader, PTA President, continuing classroom volunteer.

Education: Graduate Paschal High School, Ft. Worth, TX. Graduate of Eastern Washington University, 1980. Law degree from Gonzaga University, 1956.

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Vice President



Elected Experience: Advocate for agriculture issues on local, state, and national levels. Advocate for children's issues.

Other Professional Experience: 1999 - 2009: Served as Director of Public Affairs, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, a high-tech manufacturer in Pullman; 1985 - 1999.

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4

Contact: (509) 123-4567; warren@magnuson.net
www.magnuson.com

4 Voters' pamphlet instructions

Voters' Pamphlet Submission

Only complete this form if you are submitting by mail or in person.

office	<hr/> <i>President</i> <hr/>
	candidate's name office
campaign contact information <i>for publication</i>	<hr/>
	campaign phone — include area code campaign email address
	<hr/> campaign website
staff contact information <i>for internal use only (not for publication)</i>	<hr/>
	name
	<hr/> email phone — include area code



We prefer email

We prefer you email voters' pamphlet materials to voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov, but you may submit by mail or in person with your certificate of nomination.

Include

- Voters' Pamphlet Submission form (this page)
- One statement for only the Presidential nominee on CD or USB
- Biographies for both the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees on CD or USB
- Photographs for both the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees, professionally printed, or on CD or USB