

May 20, 2025 Special District Election

The first day that a candidate can file for the May 20, 2025 Special District Election is February 8, 2025 and the last day a candidate can file is no later than 5:00 pm on March 20, 2025.

Prospective candidates may access the SEL 190 form and other forms via computer by navigating to the following web address <http://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/electionforms.aspx>. In addition, please direct interested parties to the following URL <http://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Pages/manuals-tutorials.aspx> this is a link to the webpage that gives access to the "County, City and District Candidate's Manual" which gives potential candidates additional information on filing. If prospective candidates have any questions they may contact the Linn County Clerk's Office at 541-967-3831.

Campaign Finance is handled by the Secretary of State's Office the phone number for their office is 503-986-1518.

If you have any questions please contact elections@co.linn.or.us or call 541-967-3831

Candidate Filing District

SEL 190

rev 12/24
ORS 255.235

i This form must be filed with county elections official. All information must be completed or the form will be rejected.

2025 District Election Filing Dates

Candidate Filing February 8, 2025 to March 20, 2025

Withdrawal Date March 20, 2025

This filing is an

Original

Amendment

Office Information

Filing for Office of:

District, Position or County:

Filing Information

Filing with the required \$10.00 fee

Prospective Petition

Candidate Information

Name of Candidate

First

MI

Last

How you would like your name to appear on the ballot

Candidate Residence/Route Address

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Candidate Mailing Address and Contact Information

Street Address or PO Box

City

State

Zip

Work Phone

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email Address

Web Site, if applicable

Race and Ethnicity *Optional*

Occupation (present employment) If no relevant experience, None or NA must be entered.

Occupational Background (previous employment) If no relevant experience, None or NA must be entered.

Educational Background (schools attended) If no relevant experience, None or NA must be entered.

Complete name of School	Last Grade completed	Diploma/Degree/Certificate	Course of Study

Educational Background (other) Attach a separate sheet if necessary.

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Prior Governmental Experience (elected or appointed) If no relevant experience, None or NA must be entered.

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Campaign Finance Information

A candidate must file a Statement of Organization not later than three business days of first receiving a contribution or making an expenditure and no later than the deadline for filing a nominating petition, declaration of candidacy, or certificate of nomination, whichever occurs first, unless they meet the criteria for an exemption. To meet the criteria, the candidate must serve as their own treasurer, not have an existing candidate committee, and not expect to spend or receive more than \$750 during the entire calendar year (including in-kind contributions and personal funds).

If you have an existing candidate committee you must amend the statement of organization not later than 10 days after a change in information. This includes changes to the election you are active in and the office you are running for.

See the Campaign Finance Manual for the procedural and legal requirements of establishing and maintaining a candidate committee.

Residence Address Exemption


To exempt your residence address from public disclosure, complete form [SEL 180 – Residence Address Exemption Request](#). The request for a Residence Address Exemption MUST include a publicly disclosable mailing address. See the Candidates Manual for further information.

I don't want my residence address to be disclosed. I will be filing a separate [SEL 180 – Residence Address Exemption Request](#).

Candidate Attestation

By signing this document, I hereby state that:

- I will qualify for said office if elected;
- All information provided by me on this form is true to the best of my knowledge

 **Warning**
Supplying false information on this form may result in conviction of a felony with a fine of up to \$125,000 and/or prison for up to 5 years. (ORS 260.715). A person may only file for one lucrative office at the same election. Unless the person has withdrawn from the first filing, all filings are invalid. (ORS 249.013 and ORS 249.170)

Candidate's Signature

Date Signed

How to become a candidate

Board members are elected to four-year terms, or two-year terms to fill a vacancy. You must be a registered voter and you must have lived in the district for one year immediately preceding the election. School district, ESD and community college employees elected to serve on their board must give up employment with the district to sit on the board.

Board members are elected by zones or as at-large representatives. The procedure for choosing board members by zone or at large is determined at the district level. Board members elected at large may live anywhere in the district. Board members elected by zone may 1) live in the zone and be elected by all district voters or 2) live in the zone and be elected only by voters living within that zone.

Your county elections official, superintendent, college president or school board member can tell you how board members are elected in your district.

School board elections

Half of the board members in Oregon's schools, community colleges and ESDs are elected or re-elected in each odd-numbered year. Under Oregon law, school, ESD and community college board elections are held the third Tuesday in May.

The filing deadline for board positions is the 61st calendar day prior to the May election date. Candidates can file with the county clerk in one of two ways:

- Submit a petition containing the signatures of 25 registered voters or 10 percent of the registered voters in the district, whichever is less.
- Submit a declaration of candidacy with a \$10 filing fee.

All Oregon elections are by-mail ballots. Ballots are mailed to registered voters no sooner than the 20th day before the date of the election and no later than the 14th day.

To be counted, the county clerk must receive ballots by 8 p.m. on the date of the election. Voters may return the ballots by mail or in person. Ballots with election-day postmarks are not counted.

Your campaign

Board candidate campaigns range from simple to sophisticated, depending on the candidate and the community. One common element, however, is the state requirement for reporting campaign finances.

Contact the Secretary of State Elections Division for guidance before accepting any campaign contributions or making any campaign expenditures.

By law, you must report all campaign finance transactions to the Secretary of State Elections Division. Political committees formed to support candidates also must report contributions and expenditures.

The candidate's treasurer and/or the treasurer of the political committee supporting the candidate is responsible for maintaining detailed records and filing reports of contributions received and expenditures made. These records are subject to inspection by an opposing candidate or that candidate's treasurer. These records must be kept current to within seven days of receiving a contribution or making an expenditure.

More information

Oregon School Boards Association

www.osba.org

Board candidate resources

School board roles and responsibilities

National School Boards Association

www.nsba.org

Campaign regulations and finance reporting requirements

Elections Division

Public Service Building

255 Capitol St. NE, Suite 501

Salem, OR 97310

(503) 986-1518

<http://oregonvotes.gov>

or your county elections office

We encourage you to become actively involved with OSBA if you are elected to a school, ESD or community college board. Please contact OSBA with questions.

Oregon School Boards Association

PO Box 1068, Salem, OR 97308

1201 Court St. NE, Suite 400

Salem, OR 97301

503-588-2800 or 800-578-6722

info@osba.org

www.osba.org

www.facebook.com/osba.org



OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION'S

GUIDE FOR OREGON

School District
Education Service District
Community College

BOARD CANDIDATES

the Promise
OF OREGON

www.promiseoregon.org



As you consider running for your local school board, think about what being a board member means to you, your family and your community.

Oregon's school districts, education service districts (ESDs) and community college districts are governed by elected boards of five, seven, nine or 11 members that help direct the superintendent or college president run what may be the largest businesses in their communities. Board actions affect the families of hundreds of students and employees, now and for years to come.

Your duty will be representing all students, staff and members of the community as you work with other board members to craft policy.

School board authority rests with the board as a whole, not with individual board members. Board decisions are made by majority rule and, as one member of this ruling body, you will find yourself in the position of supporting some decisions that you voted against.

Board service often requires long unpaid hours working alone, on committees and with members of your community. You'll struggle sometimes to find solutions to complex problems – and still the solutions won't please everyone.

However, you'll have the satisfaction of watching students receive their diplomas, knowing that you played a role in their achievement. As an education board member, you will help shape tomorrow's citizens and leaders.

What does a school board do?

When you're elected to serve on the board, your education has just begun. Board service is like inheriting the reins of a corporation without any training. The "learning curve" for education leaders is steep. Plan to spend time in workshops and conferences. Training is essential to running a complex education system. OSBA equips board members with the leadership training they need to feel comfortable in their roles and to do their best.

The board's major responsibility is setting policy. The board hires a superintendent or

college president who in turn hires staff to put policies into practice. The chief executive is accountable to the board for managing the district according to board policies.

Because they serve the community, board members must work with the public as they establish the mission and direction of education. It's up to the board to engage the community in public education.

A board member must be a skilled decision-maker and team player, a public-education advocate, a vital link between community and school, and a policy maker.

As a public employer, the board establishes policies that govern the recruitment, employment, supervision, evaluation and dismissal of employees.

Board members must also do the following:

- Establish budgets.
- Set goals and evaluate progress toward those goals.
- Ask voters to approve bond measures and local option levies for facilities and operations.
- Guide collective bargaining.
- Choose transportation systems.
- Evaluate the superintendent, college president or chief executive.

How much time does being a good board member require?

School board service involves a substantial time commitment – and remember, there's no salary.

Boards typically meet one or two evenings a month. Before the monthly meetings, you'll need to study the materials provided (board packets) so you can make informed decisions.

A substantial time commitment is required of board members beyond meeting and meeting-preparation time. There are committee meetings, work sessions and appearances on behalf of the district. During collective bargaining with employee unions, you may find yourself immersed in a very time-consuming process.

OSBA offers training, answers, advice and many other resources year-round that save time and keep you up to date on school issues. Our workshops and conventions provide opportunities to meet peers from throughout the state and experts from around the country – more people on whom you can rely for help with board-related issues.

What makes a good board member?

Many of the qualities that make board members great are acquired over time, through training and experience, so don't discredit your potential worth as a board member, even though you may never have served in such a capacity.

As you consider running for the ESD, community college or school board, think about whether these characteristics of effective board members describe you:

- You hold a conviction that public education is important.
- You are committed to public involvement.
- You have the ability to make decisions.
- You believe in the democratic process.
- You're willing to devote time and energy to your new position.
- You can accept the will of the majority.
- You have the courage to stand up for your convictions.
- You have respect for district employees.
- You communicate well with others.

These are some characteristics of ineffective board members:

- They become involved in school, ESD or community college administration.
- They allow personal feelings toward others to affect their judgment.
- They allow personal interests to transcend the best interests of the district.
- They neglect board duties.
- They can't make decisions or take a stand.
- They represent special interests or a particular geographic area rather than the interests of the entire district.
- They adopt an arrogant or paternalistic attitude toward district employees or the public.



FAQs about School Board Elections

School board elections are coming up, and there are many common questions about what schools and employees should or should not do regarding providing information and supporting or opposing candidates. Here are answers to some of those questions:

District / College Administration

What does the district or college need to do to prepare for school board elections? What information do we need to provide to potential candidates?

Districts should direct interested individuals to the county elections office for more information about where and how to file. Districts should consider preparing candidate packets that provide information to prospective candidates including campaign finance rules, information about duties and responsibilities, district policies regarding board operations, meeting schedules and time commitment expectations, and contact information for district officials.

What are the legal restrictions for employees regarding election activities?

The fundamental rule is that while on the job during working hours, public employees cannot promote or oppose any political committee, candidate nomination or election, initiative signature gathering, ballot measure, or recall of a public office holder. These restrictions only apply when employees are "on the job during working hours." The law explicitly protects public employees' right to express personal political views on their own time.

For salaried employees like administrators, determining what constitutes "on the job during working hours" can be more complex than for hourly workers. An administrator or other salaried employee should clearly document when they are acting in their personal capacity and announce to audiences when they are speaking as private citizens rather than school district representatives.

May a candidate use district or college facilities for election-related events?

Yes. If the district chooses to make its facilities available for election-related events, you must provide the same opportunity to use the facility to all candidates in the school board election. If one candidate or group supporting a candidate request to use your facilities for political purposes, then the district must allow the same access to all candidates. All candidates must be subject to the same facility rental process and must be charged the same rental fee, if applicable.

Can candidates distribute campaign materials at school events or on school grounds?

Yes, candidates can campaign and distribute campaign materials at school events or on school grounds. However, district or college employees may not assist the candidate in distributing campaign materials. Additionally, if any candidate is allowed to distribute materials, all candidates must be granted equal access under the same conditions.

Can the district or college allow the public to comment in support or opposition of a school board candidate on its official social media pages?

Yes. If the district or college allows public comments on its social media posts, then it must ensure that comments that support or oppose a candidate or any other political issues are treated equally. You should not delete comments from social media posts based on the viewpoint of the poster.

District/College Employees

Can I discuss school board elections with students, colleagues, or the public while at work?

Yes, but only to a certain extent. While on the job you must remain strictly neutral about school board elections. This means that you can share factual and impartial information about the election process – such as when the election will be held, how to register to vote, or where to find candidate information – but you cannot promote or oppose any candidates. Additionally, you may open and read emails that contain political advocacy, but you may not send or forward such emails during work hours. Finally, district employees may wear clothing or political paraphernalia while at work so long as it does not violate district policy.

Am I allowed to publicly support or oppose a school board candidate? What about if my social media profile identifies me as a district employee?

Yes, you can publicly support or oppose school board candidates. However, there are two restrictions: (1) you cannot promote or oppose the election of a school board candidate when you are on the job during working hours and (2) you should make it clear that you are not speaking on behalf of the school when you express support or oppose a candidate. You can only publicly support or oppose candidates in your personal time, when you are not acting in your official capacity as a school district employee.

You also should not post material to an official school social media account that contains political advocacy. This includes “re-posting” or sharing a post or news article that contains political advocacy. All material shared on an official school social media account must be impartial, even if the link, article, or other materials were not created by the school. Additionally, you cannot pursue political advocacy on a social media page when you speak on behalf of the school, or if you are exercising your authority in your job role in those posts. The best practice is to avoid making posts on the same page that include details of both your employment role and your personal life.

Additional Resources

[OSBA's Running for a Board Webpage](#)

ORS Chapter 255 [Special District Elections](#); Chapter 332: [Local Administration of Education](#) (332.118-138 regarding school district elections; Chapter 334 [Education Service Districts](#) (334.025-100 regarding ESD boards); Chapter 341 [Community College Districts](#) (341.326-379 regarding board elections)

[Secretary of State's Restrictions on Political Campaigning by Public Employees](#)

[Oregon Government Ethics Law: A Guide for Public Officials](#)

This resource is intended for educational purposes only. Any information contained in this resource is not legal advice and is not intended to be interpreted as legal advice. For advice on specific questions, please contact your general counsel or PACE Legal at pacelegal@osba.org.