Candidate Filing Guidelines

Residency Requirements

**US Senate:** Candidates must be at least 30 years of age, US citizens and residents of the state for which they shall be chosen. (Reference US Constitution, Article 1, Section 3)

**US Representative:** Candidates must be at least 25 years of age, US citizens and residents of the state for which they shall be chosen. (Reference US Constitution, Article 1, Section 2)

**State Legislature:** Candidates must be a citizen of the US and a qualified voter in the district. (Reference State Constitution, Article II, Section 7)

**State Offices:** Candidates must be a citizen of the US and a qualified elector of the State of Washington. (Reference State Constitution, Article III, Section 25)

**Supreme and District Court Judges:** Candidates must be resident electors of their district and admitted to practice law in the courts of record of the State of Washington. (Reference State Constitution, Article IV, Section 17)

**Superior Court Judges:** Candidates must be resident electors of the State of Washington and admitted to practice law in the courts of record of the State of Washington. (Reference State Constitution, Article IV, Section 17)

**Court of Appeals Judges:** Candidates must be residents of the district for not less than one year and admitted to practice law in the courts of the State of Washington for not less than five years prior to taking office. (Reference RCW 2.06.050)

**Tacoma Municipal Court Judges:** Candidates must be qualified resident electors of Pierce County and admitted to practice law in the courts of record of the State of Washington. (Reference Tacoma City Charter Article 5, State Constitution, Article IV, Section 17, RCW 3.34.060, 3.50.057, 35.20.170)

**County Offices:** Candidates must be US citizens, residents and registered voters of Pierce County. County Council
candidates must be residents and registered voters of their district for one year prior to filing. No County Council District boundary change shall disqualify the council member from holding office during the remainder of the term. (Reference Pierce County Charter 4.30, RCW 29A.24.075)

**Precinct Committee Officer:** Be a registered voter in the precinct where you live.

### Term Limits
**Pierce County Offices**

**Councilmember or Executive**
- Two consecutive four-year terms in the same position.

**Sheriff, Assessor-Treasurer and Auditor**
- Three consecutive four-year terms in the same position.

**Prosecuting Attorney**
- The Prosecuting Attorney is not subject to term limits.

For all positions, the establishment of residency in an alternate district will not circumvent this restriction. (Reference Pierce County Charter 4.90)

### No Double Filings
**RCW 29A.36.201**

Excluding the office of Precinct Committee Officer, Freeholder, or Charter Review Commissioner, a candidate’s name shall not appear for more than one office on the ballot.

### Candidates Who Lack Funds to Pay the Filing Fee
**RCW 29A.24.091, 101, 111, 29A.84.261**

Candidates or candidate committees lacking sufficient income or assets to pay the filing fee may submit a filing fee petition. The petition must be presented with the Declaration of Candidacy. The form is available on the Elections Division website or at the Election Center. It must contain one valid (registered voter) signature for each dollar of the filing fee. For example, if the filing fee for the office you are seeking is $200.00, the petition must contain 200 valid signatures of registered voters who reside in the district/jurisdiction of the office you are seeking. You should gather extra signatures to allow for invalid signers. No signatures may be submitted after Friday, May 16, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. Petitions cannot be combined with money for the filing fee.