

## President and Vice President

# Minor Party & Independent Candidates

## Guide to Washington State's 2020 Ballot

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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 2020 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](mailto:elections@sos.wa.gov)  
Website: [sos.wa.gov/elections](http://sos.wa.gov/elections)



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 7, 2020**:

- 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 2	First day to hold convention
July 25	Last day to hold convention
August 4	Last day to submit slate of electors
August 7	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 (2016) 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](http://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 8pm on Election Day. Write-in candidates must meet all the qualifications for that office. Declaration forms are available at [www.sos.wa.gov/elections](http://www.sos.wa.gov/elections).



### 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 2 — July 25, 2020.**

### 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.

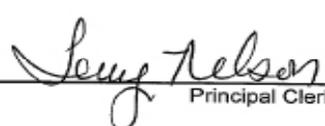
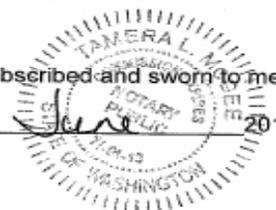
# Examples

## 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.

### Affidavit of Publication

<p>STATE OF WASHINGTON County of Thurston County</p> <p>Legal #1581 <b>Notice of Convention</b></p> <p>The Justice Party of Washington State, pursuant to RCW 29A.20.131, is holding a convention from June 17-July 2, 2012, at the Olympia Food Center, 3511 Pacific Ave SE &amp; 901 Rogers St NW, Olympia, WA, from 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States. JMS: Chris Stegman, 360-705-9336, 5173 Carpenter Hill, Ip SE Lacey WA 98503.</p> <p>Published: 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 <b>Notice of Convention</b> In the case of <b>Justice Party of Washington State</b></p> <p>of which the attached is a printed copy, was published in said newspaper:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">On the</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">6<sup>th</sup></td> <td style="width: 15%;">day of</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: center;">June</td> <td style="width: 15%; text-align: right;">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>the</td> <td></td> <td>day of</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>the</td> <td></td> <td>day of</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>the</td> <td></td> <td>day of</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>the</td> <td></td> <td>day of</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">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 – <b>\$66.45 – PREPAID</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">               _____              Principal Clerk         </p> <p>Subscribed and sworn to me this <u>10<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>June</u> 2012</p> <p style="text-align: center;">               _____              Tamera L. McLee              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 <sup>th</sup>	day of	June	2012	the		day of		2012	the		day of		2012	the		day of		2012	the		day of		2012
On the	6 <sup>th</sup>	day of	June	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: \_\_\_\_\_  Party

Presidential nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 in the city of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 • I support with my signature the nominees listed above.  
 • I have not signed another nominating petition for this election year.

	SIGNATURE	PRINT FIRST NAME	PRINT LAST NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							

# 3 Submit certificate of nomination

## Checklist

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

## 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).

## 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)

<b>convention locations</b>	location	date
	location	date

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

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

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

# 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 2020 General Election ballot in Washington State as that organization's nominee.*

sign here

date

# 4 Voters' pamphlet instructions

## Checklist

Email the following to [voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov](mailto:voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov) by 5 p.m. on August 7, 2020:

- 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](mailto:warren@magnuson.net)  
[www.magnuson.com](http://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.

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**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.

<b>office</b>	<hr/> <i>President</i> <hr/>
	candidate's name <span style="float: right;">office</span>
<b>campaign contact information</b> <i>for publication</i>	<hr/>
	campaign phone — include area code <span style="float: right;">campaign email address</span>
	<hr/> campaign website
<b>staff contact information</b> <i>for internal use only (not for publication)</i>	<hr/>
	name
	<hr/> email <span style="float: right;">phone — include area code</span>



### We prefer email

We prefer you email voters' pamphlet materials to [voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov](mailto:voterspamphlet@sos.wa.gov), however, 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