



Qualifications and Fees for Mississippi Candidates

Federal

UNITED STATES SENATOR

Qualifications: Each senator must be at least 30 years old, must have been a citizen of the United States for at least the past nine years, and must be, at the time of the election, an inhabitant of the state they seek to represent. *U.S. Const., Art. 1, § 3.*

Political Party Candidates: \$1,000 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$1,000 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 1,000 qualified electors of the state.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications: Each congressional district shall be entitled to one (1) representative, who shall have attained the age of twenty-five (25) years, and been seven (7) years a citizen of the United States, and who shall, when elected, be an inhabitant of the state. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-1035.*

Political Party Candidates: \$500 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$500 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 200 qualified electors of district.

STATEWIDE

GOVERNOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 30 years old, a citizen of the United States 20 years, and a resident of the state five years next preceding the day of election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. V, §117, Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$1,000 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$1,000 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 1,000 qualified electors of the state.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Qualifications: Same as required of the Governor. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. V, §128, Art. XII, § 250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$500 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$500 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 1,000 qualified electors of the state.

SECRETARY OF STATE, AUDITOR, TREASURER, INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, and a citizen of the state five years next preceding the day of election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. V, §§133 and 134, Art. XII, §250; Miss. Code Ann. §83-1-3.*

Political Party Candidates: \$500 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$500 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 1,000 qualified electors of the state.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Qualifications: A qualified elector, a practicing attorney for five years, at least 26 years old, and a citizen of the state five years. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. VI, §173, Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$500 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$500 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 1,000 qualified electors of the state.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE & COMMERCE

Qualifications: A qualified elector with a general knowledge of agriculture, mining, manufacturing, statistics, and general industries and an experienced and practical agriculturist. *Miss. Code Ann. §69-1-1; Miss. Const. of 1890, art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$500 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$500 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 1,000 qualified electors of the state.

STATE DISTRICT

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

Qualifications: A qualified elector for and from the Supreme Court District in which election is sought (residency), at least 30 years of age, a practicing attorney, and a citizen of the state for five years immediately preceding the election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. 6, §§145, 145-A, 145-B and 150.*

Fee: \$200 paid to the Secretary of State's Office.

COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE

Qualifications: A qualified elector for and from the Court of Appeals District in which election is sought (residency), at least 30 years of age, a practicing attorney, and a citizen of the State for five years immediately preceding the election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. 6, §150.*

Fee: \$200 paid to the Secretary of State's Office.

CHANCERY COURT JUDGE

Qualifications: A qualified elector for and from the chancery court district (residency), at least 26 years of age, a practicing attorney for five years, and a citizen of the state for five years. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. 6, §§153 and 154; Miss. Code Ann. §9-5-1.*

Fee: \$100 paid to the Secretary of State's Office.

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Qualifications: A qualified elector for and from the circuit court district (residency), at least 26 years of age, a practicing attorney for five years, and a citizen of the state for five years. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. 6, §§153 and 154; Miss. Code Ann. §9-7-1.*

Fee: \$100 paid to the Secretary of State's Office.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 25 years old, a resident of the Supreme Court district in which he/she seeks election, and a citizen of the state five years preceding the day of election. *Miss. Code Ann. §77-1-1; Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. VII, §186, Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party candidates: \$500 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$500 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 300 qualified electors of district.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector and a resident of the Supreme Court district in which he/she seeks election. *Miss. Code Ann. §65-1-3.*

Political Party Candidates: \$500 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$500 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 300 qualified electors of district.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the district and a practicing attorney admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Mississippi for two years. *Miss. Code Ann. §25-31-1.*

Political Party Candidates: \$250 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$250 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 100 qualified electors of district.

STATE LEGISLATORS

SENATOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the state four years, at least 25 years old, and an actual resident of the district or territory represented for two years before the election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. IV, §42.*

Political Party Candidates: \$250 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$250 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of district.

REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications: A qualified elector and resident citizen of the state four years, at least 21 years old, and a resident of the district represented for two years before the election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. IV, §41.*

Political Party Candidates: \$250 paid to the appropriate state party executive committee.

Independent Candidates: \$250 paid to the Secretary of State's Office, and petition filed with the Secretary of State containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of district.

COUNTYWIDE

SHERIFF

Qualifications: Not a defaulter to the state or any county or municipality or to the United States and a qualified elector. *Miss. Code Ann. §19-25-3; Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. V, §§135 and 138.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of the county.

CHANCERY CLERK, CIRCUIT CLERK, TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the county in which he/she seeks election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. V §§135 and 138; Art. VI, §168; Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of the county.

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

From and after January 1, 2019, in all public school districts, the local school board shall appoint the superintendent of education in such district in the manner provided in *Miss. Code Ann. § 37-9-25*. However, in the event a vacancy in the office of the superintendent of schools elected at the November 2015 general election shall occur before January 1, 2019, the office of superintendent of school shall immediately become an appointed position, and the local school board shall appoint the superintendent of the school district.

COUNTY COURT AND FAMILY COURT JUDGE

Qualifications: A qualified elector for and from the county court district (residency), at least 26 years old, a practicing attorney for five years, and a citizen of the state for five years preceding the election. *Miss. Code Ann. §9-9-5.*

Fee: \$15 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Qualifications: A qualified elector and a regular licensed and practicing attorney. *Miss. Code Ann. §19-23-9.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of the county.

SURVEYOR

Qualifications: A registered land surveyor and a qualified elector of the county in which he/she seeks election. *Miss. Code Ann. §19-27-1; Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. V §§135 and 138; Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of the county.

CORONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector, at least 21 years of age, possessing a high school diploma or its equivalent, of the county in which he/she seeks election. The minimum education requirement shall not apply to any Coroner holding office on July 1, 1986, who is re-elected in the 1987 general election and thereafter as long as he/she maintains continuous active service. *Miss. Code Ann. §19-21-103; Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. V, §§135 and 138; Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of the county.

COUNTY DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR

Qualifications: A qualified elector of the county and a resident in the district in which he/she seeks election. *Miss. Code Ann. §19-3-3; Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 15 qualified electors of the district.

JUSTICE COURT JUDGE

Qualifications: A qualified elector, a resident of the county two years preceding the day of election, a high school graduate or its equivalent, and completion of a course of training required by law within six months of the beginning of the term of office. *Miss. Code Ann. §9-11-3; Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. VI, §171 and Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 15 qualified electors of the district.

CONSTABLE

Qualifications: A qualified elector in the county and district in which he/she seeks election. *Miss. Const. of 1890, Art. VI, §171 and Art. XII, §250.*

Political Party Candidates: \$100 paid to the appropriate county executive committee via Circuit Clerk.

Independent Candidates: \$100 paid to the county via the Circuit Clerk, and petition filed with the Circuit Clerk containing signatures of not less than 15 qualified electors of the district.

ELECTION COMMISSIONER

Qualifications: A qualified elector in the county and district in which he/she seeks election. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-213.*

Fee: None; petition filed with the Chancery Clerk containing signatures of not less than 50 qualified electors of the district.

NOTE on fees and petitions: Fees are now assessed for both political party candidates and independent candidates for regularly scheduled elections and special elections. For the current schedule of most fees and candidate qualification requirements, see *Miss Code Ann. §§23-15-297, 23-15-299, 23-15-359 and 23-15-977.* Political party candidates must file the required fee and a qualifying statement of intent (available from your Circuit Clerk or the Secretary of State's Office). The completed and certified petitions of independent candidates for statewide, state district and legislative offices must be submitted to the Secretary of State's Office by the appropriate qualifying deadline, along with a qualifying statement of intent and fee. Accordingly, the petition must first be submitted a reasonable time in advance to the appropriate Circuit Clerk's office so signatures may be certified as those of registered voters of the county/district. For more information, call the Secretary of State's Office (601-576-2550; 800-829-6786) or your county Circuit Clerk.