



DELBERT HOSEMANN
Secretary of State

2014
Mississippi Elections
Candidate Qualifying Guide

Published by:
The Elections Division of the
Mississippi Secretary of State's Office



DELBERT HOSEMANN
Secretary of State



Dear Fellow Mississippians:

Our office is pleased to provide you with the **2014 Mississippi Elections Candidate Qualifying Guide**, which outlines candidate qualifications and procedures.

This publication offers a wealth of information for both potential candidates of political offices in the State, as well as Mississippians interested in the process. We encourage you to take advantage of the resources offered by our agency, and I hope you find this guide useful.

If we can assist you with additional information regarding the **Mississippi Elections Candidate Qualifying Guide**, please do not hesitate to call the Elections Division of the Office of the Mississippi Secretary of State at 601-576-2550 or 800-829-6786, or you may email us at elections@sos.ms.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Delbert".

Delbert Hosemann
Secretary of State

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2014 Elections Calendar



Primary Election	Tuesday, June 3, 2014
General Election, Mississippi Levee District	Tuesday, June 3, 2014
Run-Off Election, Mississippi Levee District	Tuesday, June 24, 2014
Second Primary Election	Tuesday, June 24, 2014
General Election	Tuesday, November 4, 2014
Regular Special Election	Tuesday, November 4, 2014
General Election Runoff	Tuesday, November 25, 2014
Regular Special Election Runoff	Tuesday, November 25, 2014

2014 Elections Qualifying Dates

Qualifying Deadline for U.S. Senate and Representative 5:00 p.m., Saturday, March 1, 2014

Qualifying Deadline for Judicial Candidates 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 9, 2014

County School Board District 5:

Qualifying Period Begins Wednesday, August 6, 2014

Qualifying Deadline 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2014

Consolidated/Consolidated Line School District Trustee:

Qualifying Period Begins Wednesday, August 6, 2014

Qualifying Deadline 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2014

Special Municipal Separate School District:

Qualifying Period Begins Wednesday, August 6, 2014

Qualifying Deadline 5:00 p.m., Saturday, October 4, 2014

Qualifying Deadline for Special Municipal Separate School District

(Warren County/Vicksburg Only) 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2014

Qualifying Deadline for Municipal Separate School

District Trustee 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2014

Qualifying Deadline for County Special Elections 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2014

Purpose

This qualifying guide provides essential information for candidates running in Mississippi's federal, state, county, and certain municipal separate school and special municipal separate school district elections in 2014. This guide begins with an overview of the qualifying process for party, independent, and non-partisan candidates seeking public office. Candidates should familiarize themselves with the legal qualifications and the qualifying procedures for the office they intend to seek. This guide *only* provides information about elected offices for which an election will be held during 2014.

All candidates must file *campaign finance reports*. This guide includes an explanation of campaign finance reporting requirements. Keep in mind, a winning candidate who fails to file any required campaign finance report may not take office. A failure to file required campaign finance reports could result in criminal and civil penalties.



Candidate Requirements



Party Candidates

A **party candidate** must submit *two* items to the proper office: (1) the appropriate qualifying fee; and (2) a completed “Statement of Intent for a Candidate for Party Nomination” available at your Circuit Clerk’s office and State Party headquarters. You may also download the required form from the Secretary of State’s office website: www.sos.ms.gov.

Independent Candidates

An **Independent candidate** does not pay a qualifying fee but must submit a completed “Qualifying Statement of Intent” and Petition signed by a certain number of qualified electors as specified by statute for each office, to the proper office. The appropriate Circuit Clerk must certify the signatures on a candidate’s petition are those of registered voters in the county or district. Candidates for *statewide* offices or *multi-county district* offices must submit completed Circuit Clerk-certified petitions to the Secretary of State’s office. Independent candidates should budget sufficient time to ensure the certified petitions are delivered to the Secretary of State’s office on or prior to the qualifying deadline. Petition forms are available from each Circuit Clerk or the Secretary of State’s office. You may also download the required form from the Secretary of State’s office website: www.sos.ms.gov.

Non-Partisan Candidates

In Mississippi, candidates for judicial office (with the exception of candidates for Justice Court Judge), County School Board, Consolidated/Consolidated Line School District Trustee, Separate Municipal School District Trustee and Special Separate School District Trustee must run as **non-partisan candidates**. The individual qualifying requirements for each of these offices are outlined in this guide.

Qualifications for Office

All candidates must:

- Be a qualified elector (registered voter) of the State of Mississippi and of the district, county or county district of the office for which he or she seeks election.
- Never have been convicted of bribery, perjury or other infamous crime, being a crime punishable by a minimum of one (1) year confinement in the state penitentiary.
- Never have been convicted of a felony in a court of this state, or, on or after December 8, 1992, of a felony in a federal court, or of an offense in the court of another state which is a felony under the laws of this state, as provided in Section 44 of the Mississippi Constitution. Excepted from the above are convictions of manslaughter and violations of the United States Internal Revenue Code or any violations of the tax laws of this state, unless the offense also involved the misuse or abuse of an office or money coming into a candidate's hands by virtue of an office.
- No conviction shall disqualify a person from holding office if he/she has been pardoned for the offense.

Qualifications:

Federal Candidates

UNITED STATES SENATOR

Each candidate for Senator shall have attained the age of thirty (30) years, been a citizen of the United States for at least nine (9) years, and, at the time of the election, an inhabitant of the state he/she seeks to represent. U.S. Const. Art. I § 3, cl. 3.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

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.

State Candidates

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

A qualified elector of the Supreme Court District in which election is sought, at least thirty (30) years of age, a practicing attorney and a citizen of the state for five years preceding the day of election. Miss. Const. of 1890, §150 .

COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE

A qualified elector, at least thirty (30) years of age, a practicing attorney for five years, and a citizen of the state for (5) years preceding the day of election. Miss. Const. of 1890, § 150

County and County-District Candidates

CHANCERY COURT JUDGE

A qualified elector, at least twenty-six (26) years of age, a practicing attorney for five (5) years, and a citizen of the state for five (5) years preceding the day of election. Miss. Const. of 1890, § 154.

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

A qualified elector, at least twenty-six (26) years of age, a practicing attorney for five (5) years, and a citizen of the state for five (5) years preceding the day of election. Miss. Const. of 1890, § 154.

COUNTY COURT JUDGE

A qualified elector, at least twenty-six (26) years of age, a practicing attorney for five (5) years, and a citizen of the state for five (5) years preceding the day of election. Miss. Const. of 1890, § 154; Miss. Code Ann. § 9-5-5.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

A resident and qualified elector of the district from which election is sought. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-5-1. No person who is a resident of the territory embraced within a municipal separate school district or a special municipal separate school district is eligible to be a member of the county board of education. Every school board member shall have a high school diploma or its equivalent. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-306.

LEVEE BOARD COMMISSIONER

A qualified elector of the respective counties or parts of the county from which he/she may be chosen. Miss. Const. of 1890, §230.

The Mississippi Levee District consists of two (2) members from each of the counties of Bolivar and Washington, and one from each of the counties of Issaquena and Sharkey.

The Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Levee District consists of two (2) members from each of the counties of Coahoma and Tunica, and one member each from the remaining counties, or parts of counties now or hereafter embraced within the limits of the district.

Board of Trustees

CONSOLIDATED/CONSOLIDATED LINE SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEE

A bona fide resident and qualified elector of the district in which election is sought. Miss. Const. of 1890, §250.

MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEE

A bona fide resident and qualified elector of such school district. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-7-201, 37-7-203.

SPECIAL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT TRUSTEE

A bona fide resident and qualified elector of such school district. Miss. Code Ann. §§ 37-7-201, 37-7-203.

What, When and Where to File

Federal Office

As a Partisan/Party Candidate:

- 1) Qualifying Statement of Intent with the appropriate State Party by 5:00 p.m., Saturday, March 1, 2014. NOTE: The qualifying date is statutory and cannot be extended under any circumstance. March 1, 2014 is not a post-mark deadline, but an actual receipt deadline.
- 2) Qualifying Fee to the appropriate State Party by 5:00 p.m., Saturday, March 1, 2014. The qualifying fee for U. S. Senate is \$300.00, and for U. S. Representative is \$200.00.
- 3) Required Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports with the Federal Election Commission, 999 East Street NW, Washington, D. C. 20463, by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline(s).
- 4) ***The qualifying deadline for Federal Office is 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, 2014.***

As an Independent Candidate:

- 1) Petition with signatures, certified by the Circuit Clerk of the respective counties from which the signatures were collected by the candidate, with the Secretary of State's office.
 - a. The number of certified signatures required for the office of U. S. Representative is a minimum of two hundred (200) from the congressional district.
 - b. The number of certified signatures required for the office of U. S. Senate is a minimum of one thousand (1,000) from the State.
- 2) Qualifying Statement of Intent with the Secretary of State's office
- 3) Required Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports with the Federal Election Commission, 999 East Street NW, Washington, D. C. 20463, by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline(s).
- 4) ***The qualifying deadline for Federal Office is 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, 2014.***

Judicial Office

- 1) Qualifying Statement of Intent for Judicial Candidate
- 2) Qualifying Fee:
 - a. Supreme Court Justice: \$200.00, payable to the State Board of Election Commissioners
 - b. Court of Appeals Judge: \$200.00, payable to the State Board of Election Commissioners
 - c. Chancery and Circuit Court Judge: \$100.00 payable to the State Board of Election Commissioners
 - d. County Court Judge: \$15.00 payable to the Circuit Clerk of the County
- 3) Affidavit/Pledge of Judicial Candidate, *with the Secretary of State's office*
- 4) Statement of Economic Interest, within fifteen (15) days of qualifying, with the Mississippi Ethics Commission, 146 E. Amite Street, Rm. 103, Burroughs Bldg., Jackson, MS 39201;(601) 359-1285.
- 5) Required Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports with the Secretary of State's office by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline(s). (County Court Judicial Candidates file with the appropriate Circuit Clerk's office.)
 - Candidates for Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeals Judge, Chancery and Circuit Court Judge file their Qualifying Statement of Intent for Judicial Candidate, Qualifying Fee and Affidavit/Pledge with the Secretary of State's Office **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9, 2014.**
 - Candidates for County Court Judge file their Qualifying Statement of Intent for Judicial Candidate, Qualifying Fee and Affidavit/Pledge with the Circuit Clerk of the County **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9, 2014.**
 - Qualifying Statement of Intent for a Judicial Candidate and Pledge/Affidavit of Judicial Candidate forms are available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ms.gov.

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County School Board

- 1) Qualifying Statement of Intent
- 2) Petition signed by not less than fifty (50) qualified electors residing within the respective supervisors district, certified by the Circuit Clerk of the county from which the signatures were collected by the candidate.
 - a. If there are less than one hundred (100) qualified electors in the supervisor's district, the petition must be signed by at least 20% of the qualified electors of such supervisor's district, certified by the Circuit clerk of the county from which the signatures were collected.

- 3) Filed with the County Election Commission/Circuit Clerk's Office
- 4) No earlier than ninety (90) days before the date of the election and by 5:00 p.m. no less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the election, i.e., **no earlier than Wednesday, August 6 and no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2014.**
- 5) Statement of Economic Interest, within fifteen (15) days of qualifying, with the Mississippi Ethics Commission, 146 E. Amite Street, Rm. 103, Burroughs Bldg., Jackson, MS 39201;(601) 359-1285.
- 6) Required Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports with the appropriate Circuit Clerk's office by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline(s).

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Consolidated/Consolidated Line School District Trustee

- 1) Qualifying Statement of Intent
- 2) Petition signed by not less than fifty (50) qualified electors of the school district, certified by the Circuit Clerk of the county from which the signatures were collected.
 - a. If there are less than 100 qualified electors in the district, the petition must be signed by at least 20% of the qualified electors of the district, certified by the Circuit Clerk of the county from which the signatures were collected.
- 3) Filed with the County Election Commission/Circuit Clerk's Office
- 4) No earlier than ninety (90) days before the date of the election and by 5:00 p.m. not less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the election, i.e. **no earlier than Wednesday, August 6 and no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2014.**
- 5) Statement of Economic Interest, within fifteen (15) days of qualifying, with the Mississippi Ethics Commission, 146 E. Amite Street, Rm. 103, Burroughs Bldg., Jackson, MS 39201;(601) 359-1285.
- 6) Required Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports with the appropriate Circuit Clerk's office by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline(s).

* * * * *

Municipal Separate School District Trustee

- 1) Qualifying Statement of Intent/Affidavit of Candidate
- 2) Petition signed by not less than twenty-five (25) qualified electors of the area represented by the office, certified by the Circuit Clerk of the county from which the signatures were collected.
- 3) Filed with the County Election Commission/Circuit Clerk's Office
- 4) **No later than 5:00 p.m., sixty (60) days before the election, i.e., September 5, 2014.**
- 5) Statement of Economic Interest, within fifteen (15) days of qualifying, with the Mississippi Ethics Commission, 146 E. Amite Street, Rm. 103, Burroughs Bldg., Jackson, MS 39201;(601) 359-1285.
- 6) Required Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports with the appropriate Municipal Clerk's office by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline(s).

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For Special Municipal Separate School District Trustee:

- 1) Qualifying Statement of Intent
- 2) Petition signed by not less than one hundred fifty (150) qualified electors of the county, certified by the Circuit Clerk of the county from which the signatures were collected.
- 3) Filed with the County Election Commission/Circuit Clerk's Office
- 4) ***Louisville, Grenada, Natchez-Adams County and Tishomingo County:*** No earlier than ninety (90) days before the date of the election and by 5:00 p.m. not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of the election, i.e., **no earlier than Wednesday, August 6 and no later than 5:00 p.m., Saturday, October 4, 2014.**
- 5) ***Vicksburg/Warren County:*** Not less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the election, i.e., **September 5, 2014.**
- 6) Statement of Economic Interest, within fifteen (15) days of qualifying, with the Mississippi Ethics Commission, 146 E. Amite Street, Rm. 103, Burroughs Bldg., Jackson, MS 39201;(601) 359-1285.
- 7) Required Campaign Finance Disclosure Reports with the appropriate Municipal Clerk's office by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline(s).

* * * * *

Party Contact Information

Political Party	Phone Number	Address	City, State, Zip	
Democratic Party of the State of Mississippi	(601)-969-2913	P.O. Box 1583	Jackson, MS 39215	Email: democrats@msdemocrats.net Website: www.msdemocrats.net
Mississippi Republican Party	(601)-948-5191	P.O. Box 60	Jackson, MS 39205	Email: info@msgop.org Website: www.msgop.org
America First Party	(662)-453-8412	405 River Road	Greenwood, MS 38930	Email: chairman@mississippi.americafirstparty.org Website: www.mississippi.americafirstparty.org
The Constitution Party	(662)-489-6505	2738 CR 406	Okolona, MS 38860	Email: rileydad10@gmail.com Website: www.mississippicp.com
Green Party of Mississippi	(601)-352-3398	P.O. Box 3234	Jackson, MS 39207	Email: greenpartyms@hotmail.com Website: www.greenpartyms.com
Justice Party	(601)-960-0667	850 N. Jefferson Street #A4	Jackson, MS 39202	Website: http://mississippi.justicepartyusa.net/
Libertarian Party of Mississippi		1625 E. County Line Road, Ste.	Jackson, MS 39211	Email: chair@mslp.org Website: www.mslp.org
Natural Law Party of Mississippi		9301 Dogwood Avenue	Ocean Springs, MS 39564	Website: www.natural-law.org
Reform Party of Mississippi		142 Old Hwy 98 West	Tylertown, MS 39667	Email: RPMS@rpusa.info Website: www.reformpartyms.net

Campaign Finance Disclosure

Mississippi law requires that all candidates for elective office to file campaign finance disclosure reports. Under the law, one is a candidate if he/she has filed qualifying papers or has spent or received *over \$200 in the aggregate* in furtherance of an election campaign. Following the qualifying deadline, all persons who have filed qualifying papers are candidates under the law, even if they have not received or spent \$200, in the aggregate. Reports must be filed by **all** candidates even if they have received no contributions or made any disbursements. Forms necessary for compliance with these laws are available from the Secretary of State's office or the Circuit Clerk. Campaign Finance reporting forms may also be downloaded from the Secretary of State's website: www.sos.ms.gov.

What to Report

All reports filed under state law must include aggregate year-to-date and reporting period totals of contributions received and expenditures and disbursements made from all sources. Total cash on hand must be reported. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807 (d)(i)*. Each report must also include each of the following categories:

Itemized Contributions

Each report must contain an itemized listing of each contributor, including name, address, occupation, employer, date of each contribution, and amount of each contribution giving year-to-date totals aggregating to more than **\$200**. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807 (d)(ii)*. The grand totals of itemized contributions plus non-itemized contributions must be disclosed. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807 (d)(iii)(1972)*.

Itemized Disbursements

Each report must contain an itemized listing of each person, business, or entity including name, address, occupation, employer, date of each expenditure or disbursement, and each amount receiving year-to-date totals aggregating to more than **\$200**. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807 (d)(ii)*. The grand totals of itemized expenditures plus non-itemized expenditures must be disclosed. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807 (d)(iii)*.

Non-Itemized Contributions and Disbursements

Contributions and disbursements aggregating to \$200 or less in a calendar year do not have to be itemized. However, these amounts *are* included in grand totals of all contributions and grand totals of all disbursements as indicated on the cover sheet of each report.

Reporting Threshold

All candidates and political committees must fully itemize (identify) the source of contributions and itemize expenditures when they aggregate to \$200.01 or more in a calendar year. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807*.

Where to Report

Federal Offices: *U.S. Representative* Candidates file with the:
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20463
1-800-424-9530

State and State District Offices: Candidates file with the Secretary of State.

County offices: Candidates file with the Circuit Clerk of the County.

County District offices: Candidates file with the Circuit Clerk of the County.

Municipal offices: Candidates file with the Municipal Clerk.

When to Report

Reports are due **no later than 5:00 p.m. on applicable deadline(s) in the proper office.**
If the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the report is due at 5:00 p.m. on the first working day *prior* to the weekend or holiday. The exact deadline dates are indicated on the front of each reporting form and on the enclosed schedule. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807 (e).*

Reports must actually be received by the proper office by the deadline date. Regardless of the postmark on the report, the appropriate office must have reports by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline date. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807 (e).*

Fines for Late Reports and Failure to File Reports

Candidates for state or state district offices and political committees that are required to be registered with the Secretary of State's office are fined \$50 per day for failure to file reports by the statutory deadlines. The maximum fine for a single report is \$500. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-813 (a)(ii).*

Additional Penalties for Failure to File Report

Any candidate who *willfully* and *deliberately* and *substantially* does not file reports shall be charged with a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not to exceed Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) or imprisoned for not longer than six (6) months or both. The candidate shall not be certified as nominated for election, as elected to office, nor receive salary or remuneration for the office until all required reports are filed. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-811.*

48 Hour Report

If a candidate or candidate's committee receives a contribution of more than \$200 after the tenth day, but more than 48 hours before 12:01 a.m. on the day of the election, the candidate or candidate's committee must fully disclose the contribution by filing a "48 Hour Report" with the appropriate office, designated in *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807(f)(i)*, within 48 hours of the contribution.

The notification shall be in writing, and may be transmitted by overnight mail, courier service, or other reliable means, including electronic facsimile (FAX), but the candidate or candidate's committee shall ensure that the notification shall in fact be received in the appropriate office within forty-eight (48) hours of the contribution. *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807(f)(ii)*. Please contact your Circuit Clerk or the Secretary of State's office for information on obtaining a 48-Hour Report form. This form is available on the Mississippi Secretary of State's website www.sos.ms.gov.

2014 Judicial Campaign Finance Reporting Schedule

<u>Friday, May 9, 2014</u> (January 1, 2014 through April 30, 2014)	Periodic Report Judicial Candidates
<u>Tuesday, June 10, 2014</u> (May 1, 2014 through May 31, 2014)	Periodic Report Judicial Candidates
<u>Thursday, July 10, 2014</u> (June 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014)	Periodic Report Judicial Candidates
<u>Friday, October 10, 2014</u> (July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014)	Periodic Report Judicial Candidates
<u>Tuesday, October 28, 2014</u> (October 1, 2014 through October 25, 2014)	Pre-General Report All Candidates
<u>Tuesday, November 18, 2014</u> (October 26, 2014 through November 15, 2014)	Pre-Runoff Report Runoff Candidates Only
<u>Friday, January 9, 2015</u> (October 1, 2014 through December, 31, 2014)	Periodic Report Judicial Candidates
<u>Friday, January 30, 2015</u> (January 1, 2014 through December, 31, 2014)	Annual Report

NOTE: If a candidate or candidate’s committee receives a contribution of more than \$200 after the tenth day, but more than 48 hours before 12:01 a.m. on the day of the election, the candidate or candidate’s committee must fully disclose the contribution by filing a “48 Hour Report” with the appropriate office, designated in *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807(f)(i)*, within 48 hours of the contribution.

Termination Report: A Termination Report is required of all candidates and all political committees in order to end reporting obligations. To be eligible for termination, the candidate or committee must no longer be soliciting or receiving contributions, no longer making campaign expenditures, nor have any outstanding debts or financial obligations.

Campaign Finance Forms are available from your Circuit Clerk, the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.ms.gov, or by calling the Secretary of State’s office at (601) 576-2550 or 1-800-829-6786. The Secretary of State’s office publishes a handbook entitled *Campaign Finance Guide*, which provides detailed information on campaign finance procedures and contains a complete copy of the campaign finance disclosure laws.

2014 Non-Judicial Campaign Finance Reporting Schedule

<u>Friday, January 31, 2014</u> (January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013)	Annual Report All Candidates and Political Committees
<u>Tuesday, May 27, 2014</u> (January 1, 2014 through May 24, 2014)	Pre-Election Report All Primary Candidates
<u>Tuesday, June 17, 2014</u> (May 25, 2014 through June 14, 2014)	Pre-Runoff Report Primary Runoff Candidates Only
<u>Tuesday, October 28, 2014</u> (June 15, 2014 through October 25, 2014)	Pre-General Report All Candidates
<u>Tuesday, November 18, 2014</u> (October 26, 2014 through November 15, 2014)	Pre-Runoff Report Runoff Candidates Only
<u>Friday, January 30, 2015</u> (January 1, 2014 through December, 31, 2014)	Annual Report All Candidates and Political Committees that made expenditures in MS during the 2014 period.

NOTE: If a candidate or candidate's committee receives a contribution of more than \$200 after the tenth day, but more than 48 hours before 12:01 a.m. on the day of the election, the candidate or candidate's committee must fully disclose the contribution by filing a "48 Hour Report" with the appropriate office, designated in *Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-807(f)(i)*, within 48 hours of the contribution.

Termination Report – A Termination Report is required of all candidates and all political committees in order to end reporting obligations. To be eligible for termination, the candidate or committee must no longer be soliciting or receiving contributions, no longer making campaign expenditures, nor have any outstanding debts or financial obligations.

Campaign Finance Forms are available from your Circuit Clerk, the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ms.gov, or by calling the Secretary of State's office at (601) 576-2550 or 1-800-829-6786. The Secretary of State's office also has an explanatory handbook entitled *Campaign Finance Guide*, which provides detailed information on campaign finance procedures and contains a complete copy of the campaign finance disclosure law.

Important Contact Information

**Mississippi Secretary of State's Office
Post Office Box 136
Jackson, Mississippi 39205**

Elections Call Center	(601) 576-2250
Elections Hotline	1-800-829-6786
Elections Fax	(601) 576-2545
Elections Fax (Alternate)	(601) 359-5019
Mississippi Ethics Commission	(601) 359-1285
Mississippi Attorney General's Office	(601) 359-3680

To learn more about elections in Mississippi, visit our website at www.sos.ms.gov. Additional publications from the Elections Division may be downloaded from the website.

NOTE: This qualifying guide is provided for your convenience, as an aid for candidates who wish to qualify for elected state, state district, county and county-district offices in 2014. Candidates should be aware that changes in state law enacted, or court decision made, after the printing of this guide may change deadlines or other substantive provisions of election law. Accordingly, candidates should review all current election and campaign finance laws relevant to the office.

This guide is not intended to address qualifying for special elections. Candidates interested in qualifying for special elections should contact their Circuit Clerk or the Secretary of State's office for additional information.