



**PRIMARY PETITION BALLOT ACCESS GUIDANCE
REGARDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7LL**

This guidance by the Secretary of the State (“the Secretary”) is for a candidate seeking the nomination of a major party in the 2020 election cycle under the process established in Executive Order No. 7LL.

I. Applying for Primary Petitions

1. The candidate must complete the Application for Primary Petition (“the application”). The application can be located here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Nominating-Petitions/Nominating-Petitions>.

The application must contain all of the information required by Connecticut General Statutes §9-404a, including the following:

- The candidate’s name and address;
 - The office sought of each candidate for whom the petition is being obtained;
 - A statement signed by each such candidate that such candidate consents to be a candidate for such office; and
 - The candidate's name as the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot.
2. The application can be signed electronically.
3. All multi-town district office primary petitions requests shall be submitted to the Secretary of the State. All single town State Representative primary petition requests shall be submitted to the Registrar of Voters of the party and municipality in question.
4. All applications submitted electronically and by mail will be addressed promptly.
5. Applications may be submitted to the Secretary electronically to Election Officer Shirley Surgeon at Shirely.Surgeon@ct.gov. It may also be submitted by mail to the Secretary at:

**Legislation and Elections Administration Division
Attn: Shirley Surgeon
165 Capitol Avenue, Suite 1000
Hartford, CT 06106**

Registrars of Voters can be located here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Registrar-of-Voters/Registrar-of-Voters-List.pdf?la=en>

II. Issuance of Primary Petitions

1. The Secretary or Registrar of Voters will issue the Primary Petition Form ED-619 to each candidate either electronically or by mail.
2. The number of signatures required under section 9-400 or 9-406 of the General Statutes is reduced by thirty percent to 3.5% of the total number of enrolled party members in the respective district for the office in question.

III. Circulation of Primary Petitions

1. A petition circulator need not witness the signature of the enrolled party member signed under the process established by Executive Order No. 7LL.
2. Petitions may be circulated by mail. A candidate can make copies of their petition and mail a page of the petition to enrolled party members within their district in an effort to seek support.
3. Petitions may be circulated by electronic mail.
4. Petitions may be circulated on a candidate's campaign website.
5. Petitions may be circulated by social media websites such as Facebook, Twitter or other such social media services.
6. Petitions may be circulated in person consistent with social distancing protocols.
7. Petitions signed by more than one enrolled party member must continue to comply with section 9-404b and 9-410 of the General Statute, notwithstanding Executive Order No. 7LL. Consistent with existing Executive Orders, remote notarizations may be utilized for petitions signed by more than one registered voter.

IV. Signing Primary Petitions

1. An enrolled party member may sign a petition containing only his or her signature.
2. The enrolled party member must then return the petition to the candidate.
3. The enrolled party member may sign the petition in ink and return the signed original signature to the candidate via mail.
4. The enrolled party member may sign the petition by printing the petition page, signing and re-scanning to return to candidate by electronic mail.

5. The enrolled party member may sign the petition by inserting an electronic image of the voter's actual signature on an electronic copy of the petition page where a voter signature is intended to be placed and return to the candidate.
6. The enrolled party member may sign the petition by using a stylus or other similar device to insert an electronic image of a voter's actual signature on an electronic copy of the petition page where a voter signature is intended to be placed and return to the candidate.
7. The candidate must retain a copy the electronic mail received from each voter containing a signed petition page as proof of the validity of the voter's signature.

V. Submission of Primary Petitions to Election Officials

1. The candidate is responsible for submitting petition pages received electronically that he or she wishes to submit to the Registrar of Voters electronically with information informing the official of the office(s) to which the petition pages relate.
2. The candidate will compile all signatures received via electronic mail or mail and submit a single electronic file of signature pages to each Registrar of Voters.
3. Candidate will compile all signatures received via mail and submit a single packet of pages to each Registrar of Voters.
4. The candidate must submit a copy the electronic mail received from each enrolled party member containing a signed petition page as proof of the validity of the voter's signature.
5. Information regarding the contact information for electronic submission to Registrars of Voters can be located at: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SOTS/ElectionServices/Registrar-of-Voters/Registrar-of-Voters-List.pdf?la=en>
6. All petition pages must be received by the Registrar of Voters by the deadline of 4 p.m. June 11, 2020 set in Executive Order No. 7LL.
7. Nothing within Executive Order No. 7LL precludes petitioning by any other means set forth in the General Statutes.