



NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Updated January 2011

(The date of the 2012 Presidential Primary Election has not been set yet)

RSA 653:9

Date of Presidential Primary: The presidential primary election shall be held on the second Tuesday in March or on a date selected by the secretary of state which is 7 days or more immediately preceding the date on which any other state shall hold a similar election, whichever is earlier, of each year when a president of the United States is to be elected or the year previous. Said primary shall be held in connection with the regular March town meeting or, if held on any other day, at a special election called by the secretary of state for that purpose. The purpose of this section is to protect the tradition of the New Hampshire first-in-the-nation presidential primary.

Who may file: Any person who is qualified under the United States Constitution (Article II, Section 1) [United States Citizen; resident of United States for 14 years and 35 years of age] and is a registered REPUBLICAN or DEMOCRAT may file to be a candidate in the New Hampshire Presidential Primary Election.

How to File: The filing period will be between the first Monday in November and the third Friday in November or during such other time period as the secretary of state shall announce. A declaration of candidacy must be filed in the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office along with a filing fee of \$1,000. Declarations of candidacy will be available from the secretary of state's office. The information required on the declaration is as follows:

I, _____ swear under penalties of perjury that I am qualified to be a candidate for president of the United States pursuant to article II, section 1, clause 4 of the United States Constitution, which states, "No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States." I further declare that I am domiciled in the city (or town or unincorporated place) of _____, county of _____ state of _____, that I am a registered member of the _____ party; that I am a candidate for nomination for the office of president to be made at the primary election to be held on the _____ day of _____; and I hereby request that my name be printed on the official primary ballot of said _____ party as a candidate for such nomination.
Candidate's signature: _____
Domicile Address: _____ Mailing Address: _____
Phone No. _____ Email address: _____

RSA 655:48, II

Filing by Petition if Indigent: Any person otherwise qualified to run for president, who is unable to pay the \$1,000 filing fee by reason of indigence may, after proving such indigence, have his/her name placed on the presidential primary ballot by filing with the secretary of state 10 primary petitions from each county of the state signed by registered voters of the party, who are domiciled in New Hampshire, together with one written assent to candidacy pursuant to RSA 655:25.

Selection of Delegates: Each person who files for president of the United States shall file with the secretary of state the names and addresses in alphabetical order of the delegates and their alternates, one alternate per delegate, who shall represent the candidate as his or her delegation to the national convention. All delegates and alternates shall file a certificate with the secretary of state in the following form:

I, _____, certify that my domicile is in ward ___ in the city (or town) of _____ county of _____, state of New Hampshire, and am a qualified voter therein; that I am a registered member of the _____ party; that, if selected, I shall serve as delegate or alternate to the national convention of the _____ party next to be held for the nomination of candidates of said party for president and vice-president of the United States. I further certify that, if selected as delegate or alternate delegate, I will attend such convention unless I shall be prevented by sickness or other occurrence over which I have no control. I pledge myself, if selected as delegate or alternate delegate to said convention, whenever I shall vote, to vote for the nomination of (insert name of candidate) as the candidate for said party for president so long as he shall be a candidate before said convention.
Signature of Delegate/Alternate Delegate _____