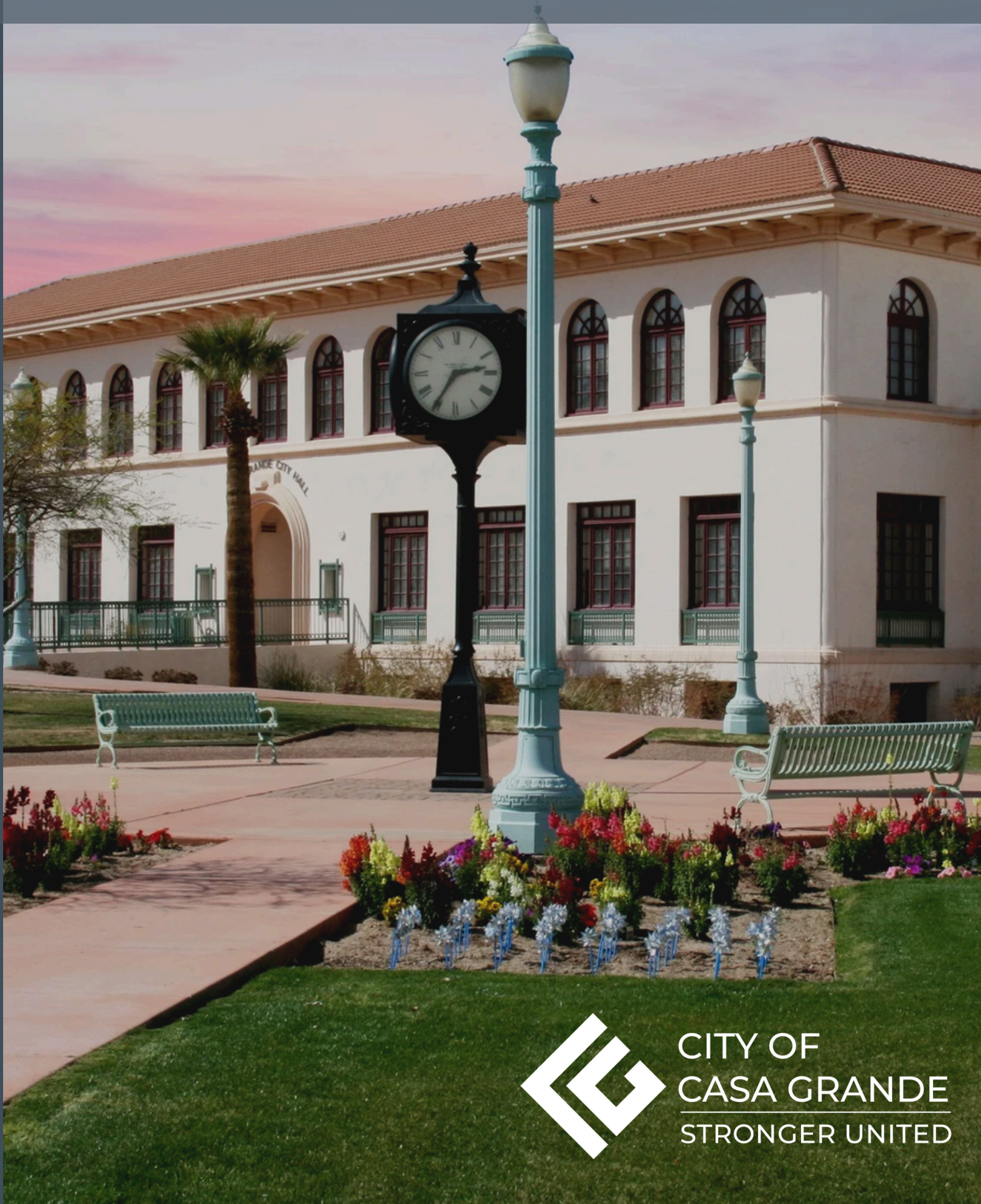


# 2026 CANDIDATE PACKET



CITY OF  
CASA GRANDE  
STRONGER UNITED



# Table of Contents



02

Letter from the City Clerk



03

General Information



04

Mayor & Council Information



05

Primary & General  
Election Information



06-10

Filing Process



11-14

Campaign Finance



15-16

Promotional Materials and  
Political Signs



17

Voter Information



18

Miscellaneous



19

Forms



# Letter from the City Clerk

**Dear Candidate,**

Welcome, and thank you for your interest in serving our community. As the City Clerk for Casa Grande, it is my privilege to provide you with this Candidate Packet to guide you through the 2026 City elections process. This packet is designed to assist you with the filings and requirements necessary to run for office. While the City Clerk's Office is available to answer procedural questions, please note that we cannot provide legal, financial, or other professional advice.

Candidates who provide their contact information will receive email notifications from the City Clerk's Office regarding any updates. All updates will also be posted on the City Clerk's elections webpage as they become available.

Inside this packet, you'll find a summary of filing requirements and helpful information to support you in preparing for your candidacy, including:

- **Candidate Nomination Requirements**
- **Candidate Committee Information**
- **Campaign Finance Reports & Contribution Limits**

Please note that the Casa Grande City Clerk serves as the filing officer for all local election forms. All forms must be filed, within the deadlines specified by statute, with the City Clerk's Office.

The Clerk's Office has made every effort to provide materials that are current. However, since state statutes and case law are subject to constant change and interpretation, it is recommended that you refer to the Arizona State Constitution, the Arizona Revised Statutes, the Casa Grande City Charter, and the Casa Grande City Code for legal requirements pertaining to candidates for elective office. It is recommended that you review all forms and resources with your attorney to ensure full compliance.

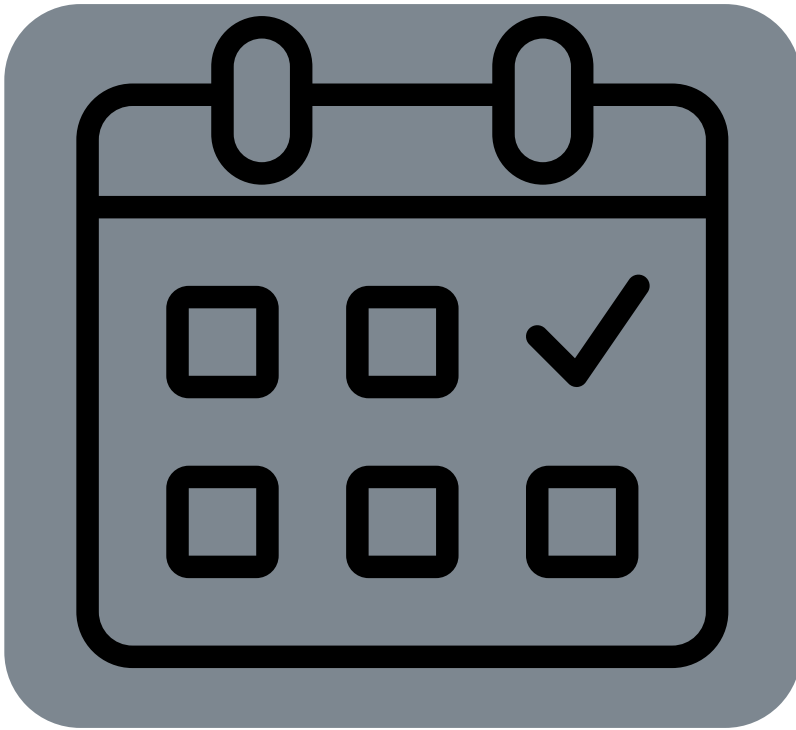
If you need further assistance during the nomination period or throughout the election process, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 510 E. Florence Blvd., via telephone (520) 421-8639, or email Adriana Carpio-Solis, City Clerk, at [Adriana\\_CarpioSolis@casagrandeaz.gov](mailto:Adriana_CarpioSolis@casagrandeaz.gov) or Evonne Aldana, Deputy City Clerk at [Evonne\\_Aldana@casagrandeaz.gov](mailto:Evonne_Aldana@casagrandeaz.gov).

Adriana Carpio-Solis, CMC

City Clerk



# General Information



## 2026 ELECTION DATES

[\(A.R.S 16-204\)](#)

**Primary Election:** Tuesday,  
August 4, 2026

**General Election:** Tuesday,  
November 3, 2026

## 2026 VOTER REGISTRATION DATES

Voter Registration Deadline for  
Primary: Monday, July 6, 2026

Voter Registration Deadline for  
General: Monday, October 5, 2026

[\(A.R.S 16-120\)](#)

### Seats Open

- **Mayor, (1)** One seat
- **Council Member, (3)** Three seats

### Voter Registration

[\(A.R.S. 16-101\)](#)

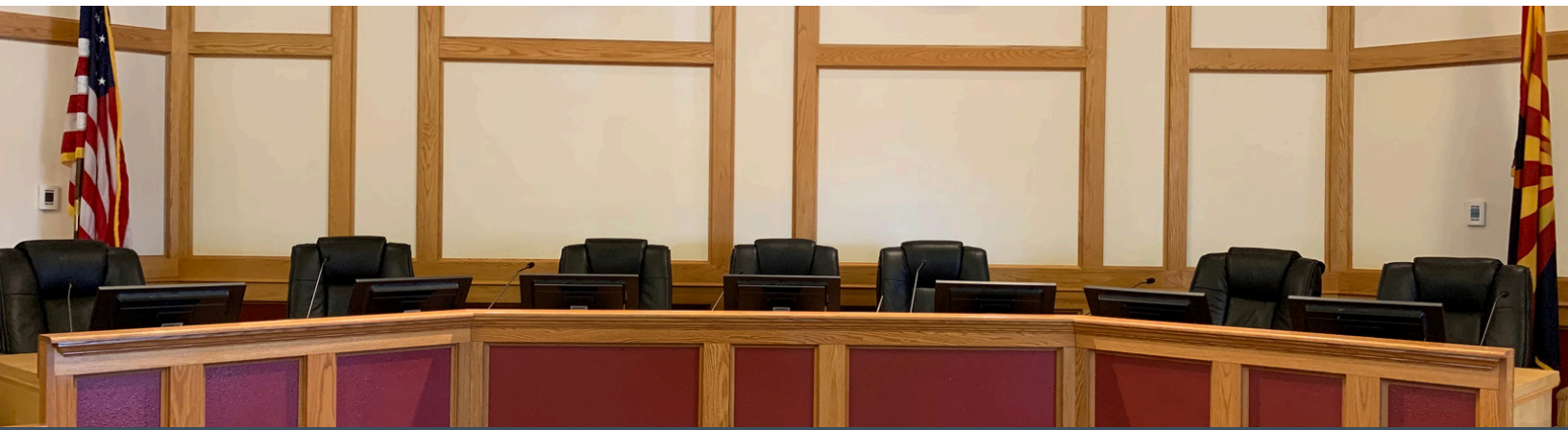
- Citizen of the United States
- 18 years of age on or before the date of the regular general election
- Resident of the state 29 days before the election
- able to write or make their mark unless prevented by physical disability
- Has not been convicted of treason or a felony, unless restored to civil rights
- has not been adjudicated as incapacitated person as defined in state statutes.

### Filing Information

[A.R.S. 16-311](#)

- **Statement of Interest :** must be submitted before circulating petitions.
- **Last day to File for Candidate Election :** Monday, April 6, 2026 by 5:00 p.m.
- Minimum Signatures : **455**
- Maximum Signatures: **908**





# Mayor and Council Information

## Mayor and City Council

[ORD NO. 1037.2](#)

- Mayor and six Council Members are elected from the City at large.
- Non-Partisan election – nothing on the ballot reflects a party affiliation.
- Current Annual Salary
  - Mayor - \$24,636
  - Council Member - \$15,698
- This election will include filling one (1) Mayor seat and (3) Council Member Seats.
- Term of office begins for newly elected officials on the first regular meeting during the month following the General Election.

[CITY CODE](#)

## Mayor Candidate Qualifications

- 25 years of age or older at the time of filing nomination papers.
- Qualified registered voter of the City of Casa Grande at the time of filing nomination papers.
- Resident of the City of Casa Grande for three years next preceding the date of the election.
- Able to speak, write and read the English language.
- A person convicted of a felony cannot serve as a Mayor until he has been restored his civil rights.
- City employees are not eligible to stand for election or serve as Mayor.
- Hold no other public office.

## Council Member Candidate Qualifications

- 21 years of age or older at the time of filing nomination papers.
- Qualified registered voter of the City of Casa Grande at the time of filing nomination papers.
- Resident of the City of Casa Grande for three years next preceding the date of the election.
- Able to speak, write and read the English language.
- A person convicted of a felony cannot serve as a Council Member until he has been restored his civil rights.
- City employees are not eligible to stand for election or serve as a Council Member.
- Hold no other public office.



# Primary and General Elections



## Primary Election August 4, 2026

At the primary election, any candidate who shall receive a majority of all the votes cast at such election shall be declared elected to the office for which he or she is a candidate, and no further election shall be held as to said candidate.

No further election is held unless no candidate therefore was elected, then, said election shall be considered the primary election for the nomination of candidates for such office or offices, and a second or General Election shall be held to vote for candidates to fill such office or offices.



## General Election November 3, 2026

If there is any office where no candidate was elected in the primary, a second or General Election is held.

The candidates, not elected at such first election, equal in number to twice the number to be elected to any given office, or less if so there be, and who received the highest number of votes for the respective offices at such first election, shall be the only candidates at such second election.

## How to Calculate the Majority of Votes Cast

The adopted Methodology below is used for calculating the majority of all votes cast:

1. Calculating the total number of actual votes cast for all candidates for an office whose names were lawfully on the ballot for that office.
2. Dividing the sum reached above by the number of seats to be filled for that office.
3. Dividing the number reached pursuant to paragraph 2 by two and rounding that number to the highest whole number.

ORD NO. 3059



# Nomination Process

## Statement of Interest

A.R.S. 16-311

Prior to collecting any signatures on a candidate nomination petition form, a candidate must declare their interest in running for a particular office by filing a Statement of Interest with the City Clerk's Office. Any petition signatures collected before the date that the Statement of Interest is filed will not be counted.

## Statement of Organization Candidate Campaign

### Finance Committee

ARS 16-905

If a candidate receives contributions or makes expenditures in any combination of at least \$500.00 in connection with their candidacy they must register as a candidate committee by filing a Statement of Organization.

## Number of Petition

A.R.S. 16-322

## Signatures Required

At least **455** and not more than **908** signatures of qualified registered voters of the City of Casa Grande.

Qualified electors of the City of Casa Grande may sign one (1) candidates' nomination petition for the office of Mayor, and up to three (3) candidates' nomination petitions for Council.



## Official Nomination Filing Period

**March 7, 2026, through 5:00 pm  
on April 6, 2026**

To become an official candidate for Mayor or City Council, file the following with the City Clerk during the nomination petition filing period.

- Nonpartisan Nomination Paper/Declaration of Qualifications Form
- Nonpartisan Nomination Petitions (either paper and/or E-Qual electronic petitions) - Containing at least **455**, but not more than **908** signatures.
- Public Officer and Candidate Financial Disclosure Statement Form ([Financial Disclosure Handbook](#)).

Candidates must schedule an appointment with the City Clerk to file their nomination documents. Any E-Qual Petitions need to be submitted electronically on the same day as the appointment.



# Circulating Nomination Petitions

Petition forms are available from the City Clerk's Office and available on the City's website. Candidates may also opt to circulate electronic petitions via the Arizona Secretary of State's E-Qual System. Instructions for creating electronic petitions are available on the City's 2026 Election website. Petition requirements are found in A.R.S. [§16-314](#), [16-315](#), and [16-321](#). **A Statement of Interest form must be filed with the City Clerk's Office prior to collecting any signatures.**

## Petition Signers

- A nomination petition is signed by qualified electors and supports the candidacy for nomination of the individual whose name appears at the top of the nomination petition in the certificate portion.
- Qualified electors entitled to sign nomination petitions are those who are qualified to vote for the candidate whose nomination petition they are signing and must reside in the electoral district in which the candidate is running. A signature may be withdrawn by the person who signed a nomination petition not later than 5:00 p.m. on the date the petition is filed with the City Clerk.

## Petition Circulators

- Each circulator must complete and sign the back of each signature sheet. The candidate will sign E-Qual petitions electronically.
- A circulator is not required to be a resident of this state, but otherwise must be qualified to register to vote in this state, and if not a resident of this state shall register as a circulator with the Arizona Secretary of State.
- A candidate may circulate his or her own petition.
- Only one person may circulate a petition sheet, and their name must be typed or printed under the circulator's signature, must also include their residence address.

## Penalty for Petition Forgery

All petitions that have been submitted by a candidate who is found guilty of petition forgery shall be disqualified, and the candidate is not eligible to seek election to a public office for at least five (5) years.



# Practical Tips Nomination Petitions

## Paper Petitions

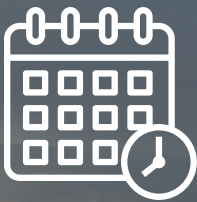


### Signatures

- No more than ten (10) signatures per page.
- Signatures in the margin will not be accepted.

### Date

- Include month, day and year.
- Watch for signers who accidentally put phone numbers, zip code or date of birth in the date field.
- Ditto marks will be accepted in the date column; be sure the line being repeated is correct.



### Addresses

- Be sure addresses are complete.
- Ditto marks will be accepted in the address column; be sure the line being repeated is correct.



### Heading and Circulator Page

- Do not make corrections to the heading after the petition is circulated.
- Ensure each circulator has completed and signed the back of each signature sheet. Petitions sheets that are not signed by the circulator are subject to not being counted.
- Only one (1) circulator per petition sheet.



### E-Qual Petitions

- Candidate must electronically sign each petition.
- Candidate must submit electronic petitions on the same day as their appointment with the City Clerk to file their Nomination Packet.





# Challenging Nomination Petitions

[A.R.S. 16-351](#)

It is the duty of the courts and not the City Clerk to determine the legal sufficiency of nomination petitions. The City Clerk has neither the right nor the duty to determine whether signers of the nominating petitions are qualified electors. In event that a challenge is filed, it will be the person who submitted the petition, and not the City, that will be required to defend the legal sufficiency of the petition. The City Clerk is the designated agent for the person filing a nomination petition and will immediately notify the person of any challenge action. In addition to petition signature challenges, a candidate may also be challenged on grounds related to qualifications of office.

## **Nomination Petition Challenge Period**

Court action challenging a candidate's nomination must be no later than 5:00 p.m. of the tenth (10th) day, excluding Saturday, Sunday, and legal holidays, after the last day of the nomination petition filing deadline. All challenges are required to specify the petition number, line number, and basis for dispute for each signature in question. Superior Court will hear the action and render a decision within ten days after the filing of the challenge. An appeal of the Superior Court decision must be filed within five days to the Arizona Supreme Court.



# Write-in Candidates

[ARS 16-312](#)

## **Primary Election Write-in Candidate Filing Deadline 5:00 pm June 5, 2026**

File the Nomination Paper and Financial Disclosure Statement with the City Clerk.

A person cannot be a write-in candidate at a primary election if the person filed a nomination petition for the current primary election for the office sought and failed to provide a sufficient number of valid petition signatures, withdrew from the primary election after a challenge was filed or, was removed from or otherwise determined by the court order to be ineligible for the primary election ballot.

## **General Election Write-in Candidate Filing Deadline 5:00 pm Sept 4, 2026**

File the Nomination Paper and Financial Disclosure Statement with the City Clerk.

A person cannot be a write-in candidate at a general election if the person ran in the immediately preceding primary election for that office and failed to be nominated or filed a nomination petition without enough valid signatures to be placed on the ballot for that year's primary election.

# Campaign Finance

A candidate for Mayor or Council must comply with all State campaign Finance laws. [[A.R.S. Title 16, Chapter 6](#)].

Campaign Finance laws are specific and detailed. They establish when a candidate is required to form a committee, how a candidate's committee must be constituted, contribution limits, and when campaign finance reports are required and their content. The importance of strict compliance with campaign finance laws cannot be overstated. Timely, accurate compliance with campaign laws is essential to avoid monetary penalties, possible criminal violations, and other negative consequences. Failure to comply with campaign finance laws may be the subject of enforcement actions, as well as civil and criminal penalties.

To ensure compliance with all State campaign finance laws, candidates are strongly encouraged to see the assistance of their attorney and/or other professionals with knowledge of election laws from the beginning of their involvement in the campaign finance process. City staff will not interpret campaign finance law for candidates. Staff will provide candidates with the information needed to complete the required forms.



## Statement of Organization

Candidates who receive contributions or make expenditures, in any combination, of \$500.00 or more in connection with their candidacy must register as a candidate committee and account for all monies or things of value received and explained by filing a Statement of Organization with the City Clerk (filing officer). [[A.R.S. §16-905\(B\)](#)]

A candidate may have only one committee in existence for the same office during the same election cycle. Committees are required to file an amended Statement of Organization within ten (10) days after any change in committee information. [[A.R.S. §§16- 906](#)]

In filing a Statement of Organization, the candidate agrees to accept all notices via email in lieu of certified mail or personal delivery.



# Campaign Finance Filing Dates\*

There are a number of campaign finance reports that must be filed with the City Clerk throughout the election period. It is the responsibility of the candidate and/or the candidate's committee to ensure all deadlines are met. Electronic filing via email is permissible.

[A.R.S. §16-927]

R E P O R T	R E P O R T I N G P E R I O D	F I L I N G P E R I O D
2025 ANNUAL	JAN 1, 2025- DEC 31, 2025	JAN 1, 2026-JAN 15, 2026
2026 1 <sup>ST</sup> QUARTER	JAN 1, 2026- MAR 31, 2026	APR 1, 2026-APR 15, 2026
2026 2 <sup>ND</sup> QUARTER	APR 1, 2026 - JUN 30, 2026	JUL 1, 2026-JUL 15, 2026
2026 AUG POST-PRIMARY	JUL 1, 2026-AUG 4, 2026	AUG 5, 2026-AUG 19, 2026
2026 3 <sup>RD</sup> QUARTER	JUL 1, 2026 -SEPT 30, 2026	OCT 1, 2026-OCT 15, 2026
2026 4 <sup>TH</sup> QUARTER	OCT 1, 2026-DEC 31, 2026	JAN 1, 2027-JAN 15, 2027
2027 ANNUAL	JAN 1, 2027- DEC 31, 2027	JAN 1, 2028-JAN 15, 2028

# Campaign Contribution Limits and Failure to File



Campaign contribution limits can be found on the Arizona Secretary of State's Campaign Contribution Limits for the 2025-2026 Election Cycle Chart. ([A.R.S. 16-193](#)).

In summary, the limits are:

- \$6,750.00 per election cycle from an individual or political action committee (PAC) without Mega PAC status.
- \$13,500.00 per election cycle from a PAC with a Mega PAC status.

## Failure to File

[A.R.S. 16-937](#)

A committee failing to file any of the required campaign finance reports is subject to a penalty of \$10.00 for each day that the filing is late during the first fifteen (15) days after the filing deadline, and \$25.00 for each subsequent day that the filing is late.

Penalties accrue until the late report is filed. If the committee fails to file a report within thirty (30) days after the filing deadline, the filing officer may, after providing written notice by email to the committee within five (5) days after the filing deadline, refer the matter to the City Attorney.

## Producing Records

Upon request from the filing officer (City Clerk) or the enforcement officer (City Attorney), a committee that has filed a statement of organization shall produce any of the records required to be kept pursuant to A.R.S. [§16-907](#) to the filing officer or enforcement officer.

A person that qualifies as a committee as prescribed by [A.R.S. §16-905](#) shall report all contributions, expenditures, and disbursements that occurred before qualifying as a committee and shall maintain and produce records as prescribed by A.R.S. [§16-907](#).



# Termination of Candidate Committee

## Termination of a Campaign Committee

[A.R.S 16-934](#)

A committee may terminate only when the committee treasurer files a termination statement certifying under penalty of perjury that:

- The committee will no longer receive any contributions or make any disbursements.
- The committee has either no outstanding debts or obligations.
- The committee has no outstanding debts or obligations (or both) that are all more than five (5) years old, and that the committee's creditors have agreed to discharge the debts and obligations and have agreed to the termination of the committee.
- All surplus monies have been disposed of and the committee has no cash on hand.
- All contributions and expenditures have been reported, including any disposal of surplus monies.

After a Termination Statement is filed, a committee is not required to file any subsequent campaign finance reports and shall have no further receipts and disbursements without filing a new Statement of Organization.



## Methods of Disposing of Monies

Return surplus monies to the contributor.

Contribute surplus monies pursuant to [A.R.S. §§16-911](#) through [16-918](#).

Donate surplus monies to a nonprofit organization that has tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code.

Contribute surplus monies to a candidate committee for another candidate under the following conditions: The candidate committee makes the contribution after the time period for filing a nomination paper pursuant to section A.R.S. §16-311, subsection A. The candidate associated with the candidate committee that makes the contribution did not file a nomination paper to run for election in the current election cycle. For a candidate committee for legislative office, the candidate committee makes a contribution when the legislature is not in the regular legislative session. The candidate committee makes the contribution within the limits prescribed for individuals in section [A.R.S. §16-912](#).

**Surplus monies shall not be used for or converted to personal use.**

# Promotional Material and Political Signs

A.R.S. § 16-901; A.R.S. § 16-925.

## Promotional Materials

A person that makes an expenditure for an advertisement or fundraising solicitation, other than an individual, shall include the following disclosure in the advertisement of solicitation:

- The words “paid for by” are followed by the name of the person making the expenditure for the advertisement or fundraising solicitation.
- Whether the expenditure was authorized by any candidate, followed by the identity of the authorizing candidate if any.

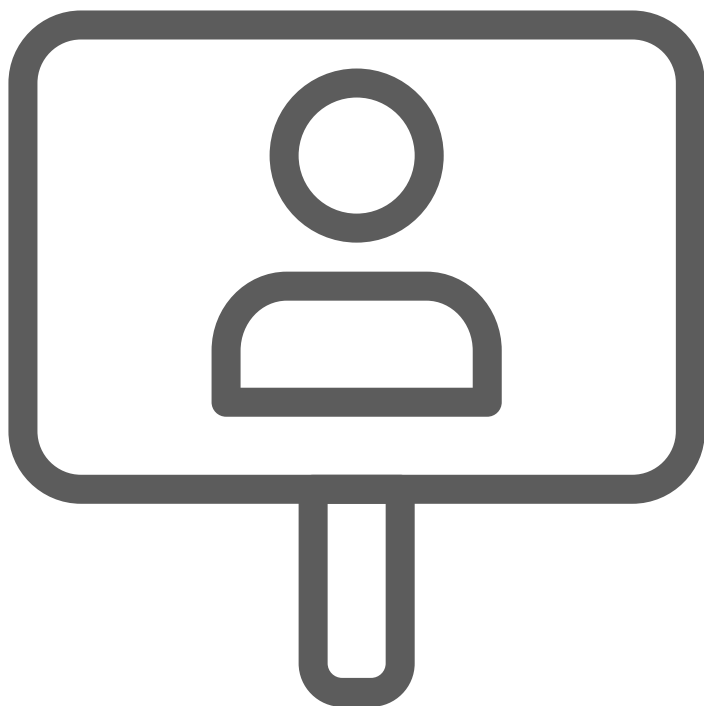


Campaign advertisements or fundraising solicitations must include a disclaimer that indicates it was paid for and authorized by the candidate’s committee.

For example, a proper disclaimer would read the authorizing candidate, if any.

*Paid for by Smith for Mayor. Authorized by Smith for Mayor.*

If a disclosure contains any acronym or nickname that is not commonly known, the disclosure shall also spell out the acronym or provide the full name.





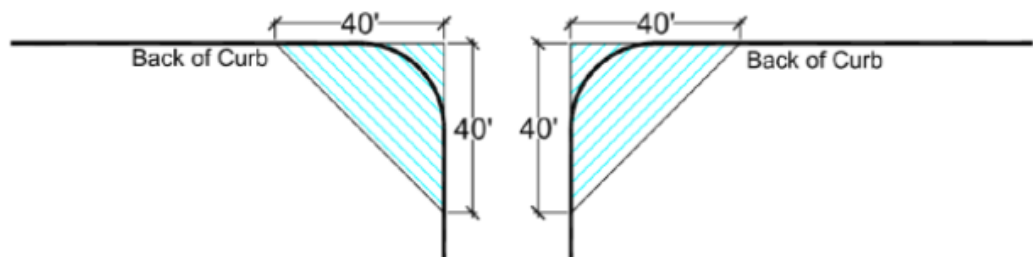
# Political Signs

The City of Casa Grande Sign Code has a number of requirements concerning the placement of political and campaign signs. In particular, the Code regulates the placement of signs on private property, as well as in the City's right-of-way or public utility easements. Specifically, Section 604(3) of the Sign Code notes that political signs on private property are not permitted until **sixty\* (60)** days prior to the election date. In residential areas, political signs are limited to one sign per property and the maximum square footage in residential areas is limited to ten square feet with the sign not exceeding six feet in height. In commercial or industrial districts signs cannot exceed the aggregate of fifty square feet in total sign area and the sign cannot exceed eight feet in height. In all districts, the sign may not be located closer than ten feet from the right of way.

The Sign Code does not permit any signage within the City's right-of-way or public utility easements, including, but not limited to, political signs. The Building Official is authorized to remove any signs within the right-of-way or utility easements, and under the Sign Code, no prior notice is required to be given prior to removing these signs. Notwithstanding this requirement, [A.R.S. § 16-1019\(C\)](#) prohibits the City from removing political signs that meet the statute's requirements, which include restrictions on size (sixteen square feet in areas zoned for residential use and thirty-two square feet in other areas,) placement that would cause a hazard (such as placement within a designated sight triangle) or violate the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and a requirement that the candidate's (or their committee's) contact phone number or website address appears on the sign. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-1019(H) this prohibition on removal applies only to the period beginning seventy-one (71) days prior to the primary election and ends fifteen (15) days after the general election, which is calculated as of the actual election date. For purposes of this election, the seventy-one (71) day period would begin on May 25, 2026, and all candidate signs are subject to removal from the right-of-way on or after November 18, 2026 (candidates that are not successful in making the general election must remove signs within fifteen days after the primary election (by August 19, 2026).

For purposes of applying A.R.S. § 16-1019, the City's sight triangle regulations can be illustrated as follows:

***\*Section 604(3) of the Sign Code may be amended by City Council to allow signage on private property 71 days prior to the election date.***



On corner lots, no signs in excess of thirty inches in height shall be permitted within a triangular area as illustrated above.

Signs found to be in violation of the City Code or state law are subject to removal. Except in cases of an emergency, candidates or committees will, if possible, be contacted prior to removal at the number set forth on the sign.

## Note:

Campaign advertising requirements are addressed in the [State Campaign Finance Handbook](#)

# ARE YOU REGISTERED TO



# ?

## Voter Information

### Voter Registration Period

- Voter registration and early voting is conducted by the Pinal County Recorder's Office/ Elections Department.
- Deadlines
  - July 6, 2026 – last day to register to vote for the Primary Election
  - October 5, 2026 – last day to register to vote for the General Election

### Active Early Voting List

An early ballot will automatically be mailed to voters on the Active Early Voting List (AEVL) approximately 27 days prior to the City's August and November elections. For further information, please contact the Pinal County Recorder's Office at 520-866-6830, or visit the website at **Pinal County Recorder's Office**.

Official ballot -



# Miscellaneous Information

To make a request for public information, please complete a “Public Records Request Form,” and submit to the City Clerk’s Office.

This form may also be emailed to [CityClerk@casagrandeaz.gov](mailto:CityClerk@casagrandeaz.gov)

- [Public Records Request Form](#)

Note: The following list is intended to provide a reference for candidates. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Additional case law may apply. City Clerk staff may not provide legal or other professional advice, and candidates are highly encouraged to consult with their attorney or campaign advisor for assistance.

For your reference:

- [City of Casa Grande Charter and Code](#)
- [Arizona State Constitution](#)
- [Arizona Revised Statutes](#)





# Forms

## Mayor Nomination Forms

- Candidate Statement of Interest - Mayor
  - Spanish
- Nomination Paper – Mayor
  - Spanish
- Nomination Petition – Mayor
  - Spanish
- E-Equal Nomination Petition Instructions
- Financial Disclosure Statement Form
  - Spanish
  - Financial Disclosure Handbook

## Council Member Nomination Forms

- Candidate Statement of Interest – Council Member
  - Spanish
- Nomination Paper – Council Member
  - Spanish
- Nomination Petition – Council Member
  - Spanish
- E-Equal Nomination Petition Instructions
- Financial Disclosure Statement Form
  - Spanish
  - Financial Disclosure Handbook

## Financial Forms

- Statement of Organization
- Campaign Finance Report Form
- Campaign Contribution Limits, 2025-2026 Election Cycle
- Arizona Secretary of State Campaign Finance Handbook – Candidate Committees

## Candidate Contact

- Candidate Contact Form

[All Forms available: Here](#)