

Election Guide for Candidates

2011

**Includes Voters' Pamphlet
Administrative Rules**

Pierce County Elections Division
2501 S 35th St, Suite C
Tacoma, WA 98409
piercecountywa.org/elections
pcelections@co.pierce.wa.us
253-798-VOTE(8683)
Updated: April 2011



2011 Elections Calendar.....4

Online Candidate Filing.....5

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees 6 - 13

Candidate Filing Guidelines..... 14 - 17

Local Voters’ Pamphlet..... 18 - 20

Public Disclosure Commission (PDC)21

Election Statistics.....22

Purchasing Election Data 23 - 25

Political Signs.....26

Primary Election Guidelines 27 - 28

General Election Guidelines29

Observing the Election Process.....30

Recounts.....31

Resources for Newly Elected Officials 32 - 34

Future Election Dates35

About This Guide

This 2011 Election Guide for Candidates and Campaigns is written for Pierce County.

This manual should be used in conjunction with state and local laws, not in place of them. The Revised Code of Washington, Washington Administrative Code, and other notations are offered as references for additional research. The material contained herein may change due to new legislation, judicial determination or rule changes.

The requirements described in this manual serve as the Voters’ Pamphlet Administrative Rules for Pierce County.

2011 Elections Calendar of Events

5/20/2011	First day candidate filings may be submitted by mail (RCW 29A.24.081)
6/6/2011	First day for candidates to file for office (RCW 29A.24.050)
6/10/2011	Last day for all candidates to file for office (RCW 29A.24.050)
6/16/2011	Last day for candidates to withdraw (RCW 29A.24.131)
7/1/2011	Overseas and military ballots mailed for the August 16, 2011 Primary Election (RCW 29A.40.070)
7/18/2011	Deadline to register to vote or change an address for the August 16, 2011 Primary Election (RCW 29A.08.140)
7/27/2011	Accessible voting units and ballots available for the August 16, 2011 Primary (RCW 29A.40.070)
7/29/2011	Ballots mailed for the August 16, 2011 Primary Election (RCW 29A.40.070)
8/8/2011	Deadline for in-person registration for the August 16, 2011 Primary Election (RCW 29A.08.140)
8/15/2011	Last day a vacancy in office (other than Superintendent of Public Instruction or Supreme Court Judge) triggers a three-day filing period for the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.24.181)
8/15/2011	Final day to file as a write-in candidate for the August 16, 2011 Primary Election (RCW 29A.24.311)
8/16/2011	PRIMARY ELECTION (RCW 29A.04.311)
8/31/2011	County Certification of the August 16, 2011 Primary Election (RCW 29A.60.190)
9/6/2011	State Certification of the August 16, 2011 Primary Election (RCW 29A.60.240)
9/23/2011	Overseas and military ballots mailed for the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.40.020)
10/10/2011	Deadline to register to vote or change an address for the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.08.140)
10/19/2011	Accessible voting units and ballots available for the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.40.070)
10/21/2011	Ballots mailed for November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.40.020)
10/31/2011	Deadline for in-person registration for the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.08.140)
11/7/2011	Final day to file as a write-in candidate for the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.24.311)
11/8/2011	GENERAL ELECTION (RCW 29A.04.321)
11/29/2011	County Certification of the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.60.190)
12/8/2011	State Certification of the November 8, 2011 General Election (RCW 29A.60.250)

Online Candidate Filing

Pierce County uses online candidate filing.

Features and Benefits

- It's quick - it's easy!
- It's online, so you can file from any computer at any time.
- Pay your filing fee with your credit card.
- You enter your information, so you know it's right.
- Receive email notification if someone files against you.
- Submit your voters' pamphlet biography, statement, and photo online as well. (see page 18 - 19).

To submit a Declaration of Candidacy online, you must:

- Be a registered voter of the district and meet the residency requirements for the office you are filing for. (see page 14 -15)
- Pay by Visa or MasterCard if position requires filing fee.
- Provide an email address.

Online filing ends Friday, June 10, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

In person filing ends Friday, June 10, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

How to file online:

Visit piercecountywa.org/elections during filing week and follow the link provided. You will be prompted to fill in the required information to complete the process.

Where and When to File:

Pierce County Elections	
Pierce County Superior Court, Department No. 10 Port of Tacoma Commissioners City and Town Council Members <i>- except City of Auburn and City of Pacific see below*</i> School District Directors <i>- except Yelm Community Schools District No. 2 see below**</i> <i>- except Auburn School District No. 408 see below*</i> Fire Protection District Commissioners Park and Recreation District Commissioners Water District Commissioners Sewer District Commissioners	File Online: piercecountywa.org/elections Begins Monday, June 6, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Ends Friday, June 10, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. File in person: Pierce County Election Center 2501 S 35th Street, Suite C, Tacoma, WA 98409 253-798-VOTE (8683) June 6 - 10, 2011, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
King County Elections*	
City of Auburn* City of Pacific* Auburn School District No. 408*	For filing information: Visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections or call 206-296-VOTE (8683)
Thurston County Elections**	
Yelm Community Schools No. 2**	For filing information: Visit www.thurstoncountyvotes.org or call 360-786-5408

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Information current as of April 2011. Fees and open offices may change prior to filing week. Visit our website at piercecountywawa.org/elections for updated information.

Office	Fee	Term	Position now held by:
Pierce County Superior Court			
Department No. 10	\$1,488.32	1 Year UE	Gary Johnson
Port of Tacoma			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$60.00	4 Year	Donald C. Johnson
Commissioner, Position No. 5	\$60.00	4 Year	Clare Petrich
Auburn (City of) *File for office in King Co.*		Non-Charter Code City	
Council, Position No. 1	\$117.00	4 Year	Sue Singer
Council, Position No. 3	\$117.00	4 Year	Bill Peloza
Council, Position No. 5	\$117.00	4 Year	Virginia Haugen
Council, Position No. 7	\$117.00	4 Year	Marjorie Lynn Norman
Bonney Lake (City of)		Non-Charter Code City	
Council, Position No. 2	\$48.00	4 Year	Mark A. Hamilton
Council, Position No. 4	\$48.00	4 Year	James M. Rackley
Council, Position No. 5	\$48.00	4 Year	Laurie Carter
Council, Position No. 7	\$48.00	4 Year	Dan Decker
Buckley (City of)		Non-Charter Code City	
Council, Position No. 4	\$30.00	4 Year	James Montgomery
Council, Position No. 5	\$30.00	4 Year	Melissa B. Patson
Council, Position No. 6	\$30.00	4 Year	Janyce Y. Twardoski
Council, Position No. 7	\$30.00	4 Year	Mark McNally
Carbonado (Town of)			4th Class
Mayor	\$0.00	4 Year	Richie Morgan
Council, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4 Year	Jay D. Argo
Council, Position No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Wally Snover
Council, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4 Year	Buck E. McBride
Dupont (City of)		Non-Charter Code City	
Mayor	\$144.00	4 Year	Tamara L. Jenkins
Council, Position No. 4	\$36.00	4 Year	Penny Coffey
Council, Position No. 5	\$36.00	4 Year	Kathleen Trotter
Council, Position No. 6	\$36.00	4 Year	Jim Hills

Fees may change prior to filing week.

ST: Short Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified, then are sworn in again as appropriate for the full term.

UE: Unexpired Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified.

* Filing Fee: \$1,000 annual salary or less, \$10.00; over \$1,000 annual salary is 1% of the annual salary of the position at the time of filing.

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Office	Fee	Term	Position Now Held By:
Eatonville (Town of)			4th Class
Treasurer	\$102.78	4Year	Michael Schaub
Council, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4Year	Brenden Pierce
Council, Position No. 4	\$0.00	4Year	Bobbi Allison
Council, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	James R. Valentine
Edgewood (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 1	\$30.00	4Year	Paul L. Crowley
Council, Position No. 2	\$30.00	4Year	Mike Kelley, Jr.
Council, Position No. 7	\$30.00	4Year	Steve W. Cope
Fife (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 1	\$63.12	4Year	Richard Godwin
Council, Position No. 2	\$63.12	4Year	Barry D. Johnson
Council, Position No. 4	\$63.12	ST 4Year	Pat Hulcey
Council, Position No. 5	\$63.12	4Year	Rob Cerqui
Council, Position No. 7	\$63.12	2Year UE	Vacant (5/11)
Fircrest (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 3	\$14.59	4Year	Bob Thaden
Council, Position No. 4	\$14.59	4Year	David M. Viafore
Council, Position No. 5	\$14.59	4Year	Mike Weinman
Gig Harbor (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 4	\$30.48	4Year	James Franich
Council, Position No. 5	\$30.48	4Year	Ken Malich
Council, Position No. 6	\$30.48	4Year	Paul R. Conan
Lakewood (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 4	\$84.00	4Year	Don Anderson
Council, Position No. 6	\$84.00	4Year	Claudia Thomas
Council, Position No. 7	\$84.00	4Year	Walter Neary
Milton (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Mayor	\$180.00	2Year UE	Debra Perry
Council, Position No. 1	\$48.00	2Year UE	Lois Zaroudny
Council, Position No. 4	\$48.00	4Year	Leonard E. Sanderson
Council, Position No. 6	\$48.00	4Year	Jim Heddlesten
Council, Position No. 7	\$48.00	4Year	Robert C. Whalen
Orting (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 1	\$12.00	2Year UE	Graham Hunt
Council, Position No. 3	\$12.00	2Year UE	Ava Krogh
Council, Position No. 4	\$12.00	ST 4Year	Vacant (5/11)
Council, Position No. 5	\$12.00	4Year	Sam Colorossi
Council, Position No. 6	\$12.00	4Year	David Inge

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Office	Fee	Term	Position Now Held By:
Pacific (City of) *File for office in King Co.*			Non-Charter Code City
Mayor	\$90.00	4 Year	Richard Hildreth
Council, Position No. 1	\$24.00	4 Year	Gary Hulse
Council, Position No. 3	\$24.00	4 Year	Clint Steiger
Council, Position No. 6	\$24.00	4 Year	Joshua Putnam
Puyallup (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council At Large	\$137.00	4 Year	Kathy Turner
Council, District No. 1, Position No. 1	\$137.00	4 Year	John D. Knutsen
Council, District No. 1, Position No. 2	\$137.00	2 Year UE	Nicole Martineau
Council, District No. 2, Position No. 1	\$137.00	4 Year	Tami Brouillet
Council, District No. 3, Position No. 1	\$137.00	4 Year	Don Malloy
Roy (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 1	\$0.00	2 Year UE	William Llewellyn
Council, Position No. 2	\$0.00	ST 4 Year	Pamela Raczynski
Council, Position No. 4	\$0.00	ST 4 Year	Michelle Walker
Ruston (Town of)			4th Class
Council, Position No. 3	\$10.00	4 Year	James Hedrick
Council, Position No. 5	\$10.00	4 Year	Bradley Huson
South Prairie (Town of)			4th Class
Council, Position No. 1	\$0.00	4 Year	Gerald K. Boures
Council, Position No. 2	\$0.00	4 Year	Mathieu Cameron
Council, Position No. 3	\$0.00	2 Year UE	Anthony Caldwell
Council, Position No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Karen K. Shell
Steilacoom (Town of)			4th Class
Council, Position No. 4	\$36.00	4 Year	Milt Davidson
Council, Position No. 5	\$36.00	4 Year	Bruce E. Judson
Sumner (City of)			Non-Charter Code City
Council, Position No. 4	\$90.00	ST 4 Year	Jon Swanson
Council, Position No. 5	\$90.00	4 Year	Cindy Hochstatter
Council, Position No. 6	\$90.00	4 Year	Curt Brown
Council, Position No. 7	\$90.00	4 Year	Leroy Goff
Tacoma (City of)			1st Class City
Council At Large, Position No. 7	\$390.83	ST 4 Year	David Boe
Council At Large, Position No. 8	\$390.83	ST 4 Year	Ryan Mello
Council, District No. 1	\$390.83	4 Year	Spiro Manthou
Council, District No. 3	\$390.83	4 Year	Lauren Walker
Civil Service, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4 Year	Denise Greer

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Office	Fee	Term	Position Now Held By:
University Place (City of)		Non-Charter Code City	
Council, Position No. 2	\$174.00	4Year	Debbie Klosowski
Council, Position No. 6	\$174.00	4Year	Gerald K. Gehring
Council, Position No. 7	\$174.00	ST 4Year	Caroline Belleci
Wilkeson (Town of)		4th Class	
Council, Position No. 1	\$0.00	2Year UE	Darla McQueen
Council, Position No. 4	\$0.00	4Year	Trisha Summers
Council, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	Becky Gilbert
School District No. 1 Steilacoom Historical			
Director, Position No. 4	\$0.00	4Year	Jeni Martinez
Director, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	Samuel T. Scott
School District No. 2 Yelm Community *File for office in Thurston Co.*			
Director, District No. 1	\$0.00	2Year UE	Dave Pratt
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4Year	Donna R. Edwards
Director, District No. 3	\$0.00	4Year	Denise Hendrickson
Director, District No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	William F. Hauss
School District No. 3 Puyallup			
Director, Position No. 2	\$0.00	4Year	Cindy Poysnick
Director, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4Year	Diane Seeley
Director, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	Chris Ihrig
School District No. 10 Tacoma			
Director, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	James R. Dugan
Director, Position No. 5	\$0.00	6Year	Kim Golding
School District No. 19 Carbonado Historical			
Director, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4Year	Thomas E. Morgan
Director, Position No. 4	\$0.00	4Year	David Bentley
Director, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	Sue McBride
School District No. 83 University Place			
Director, Position No. 1	\$0.00	2Year UE	Christine Kilduff
Director, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4Year	Kent D. Keel
Director, Position No. 4	\$0.00	4Year	Mary Lu Dickinson
Director, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	Rick Maloney

Fees may change prior to filing week.

ST: Short Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified, then are sworn in again as appropriate for the full term.

UE: Unexpired Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified.

⁶ Filing Fee: \$1,000 annual salary or less, \$10.00; over \$1,000 annual salary is 1% of the annual salary of the position at the time of filing.

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Office	Fee	Term	Position Now Held By:
School District No. 320 Sumner			
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4 Year	Jeff DeMarre
Director, District No. 3	\$0.00	4 Year	Rick Hendricks
Director, District No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Greg Hanon
School District No. 343 Dieringer			
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4 Year	James Premo
Director, District No. 5	\$0.00	4 Year	Corey Pawlak
School District No. 344 Orting			
Director, District No. 3	\$0.00	4 Year	Kacie Nesby
Director, District No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	David "Kip" Keers
Director, District No. 5	\$0.00	4 Year	Sandi Shirley
School District No. 400 Clover Park			
Director, District No. 1	\$0.00	4 Year	Walter Kelcy, Jr.
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4 Year	Carole K. Jacobs
Director, District No. 5	\$0.00	4 Year	J. Paul Wagemann
School District No. 401 Peninsula			
Director, District No. 1	\$0.00	4 Year	Matthew Wilkinson
Director, District No. 3	\$0.00	4 Year	Randall Wilhelmsen
Director, District No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Jill Uddenberg
School District No. 402 Franklin Pierce			
Director, District No. 1	\$0.00	4 Year	Reva Palmer
Director, District No. 3	\$0.00	4 Year	Mark Baumgarten
Director, District No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Mary L. Sherman
School District No. 403 Bethel			
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4 Year	John L. Manning
Director, District No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Joy A. Cook
Director, District No. 5	\$0.00	4 Year	Brenda Rogers
School District No. 404 Eatonville			
Director, District No. 1	\$0.00	4 Year	Paulette J. Gilliard
Director, District No. 3	\$0.00	4 Year	Kirk F. Heinz
Director, District No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Roger Andrascik
School District No. 408 Auburn *File for office in King Co.*			
Director, District No. 1	\$0.00	4 Year	Ray Vefik
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4 Year	Carol Helgerson
Director, District No. 4	\$0.00	4 Year	Craig Schumaker

Fees may change prior to filing week.

ST: Short Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified, then are sworn in again as appropriate for the full term.

UE: Unexpired Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified.

° Filing Fee: \$1,000 annual salary or less, \$10.00; over \$1,000 annual salary is 1% of the annual salary of the position at the time of filing.

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws.

RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Office	Fee	Term	Position Now Held By:
School District No. 416 White River			
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4Year	Susan M. McGuire
Director, District No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	Jean Lacy
School District No. 417 Fife			
Director, District No. 1	\$0.00	4Year	Doug Fagundes
Director, District No. 2	\$0.00	4Year	Robert E. Scheidt
FPD No. 3 University Place			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Bonnie Boyle
	\$0.00	6Year	Daniel R. Rankin
FPD No. 5 Gig Harbor			
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	6Year	Randall A. Stephens
FPD No. 6 Central Pierce			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Rich Coleman
Commissioner, Position No. 5	\$0.00	6Year	Larry Nelson
FPD No. 10 Fife			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	4Year UE	Greg Wambold
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Dorothy Kephart
FPD No. 13 Browns Pt-Dash Pt			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Dick Collins
FPD No. 14 Riverside			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	John W. Campbell
FPD No. 16 Key Peninsula			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	2Year UE	Keith Davies
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	ST 6Year	Raymond Lamoureux
Commissioner, Position No. 5	\$0.00	6Year	Ruth Bramhall
FPD No. 17 South Pierce Fire & Rescue			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	John S. Sebastian
	\$0.00	6Year	Dan Morris
Commissioner, Position No. 4	\$0.00	6Year	D. Mycki Fulda-Cheek
FPD No. 18 Orting			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Shelley L.S. Jackson
Commissioner, Position No. 4	\$0.00	6Year	Joachim (Joe) Pestinger

Fees may change prior to filing week.

ST: Short Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified, then are sworn in again as appropriate for the full term.

UE: Unexpired Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified.

⁶ Filing Fee: \$1,000 annual salary or less, \$10.00; over \$1,000 annual salary is 1% of the annual salary of the position at the time of filing.

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Office	Fee	Term	Position Now Held By:
FPD No. 21 Graham Fire & Rescue			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	6Year	Gerry W. Gustafson
FPD No. 22 East Pierce Fire & Rescue			
Commissioner, Position No. 4	\$0.00	6Year	Roy M. Mendenhall
	\$0.00	6Year	Victor J. Proulx
Commissioner, Position No. 6	\$0.00	6Year	Edward Egan
	\$0.00	6Year	Andrew Longstreth
	\$0.00	6Year	Richard Kuss
	\$0.00	6Year	Richard Kilbourn
FPD No. 23 Ashford			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Teri Farcy
FPD No. 25 Crystal Mountain			
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	6Year	Tom Parks
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4Year UE	David Wolfendale
FPD No. 26 Greenwater			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	4Year UE	James D. Harte
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Michael L. Smith
FPD No. 27 Anderson Island			
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	6Year	Laura J. Worley
Anderson Island Park & Recreation District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	4Year	William P. Spears
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	4Year	Charles Hinds
Commissioner, Position No. 5	\$0.00	4Year	Carol Paschal
Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	2Year UE	Mark Alan Michel
Commissioner, Position No. 5	\$0.00	6Year	Kip Clinton
Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma			
Commissioner, Position No. 4	\$0.00	ST 6Year	Krystal Kyer
Commissioner, Position No. 5	\$0.00	ST 6Year	Erik Hanberg
Peninsula Metropolitan Park District			
Commissioner, Position No. 5	\$0.00	6Year	Curtis Hancock
Ashford Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	4Year UE	Ben Morrison
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Ryan Mettler

Fees may change prior to filing week.

ST: Short Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified, then are sworn in again as appropriate for the full term.

UE: Unexpired Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified.

¶ Filing Fee: \$1,000 annual salary or less, \$10.00; over \$1,000 annual salary is 1% of the annual salary of the position at the time of filing.

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws.

RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Open Offices, Incumbents and Filing Fees

Office	Fee	Term	Position Now Held By:
Burnett Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	6Year	Robert E. Harding
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	4Year UE	Bill Larson
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	2Year UE	David R. Youmans
Clear Lake Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	6Year	Robert M. Popek
East Gig Harbor Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	6Year	Roger W. Telsey
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4Year UE	Gretchen Mary Russell
Elbe Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	6Year	David W. Roe
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	4Year UE	Julie L. Clark
Elkhorn Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	2Year UE	Margi Pratt
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	ST 6Year	Vacant
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	4Year UE	Marla Kowal
Kapowsin Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	4Year UE	Tricia Hodge
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	Jeff Scott
Kopachuck Ridge Estates Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	4Year UE	Paul Hildebrand
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	2Year UE	Greg Baer
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	ST 6Year	Dave Gordon
Lakewood Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 3	\$0.00	6Year	John S. Korsmo, Jr.
McKenna Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	6Year	Georgia L. Miller
Valley Water District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	6Year	Ted L. Miller
Crystal Mountain Sewer District			
Commissioner, Position No. 1	\$0.00	6Year	Scott Bowen
Wollochet Harbor Sewer District			
Commissioner, Position No. 2	\$0.00	6Year	Daniel Lehosky

Fees may change prior to filing week.

ST: Short Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified, then are sworn in again as appropriate for the full term.

UE: Unexpired Term positions are sworn in and assume office as soon as the General Election is certified.

⁶ Filing Fee: \$1,000 annual salary or less, \$10.00; over \$1,000 annual salary is 1% of the annual salary of the position at the time of filing.

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Candidate Filing Guidelines

Residency Requirements

US Senate: Candidates must be at least 30 years of age, US citizens and residents of the state for which they shall be chosen. (Reference US Constitution, Article 1, Section 3)

US Representative: Candidates must be at least 25 years of age, US citizens and residents of the state for which they shall be chosen. (Reference US Constitution, Article 1, Section 2)

State Legislature: Candidates must be a citizen of the US and a qualified voter in the district. (Reference State Constitution, Article II, Section 7)

State Offices: Candidates must be a citizen of the US and a qualified elector of the State of Washington. (Reference State Constitution, Article III, Section 25)

Supreme, Superior, District Court Judges: Candidates must be resident electors of their district and admitted to practice law in the courts of record of the State of Washington. (Reference State Constitution, Article IV, Section 17; RCW 3.50.057)

Court of Appeals Judges: Candidates must be residents of the district for not less than one year and admitted to practice law in the courts of the State of Washington for not less than five years prior to taking office. (Reference RCW 2.06.050)

Tacoma Municipal Court Judges: Candidates must be qualified resident electors of Pierce County and admitted to practice law in the courts of record of the State of Washington. (Reference Tacoma City Charter Article 5, State Constitution, Article IV, Section 17, RCW 3.46.067, 3.50.057, 35.20.170)

County Offices: Candidates must be US citizens, residents and registered voters of Pierce County. County Council candidates must be residents and registered voters of their district for one year prior to filing. No County Council District boundary change shall disqualify the council member from holding office during the remainder of the term. (Reference Pierce County Charter 4.30, RCW 29A.20.021)

***Port Districts:** Candidates must be registered voters of Pierce County. (Reference RCW 53.12, 29A.20.021)

***City of Tacoma:** Candidates for Council shall be qualified electors (registered voters) and residents of the City for two years immediately preceding the time of filing, and residents of their district for one year immediately preceding the time of filing. No person shall be eligible for the office of council person while holding any other elective public office. (Reference Tacoma City Charter Section 2.2, RCW 29A.20.021, 42.04.020)

***Non-Charter Code Cities:** Candidates must be registered voters at the time of filing and residents for a year on election day. (Reference RCW 35A.12.030, 35A.13.020, 29A.20.021)

***4th Class Cities and Towns:** Candidates must be resident electors (registered voters). (Reference RCW 35.27.080, 29A.20.021)

***School Districts:** Candidates must be registered voters of district or director district. (Reference RCW 28A.343, 29A.20.021)

***Fire, Water and Sewer Districts:** Candidates must be qualified electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 52.14.010)

***Park and Recreation Districts:** Candidates must be resident electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 36.69, 29A.20.021)

***Water and Sewer Districts:** Candidates must be qualified electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 52.14.010)

***Sewer Districts:** Candidates must be qualified electors (registered voters) of district. (Reference RCW 52.14.010)

Drainage Districts: Candidates must be both property owners in the district and registered voters in the State of Washington for thirty days. Note: Drainage District Elections are held in February in even years. (Reference RCW 85.38)

***Only appear on ballot in odd years.**

Term Limits

Term limits apply to the following offices:

County Elected Offices

Three consecutive four-year terms in the same position for Sheriff, Assessor-Treasurer and Auditor. The Prosecuting Attorney is not subject to term limits. All other county elected offices are subject to two consecutive four-year terms in the same position. Establishment of residency in an alternate district will not circumvent this restriction. (Reference Pierce County Charter 4.90)

City of Edgewood

No person may serve more than two consecutive four-year terms. (City of Edgewood Municipal Code Ord. 97-58)

City of Tacoma

No persons shall be allowed to serve on the Council for more than ten consecutive years as a Council person, Mayor, or combination thereof. (Tacoma City Charter Article II, Sec. 2.35) Additional references: RCW 42.04, 43.01, 44.04; Pierce County Charter 4.90; Tacoma City Charter Article II.

When to file for office

June 6 - June 10, 2011

How to file

Visit piercecounitywa.org/elections during filing week and follow the link provided. You will be prompted to fill in required information to complete the process. See page 5 for details.

No Double Filings

Reference **RCW 29A.36.201**

Excluding the office of Precinct Committee Officer, Freeholder, or Charter Review Commissioner, a candidate's name shall not appear for more than one office on the ballot.

Candidates Who Lack Funds to Pay the Filing Fee

RCW 29A.24.091, 101, 111, 29A.84.261

Candidates or candidate committees lacking sufficient income to pay the filing fee may submit a filing fee petition. The petition must be presented with the Declaration of Candidacy. The form is available on our website or at the Election Center. It must contain one valid (registered voter) signature for each dollar of the filing fee. For example, if the filing fee for the office you are seeking is \$200.00, the petition must contain 200 valid signatures of registered voters who reside in the district/ jurisdiction of the office you are seeking. You should gather extra signatures to allow for invalid signers. No signatures may be submitted after Friday, June 10, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. Petitions cannot be combined with money for the filing fee.

Top Two Primary Political Party and Independent Candidates

WAC 434-215-130

There is no distinction between major party candidates, minor party candidates, or independent candidates filing for partisan offices.

Withdrawal of Filing

RCW 29A.24.120 & 131

A candidate may withdraw their Declaration of Candidacy in writing through Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. There shall be no withdrawal period for Declarations of Candidacy filed during special filing periods. Filing fees are not refundable.

Write-in Candidates

RCW 29A.24.311, 320, 29A.60.021, RCW 29A.32

A write-in candidate may file a Declaration of Candidacy and pay the filing fee with the filing officer. Write-in declarations must be filed by the day before the election.

Write-in votes will be tallied when these votes impact the outcome of the election.

Votes cast for write-in candidates who have filed such declarations need only specify the name of the candidate in the appropriate location on the ballot and connect the arrow in order to be counted.

No person may file a write-in declaration

- For the General Election, if the candidate lost the Primary Election, either as a candidate or a write-in candidate.

- A valid write-in declaration has already been filed for another office.
- The candidate already appears on the ballot for another office.

No write-in candidate filing under RCW 29A.24.311 will be included in any voter's pamphlet unless that candidate qualifies to have his or her name printed on the General Election ballot. Write-in votes for candidates who have not filed a Declaration of Write-in Candidacy must include the office sought and, if applicable, position number and political party preference in order to be counted.

Vacancies/Voids in Offices **RCW 29A.28.011, 021, 29A.24.141,** **29A.24.181, 29A.24.211, WAC 434-215-140**

A void in candidacy occurs when no valid declaration of candidacy has been filed, or all persons who filed have either died or been disqualified. If after the last day for candidates to withdraw, no candidate has filed for any office, a special three-day filing period will be opened. Notice of the special three day filing period will be given by notifying the press, radio, or television.

A special three-day filing period is also required whenever, before the eleventh Tuesday prior to a Primary:

- A vacancy occurs in any nonpartisan office which is scheduled for election but for which filings have not been held.
- A nominee for Judge of the Superior Court dies or is disqualified.

If a void in candidacy or a vacancy occurs in an office other than Supreme Court Justice or Superintendent of Public Instruction,

after the eleventh Tuesday prior to the Primary but before the eleventh Tuesday prior to the General Election, the procedure is the same as described above with the exception that the candidates are listed on the General Election ballot only.

What if no one files for a non-partisan office? (Lapsed Elections) **RCW 29A.24.181, 201**

A scheduled election for nonpartisan office is lapsed when

- A void in candidacy for Supreme Court Justice or Superintendent of Public Instruction occurs after the eleventh Tuesday prior to the primary.
- A nominee for Judge of the Superior Court dies or is disqualified on or after the eleventh Tuesday prior to a Primary Election.
- In other elections for nonpartisan offices, a void in candidacy occurs or a vacancy occurs, leaving an unexpired term to be filled on or after the eleventh Tuesday prior to a General Election in an odd year election.
- After the special three-day filing period is passed and no candidate has filed for any city, town, or district position, the incumbent continues to serve until a successor is elected at the next odd year election.

Local Voters' Pamphlet

Pierce County publishes an Official Local Voters' Pamphlet for all elections. It is available in printed format and on our website. The pamphlet is distributed prior to ballots.

After you file for office, we will provide a link for submitting your biographical information, statement, and photo on-line.

All candidate voters' pamphlet information is due by Monday, June 13, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

No exceptions are allowed. If a photo, biography, or statement is not received by the deadline, the text "No photo submitted", "No information submitted", and/or "No statement submitted" will appear in the voters' pamphlet.

Candidate Photo Guidelines RCW 29A.32.110, WAC 434-381-140

- All photos must be digital (JPEG or TIFF format) and submitted online.
- Current photo - (taken within 5 years).
- Head and shoulders only portrait.
- Photos with scenery, flags or other background settings will not be accepted.
- Light colored, plain background.
- Color photos are preferred, black and white is acceptable.
- Judicial robes, law enforcement or military uniforms are prohibited. No photo may reveal clothing or insignia suggesting that you hold a public office.

Once the photo is submitted, it becomes property of the Auditor's Office. The Auditor's Office will not be responsible for your photo appearing in publications other than the Official Local Voters' Pamphlet.

Candidate Biography and Statement

The voters' pamphlet will include a **biography and statement** for each candidate. (City of Tacoma candidates see next page).

Biography

Four headings below must be used but are not included in the word count. The biography must not exceed a **total** of 100 words split between responses to the following headings. (Judges use Legal/Judicial Experience as first heading.)

- Elected Experience.
- Other Professional Experience.
- Education.
- Community Service.

If a heading response is left blank, the heading will still be printed with the text "no information submitted" after it.

Statement

RCW 29A.32.121

Pierce County jurisdiction candidates are allowed a 200 word limit statement. Use block paragraph form.

If no statement is received, the following will be printed in place of a statement: "No statement was submitted."

Biography and Statement Format

Use italics only to emphasize specific words or statements. No other formatting is allowed.

Don't use:

- Bolding, underlining or all caps.
- Tables, list, bullets, or other formatting tools.
- Obscene, profane, libelous, or defamatory language.

Any bold, underlining or all caps submitted will be changed to italics. You may use up to four hard returns in your statement.

Candidate Contact Information

A candidate's campaign email address, website address and phone number will be printed in the pamphlet. Your mailing address won't be printed.

Candidates will be given an opportunity to supply alternate contact information for print in the pamphlet when they submit their voters' pamphlet information.

City of Tacoma candidates

City of Tacoma candidates can obtain voter pamphlet submittal information on our website at piercecountywa.org/elections, the Pierce County Election Center or from the City of Tacoma. The pamphlet statement specifications are dictated by City of Tacoma Charter, Section 5.6.

Disclaimer

The Auditor won't make any typographical or grammatical changes. Your statement content will be printed exactly as received. The following statement shall appear at the bottom of each page where arguments and/or candidate statements appear: "The statements above are printed as submitted. No spelling, grammatical or other corrections have been made. The Pierce County Auditor's Office does not confirm that the statements printed are true or fact. The candidate or campaign committee are responsible for content."

It is very important that your information is submitted accurately and by the deadline. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure voters' pamphlet materials have been received by our office.

Public Inspection of Statements RCW 29A.32.100

An argument or statement submitted for publication in the voter's pamphlet is not available for public inspection or copying until all statements and arguments pertaining to the specified ballot measure or office have been received and reviewed or the deadline for submission of statements has passed. Requests shall be made in the same manner as requests for public documents.

Rejection, Reconsideration and Judicial Review

Rejection

Pursuant to RCW 29A.32.230, the Pierce County Auditor may reject any statement that

- Is obscene.
- Is libelous.
- Contains a commercial advertisement.
- Contains matter prohibited by law from distribution through the mail.
- Contains matter not limited to the candidate himself or herself or to the measure or political office.
- Contains matter that is otherwise inappropriate.
- Exceeds the designated word limit; or
- Was received after the filing deadline.

If an explanatory statement, candidates' statement or argument is rejected by the Auditor, a written notice of rejection shall be sent to the proponent by certified mail not more than five (5) business days after receipt thereof and shall set forth the specific grounds for rejection.

Reconsideration

The proponent of an explanatory statement, candidates' statement or argument may request reconsideration of the Auditor's decision to reject. The request for reconsideration shall be in writing, shall be filed with the Auditor not more than five (5) business days after the date of mailing of the notice of rejection and shall set forth the specific grounds upon which reconsideration is sought. The Auditor shall issue a written decision on the request for reconsideration to the proponent by certified mail not more than five (5) business days after receiving the request for reconsideration or after any meeting to discuss the request for reconsideration, whichever shall later occur.

Judicial review

The proponent of an explanatory statement, candidates' statement or argument rejected by the Auditor may seek judicial review of such rejection pursuant to RCW 29A.68.011(4), a copy of which shall be included with the notice of rejection. The petition for review shall be filed in the Superior Court of Pierce County, Washington and shall be served upon the Auditor and, if the subject of review is an explanatory statement, upon the attorney who prepared the same pursuant to RCW 29A.32.241, not more than five (5) business days after receipt of the Auditor's notice of rejection or decision on reconsideration, whichever shall later occur.

Disputes between interested parties

Candidates may petition the Superior Court to protest another candidate's submission.

Public Disclosure Commission (PDC)

The Public Disclosure Commission was created and empowered by Initiative of the People to provide timely and meaningful public access to accurate information about the financing of political campaigns, lobbyist expenditures, and the financial affairs of public officials and candidates, and to ensure compliance with and equitable enforcement of Washington's disclosure and campaign finance laws.

Note: The information contained in this section is for informational purposes only. Candidates are advised to verify that they are in compliance with all state, county, and local laws. Candidates must contact PDC directly with any questions or concerns.

Forms, Instruction Manuals and Brochures Available Online

Visit the PDC website www.pdc.wa.gov for public disclosure information and forms. Call PDC at (360) 753-1111 or 1-877-601-2828. Paper forms and instruction manuals are not available at the Election Center.

Expenditure Limits for candidates

Mini reporting has an expenditure maximum of \$5,000. Pierce County offices and state offices do not have an expenditure limit.

Where to File PDC Reports

File forms electronically at the PDC website www.pdc.wa.gov

Contribution Limits for County Offices and Port Commissioner Offices

Candidates for the Port of Tacoma are subject to a contribution limit of \$1,600 per election. Candidates for Pierce County offices are subject to a contribution limit of \$800 per election.

Election Statistics

Voter Turnout (Primary Elections):

Year	Reg. Voters	Polls	Vote-By-Mail	Votes Cast	Turnout
2001	349,461	12,023	90,928	102,951	29.4%
2002	346,116	13,771	105,701	119,472	34.5%
2003	356,409	8,711	87,345	96,056	26.9%
2004	375,590	22,278	142,509	164,787	43.8%
2005	399,800	9,362	97,135	106,497	26.6%
2006	371,777	12,327	117,419	129,746	34.9%
2007	374,673	5,558	86,083	91,641	24.5%
2008	378,495	13,299	140,464	153,763	40.6%
2009	408,732	3,051	75,530	78,581	19.2%
2010	405,075	10,087	135,364	145,451	35.9%

Voter Turnout (General Elections):

Year	Reg. Voters	Polls	Vote-By-Mail	Votes Cast	Turnout
2001	351,206	26,767	131,935	158,702	45.2%
2002	347,702	35,476	157,258	192,734	55.4%
2003	355,171	19,648	122,222	141,870	39.9%
2004*	405,023	62,034	254,981	317,015	78.2%
2005	391,611	28,059	159,808	187,867	48.0%
2006	373,909	33,841	182,733	216,574	57.9%
2007	373,207	19,620	146,759	166,379	44.6%
2008**	411,103	52,134	281,690	333,824	81.2%
2009**	407,840	17,549	157,849	175,398	43.0%
2010	410,081	28,960	243,627	272,587	66.4%

* Numbers are based on final recount figures.

** The 2008 and 2009 General Election included RCV elections for county offices. Turnout is based upon traditional ballots cast.

Mail Ballot Return Statistics

Running Percentage of Vote-By-Mail Ballots Received on Selected Days

Number of Days Before Election	11/8/05 General Election	11/7/06 General Election	11/6/07 General Election	11/4/08 General Election	11/3/09 General Election	11/2/10 General Election
11	10.08%	10.73%	7.19%	13.96%	6.91%	11.29%
6	20.27%	21.71%	14.35%	30.02%	13.35%	24.13%
Election Day	41.17%	47.10%	34.20%	60.25%	30.24%	51.73%
E + 1 (Day After)	50.38%	56.38%	42.78%	63.53%	34.22%	61.26%

This is just a sample of general election turnout. Visit the Election Archives section on our website for the full breakdown by day for past special, primary and general elections.

Restricted Use of Voter Data

RCW 29A.08.740

State law establishes rules and restrictions on the use of registered voter data. Voter information may not be used for commercial or other non-political purposes.

Any person who uses registered voter data for the purpose of mailing or delivering any advertisement or offer for any property, establishment, organization, product, or service or for the purpose of mailing or delivering any solicitation for money, services, or anything of value is guilty of a class C felony punishable by imprisonment in a state correctional facility for a period of not more than five years or a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars or both such fine and imprisonment, and is liable to each person provided such advertisement or solicitation, without the person's consent, for the nuisance value of such person having to dispose of it, which value is herein established at five dollars for each item mailed or delivered to the person's residence.

Voter information may be obtained from:

Pierce County Auditor, Tacoma
(253) 798-VOTE (8683) or (800) 446-4979

Data Resources, Olympia
(360) 754-8220

Data Supply, Tacoma
(253) 922-3494

Labels & Lists, Bellevue
(800) 842-5478

Mail Northwest/FPS, Tacoma
(253) 565-2866

Pierce County report formats

- Election data on CD or via email.
- Election abstracts on CD or via email.
- Paper printouts.
- Photocopied election abstracts.

This manual is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. RCW, WAC and County Code notations are offered as a reference only for additional research.

Data

RCW 29A.08.710

Includes:

- Name of registered voter.
- Registered address, city, state, zip.
- Mailing address, if different and if provided to County Auditor.
- Precinct number.
- Date of registration.
- Date of birth.
- Voter history for the last twenty elections.
- Identify those who have or have not returned a ballot for a previous election or election in progress.

State law does not allow phone numbers or email addresses to be public.

Lists:

The following options are available

- Individual registered voters in alphabetical order.
- Targeted voters who voted in specific elections.
- Walking lists (registered voters in address/precinct order. Does not include voter history.)
- Voter history for the last six elections.

To order data or lists:

1. Come into the Election Department to place an order or mail your payment with the order form. Payment is required in advance for all orders.
2. Your order will generally be completed within 24 hours.

Purchasing Election Data

To order voter lists

Voter information is available in the form of lists or data. The most current information is available approximately 29 days prior to each election. Lists or data of voters who have returned their ballots (match backs) are also available for purchase.

Commercial Demographic Firms

Business firms also offer various voter statistical formats and services, such as targeting, printing, designing and mailing. They may also provide phone numbers and other demographic information. Options and charges for these services vary from vendor to vendor. Check sources for a variety of products, services and fees.

Pierce County Auditor's Office Fees - Updated December 29, 2010

Data	
CD containing Data	\$5.00
District File	\$5.00
Abstracts (Precinct Results prior to 2006) on CD**	\$20.00
Ballots returned data (match backs)	\$5.00 per day
Precinct lists (per precinct)	\$5.00
Maps	
Legislative or County Council district map (large)	\$9.00
11 x 17 legislative district map	\$2.00
Custom G.I.S. generated map*	\$75.00 per hour
Miscellaneous	
Certificate of voter registration	\$3.00
Miscellaneous copies (b/w)	\$.15 per page
Miscellaneous copies (color)	\$.25 per page

*Cost estimate provided at time of inquiry.

**Abstracts for 2006 - current are available on our website: piercecountywa.org/elections

An online printable form is available on our website at: piercecountywa.org/elections. Pre-payment is required for all data orders.

Registered Voters or Absentee Data Order Form

The following 2 options are available for purchasing voter data: (check one)

- Countywide CD prepared monthly, new file created the 1st Monday of every month: \$5.00
Public disclosure request for data - This option allows 5 business days for processing: \$5.00 (Subject to RCW 42.56 and Pierce County Code Ch. 2.04)

Candidate / Campaign Name:
Contact person's phone:
E-mail address:
Signature:

I acknowledge by signing this form that I am in compliance with RCW 29A.08.740 and the restricted use of voter data. (Full text of RCW is on the back of your receipt.)

Electronic Voter Data on CD (Voter data is provided as a delimited text file.)

- Active voters/no history, Newly registered voters only from to, Active voters/with history, Inactive voters, Date of birth, Absentee matchbacks for current election and date(s) requested are:

What districts or precincts would you like:

Paper List

What format would you like?

- Voter history, Alpha by name, Alpha by precinct, Street order, 2-up walking list (does not include voter history)

Voters who voted in out of elections. (List elections to target)

Two blank lines for listing target elections.

Order Date:
Taken By:
Comments:

Completed by:
Date: Time:

Pierce County Regulations

Sign violation complaints do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Pierce County Auditor. **Please check with local jurisdiction regarding local sign ordinances and requirements.**

Pierce County Code 18B.10

(1) Signs relating to the nomination or election of any individual for a public political office or advocating any measure to be voted on at any special or general election are political signs and exempt from the sign permit requirement; provided, that such political signs shall not be displayed more than 10 days after the date of the election for which intended. In cases where a general election follows a primary election, those signs for candidates whose names will appear on the ballot in the general election may be displayed during the interim period and up to 10 days after the general election. If political signs are not removed within the specified times, they will be subject to removal by Pierce County in addition to any other remedies provided in this Chapter;

(2) No political sign shall be erected upon any private property without permission of the resident or owner thereof; and

(3) Political signs shall not exceed 16 square feet in area and shall not obstruct safe visibility of any mobile or pedestrian traffic.

Visit piercecountywa.org/signs for detailed sign regulations.

To report illegal roadside signs

- Visit Pierce County Public Works and Utilities Road Operations' website at piercecountywa.org/signs.
- Call (253) 798-6000.

To report a potential sign violation on private property

- Call Pierce County Responds at (253) 798-4636.

State Sign Regulations

View the complete Highway Advertising Control Act through the link provided at the Department of Transportation's website: wsdot.wa.gov/operations/traffic

The Department of Transportation outdoor advertising representative at its Headquarters office is available to answer questions and help interpret the regulations. Call (360) 705-7296.

Partisan Offices

RCW 29A.52, 29A.36, 29A.80, Pierce County Charter 2.15, 4.1, WAC 434-230-015 and 045

A Primary Election will be held for each partisan office open for election, regardless of the number of candidates filing.

Candidates for partisan office may state a political party that he or she prefers. A candidate's preference does not indicate endorsement by the party. On the Primary Election ballot, candidate's shall be listed in the order determined by lot.

It is the voter's option to vote for partisan candidates of their choice and/or vote for any or all nonpartisan races and issues.

The names of candidates for County Council will appear only on ballots within their council district.

The two candidates who receive the greatest number of votes cast will advance to the General Election ballot regardless of party preferences. They will appear on the ballot with the top vote-getter appearing first.

Nonpartisan Offices

RCW 36.69.090, RCW 29A.52.220, RCW 35.61.050, State Constitution Art IV Sec 29

A Primary Election will be held if three or more candidates file in any nonpartisan office, or a city, town, school, special purpose district or district court office. The two candidates with the most votes continue on to the General Election. The top vote getter appears first.

No primaries are held for park and recreation district commissioners. (Excludes Metropolitan Park Districts).

State Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction will appear on the Primary Election ballot, no matter how many candidates file. The candidates' names will appear in lot draw order.

If only one candidate files for Superior Court, no election is held. The candidate is declared the winner.

If two or more candidates file for Superior Court and one receives a majority of the votes in the Primary, the candidate is declared the winner. Unless, a write-in petition, signed by 100 qualified voters, is presented to the Auditor within ten days of the Primary Election. In which case, a General Election will be held. The candidate with the most votes and a write-in space will appear on the ballot.

If no Superior Court candidate receives a majority, the top two vote getters appear on the General Election ballot. The highest vote getter appears first.

Primary Election Guidelines

The chart below outlines the appearance of Full Term Judicial Offices and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Number of Candidates	SPI; Supreme Court; Court of Appeals RCW 29A.36.171		Superior Court Article IV, Section 29 RCW 29A.36.171		District Court RCW 29A.36.171 RCW 29A.52.220		Municipal Court (City Ordinance) RCW 29A.52.220	
	Primary	General	Primary	General	Primary	General	Primary	General
1	YES	YES	County population over 100,000: NO. Certificate of election issued immediately County population under 100,000: YES	County population over 100,000: NO. Certificate already issued County population under 100,000: YES	NO	YES	NO	YES
2	YES	YES: If there is a majority, only the top vote getter advances; If no majority, both advance	YES	NO (unless there is no majority or a petition is filed within ten days after the primary indicating a write-in for the General)	NO	YES	NO	YES
3 or more	YES	YES: If there is a majority, only the top vote getter advances; If no majority, the top two advance	YES	NO (unless there is no majority or a petition is filed within ten days after the primary indicating a write-in for the General)	YES	YES: If there is a majority, only the top vote getter advances; If no majority, the top two advance	YES	YES: The top two vote getters advance; top vote getter appears first

This chart outlines the appearance of Unexpired Term Elections for Judicial Offices and the Superintendent of Public Instruction in an Odd-Numbered Year.

Number of Candidates	SPI; Supreme Court; Court of Appeals; RCW 29A.52.010 RCW 29A.36.171		Superior Court Article IV, Section 29 RCW 29A.52.010	
	Primary	General	Primary	General
1	NO	YES	NO	County population over 100,000: NO County population under 100,000: YES
2	NO	YES	NO	YES
3 or more	YES	YES: If there is a majority, only the top vote getter advances; If no majority, the top two advance	YES	If there is a majority in Primary, candidate issued certificate of election after Primary. If no majority, top two advance.

(Unexpired term elections for district court judges only occur in the even year.)

Partisan Offices

Candidates filing for partisan office have the option of stating their personal preference for a political party. You do not have to be endorsed, nominated, or supported by that party, and you are not claiming to be a member of or represent that party. You also have the option of not selecting or stating a political party preference. On General Election ballots, the name of the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes for the position at the Primary shall be listed first, followed by the name of the candidate who receives the next greatest number of votes.

Candidates for Metropolitan Park District positions will appear on the Primary ballot if three or more candidates file for the position. The two candidates who receive the most votes will advance to the General Election ballot with the top vote getter appearing first on the ballot.

Judicial/Nonpartisan Offices
RCW 29A.36.171, RCW 29A,52

On General Election ballots, the name of the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes for the position at the Primary shall be listed first, followed by the name of the candidate who receives the next greatest number of votes. If a Primary was not required for a non partisan office, city, town, special purpose district, or district court, the candidate names will be listed in lot order.

EXCEPTION: For the offices of Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Superior Court, and Superintendent of Public Instruction where three or more candidates file and one receives a majority of votes, his/her name alone will appear on the General Election ballot.

No Primary Election will be held for Park and Recreation District positions. All Candidates will advance directly to the General Election ballot in lot draw order.

Public Access at the Election Center

Citizens may view the ballot process any-time during the workday at the Pierce County Election Center, located at 2501 S. 35th Street, Suite C, Tacoma. A public viewing area is provided to observe the election process. Visitors may be required to sign an oath of non-divulgence when observing ballot processing at the Election Center.

Acts Prohibited in the Vicinity of a Voting Center or Ballot Deposit Site RCW 29A.44, RCW 29A.84.510, WAC 434.253

During the voting period, no person may, within a voting center or ballot deposit site:

1. Suggest, persuade or attempt to suggest or persuade any voter to vote for or against any candidate or ballot measure;
2. Circulate cards or handbills of any kind;
3. Solicit signatures to any kind of petition;
4. Engage in any practice which interferes with the freedom of voters to exercise their franchise or disrupts administration of the voting center.

No person may:

- Interfere with a voter attempting to vote at a voting center.
- Without lawful authority, remove any ballot from a voting center or ballot deposit site.

How to get Election Results

Election Day results are available at approximately 8:15 p.m. on election night at the Pierce County Auditor's Election Center, 2501 S. 35th Street, Suite C, Tacoma. Campaign committees are welcome to come in to obtain immediate results.

Access results on-line at piercecountywa.org/results.

The first release of results will be posted by approximately 8:30 p.m. on election night. The site will be updated with each new release of results. Other important election information will be added as it becomes available.

After election day

Pierce County Elections staff will continue to verify, open and tabulate ballots and provisional ballots until certification. Updated results will be released each day through certification. The public can observe ballot processing from the public viewing area at the Pierce County Election Center.

Mandatory/Automatic Recounts
RCW 29A.64

An automatic recount applies to candidates and statewide measures and will occur if less than 2,000 votes and also less than 1/2 of 1% of the votes cast for that race separate candidates or issues. The recount is applicable only to candidates apparently nominated or elected and the closest defeated opponent. The automatic recount will tally only votes for the position or measure in question and will be conducted without charge to any candidate.

For Statewide elections, if the difference in the number of votes cast for the apparent winner and the closest apparently defeated opponent is less than 1,000 votes and also less than 1/4 of 1% of the total number of votes cast for both candidates, the votes shall be recounted manually.

For all other races, if the difference in the number of votes cast for the apparent winner and the closest apparently defeated opponent is less than 150 votes and also less than 1/4 of 1% of total number of votes cast for both candidates, the votes shall be recounted manually. An alternative counting method may be used if both candidates agree in writing and the procedure is suited to the ballot system that was used for casting the votes for the office.

Automatic recounts do not apply to non-statewide ballot measures, such as levy, bond and other special elections.

Requested Recounts

All requested recounts must be submitted no later than three business days after the official canvass is complete. A deposit equal to \$.15 (machine recount) or \$.25 (manual recount) per ballot by certified check or cash is required. Final cost of the recount will be determined by the canvassing board and may be less or more than the deposit. The recount will be conducted within three business days after receipt of the request for recount or after certification.

I won the election and have been certified the winner, what do I need to do next?

Take your oath of office RCW 29A.04.133

Candidates are elected when the General Election results have been certified. In order to become “qualified” for the office, winning candidates must take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation that you will faithfully and impartially carry out the duties of your office to the best of your ability.

Candidates elected to an unexpired or short term take office upon certification of the election.

Who can administer oaths

Judges, court clerks, a notary public or any officer authorized to administer oaths. County council members, the county auditor and school or educational service district superintendents are also authorized to give oaths.

Where to obtain a blank oath of office

- Elections Division website.
- Elections Division Office.
- Cities, Towns, School Districts and Special Purpose Districts Clerks.
- Pierce County Council (for County Offices) Note: this oath is unique to County positions.

Filing your Oath of Office

Once the oath of office has been taken for a local or County office, the original must be filed with the auditor. Elected Officials may wish to complete a second original oath for retention or display purposes.

Oaths of office for Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeals, and Superior Court are filed with the Secretary of State.

To learn more about Public Office

Newly elected officials may wish to contact their local city or town clerk, school superintendent as well as fellow council members and commissioners to learn more about their jurisdiction and the duties required. Additional agencies and resources are listed at the end of this manual.

Please see the tables on the following page for more information regarding oaths and the timelines for assuming office.

Oaths of Office	Where Original Oaths are Filed
President/Vice President	Verbal
US Senator	Verbal
US Representative	Verbal Oath on convening of Congress
State Legislators/State Wide Offices	Verbal Oath on convening of Legislature (Reference State Constitution, Article III, Section 4)
Supreme Court Justice	Secretary of State (Reference State Constitution, Article IV, Section 28)
Court of Appeals and Superior Court Judges	Secretary of State (Reference RCW 2.06.085)
District Court and Tacoma Municipal Court Judges	County Auditor (Reference RCW 36.16.060)
County Offices, City, Town, Special Purpose and School Districts	County Auditor (Reference RCW 36.16.060)
Precinct Committee Officer	No Oath required

Timelines for Assuming Office	
President/Vice President	12 noon, January 20th (Reference US Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 1)
US Senator	12 noon, January 3rd (Reference US Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 1)
US Representative	12 noon, January 3rd (Reference US Constitution, Amendment XX, Section 1)
State Legislators/State Offices	2nd Monday in January (Reference RCW 44.04.010; Reference State Constitution, Article III, Section 4)
Supreme Court Justice	2nd Monday in January (Reference RCW 2.04.071)
Court of Appeals Judge	2nd Monday in January (Reference RCW 2.06.070)
Superior Court Judge	2nd Monday in January (Reference RCW 2.08.070)
District Court and Municipal Court Judge	2nd Monday in January (Reference RCW 3.34.070)
County Offices	January 1st, after elected and qualified (Reference RCW 29A.04.133, 29A.20.040; County Charter 4.80)
City Offices	January 1st, after elected and qualified (Reference RCW 29A.04.133, 29A.20.040)
Special Purpose Districts, Fire Protection, Park & Rec, Water, Sewer Districts	January 1st, after elected and qualified (Reference RCW 29A.04.133, 29A.20.040)
School Districts	At the first meeting after Certification of General Election (Reference RCW 28A.343.360)
Precinct Committee Officers	December 1st (Reference RCW 29A.80.051)

Resources for Newly Elected Officials

Organization	Phone	Online Access
City of Tacoma Council	253-591-5100	cityoftacoma.org
Federal Voting Assistance Program	800-438-8683	fvap.gov
Municipal Research and Services Center	206-625-1300 800-933-6772	www.mrsc.org
Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction	360-725-6000	www.ospi.wa.gov
Pierce County Council	253-798-7777	piercecountywa.org/council
Pierce County Elections	253-798-VOTE (8683) 800-446-4979	piercecountywa.org/elections
Public Disclosure Commission	360-753-1985	www.pdc.wa.gov
Puget Sound Educational Service District No. 121	425-917-7600	www.psesd.org
Secretary of State	800-448-4881	vote.wa.gov
Washington State Association of Counties	360-586-4219	www.wacounties.org
Washington State Auditor's Office	360-902-0370 866-902-3900	www.sao.wa.gov

Date of Election

August 16, 2011
November 8, 2011
February 14, 2012*
April 17, 2012*
August 7, 2012
November 6, 2012

Resolution Cutoff

May 24, 2011
August 16, 2011
December 30, 2011
March 2, 2012
May 11, 2012
August 7, 2012

*Possible Special Election Date

Please note, as you consider a date for a Special Election, it is beneficial to contact the Pierce County Elections Division prior to selection. 253-798-VOTE (8683)

A Special Election to validate an excess levy or bond issue may be called at any time (except between the first day of filing through the General Election Certification) to meet the needs resulting from fire, flood, earthquake or any other act of God. (Reference RCW 29A.04)