

Interested in Running for Office

Filing Period Begins January 11-30

All candidates running for office in the 2010 elections must file their official candidacy papers and fee during the filing window of January 11-30. The window closes at midnight on Saturday, January 30.

State Legislature & Statewide Offices

There will be only one special statewide election for the remainder of the term of Supreme Court Justice Joe Albright, who passed away earlier in 2009. The filing fee for this office is \$1,210.00 and must be done at the Secretary of State's office.

All 100 seats in the House of Delegates and one Senate seat in each Senate district will be on the ballot this year. Unlike in past years, all candidates for the State Legislature must file with the Secretary of State's office. The House filing fee is \$100; the Senate filing fee is \$200.

County Offices

In most counties, at least one County Commission seat and the County Clerk and Circuit Clerk will be up for election. (Check with your County Clerk for details.) Candidates must file with County Clerk and the fees vary depending upon county. Listed below are the range of filing fees:

County Clerk \$422.40 - \$554.40

Circuit Clerk \$422.40 - \$554.40

County Commission \$198.00 - \$369.60

Board of Education \$25.00

Conservation District Supervisor \$10.00

Democratic Executive Committee

In addition to all of the government offices on the ballot in 2010, all of the Party Executive Committees' elected positions are on the ballot in the May 11th Primary. The State and County Executive Committees are the official public faces of the Democratic Party. These two committees are charged with all aspects of promoting the Democratic Party and its candidates in addition to setting Party policies, platforms, electing Party officers (like Chairs), electing national representatives, conventions, poll workers, etc. Also there are three district committees tasked solely with filling vacancies in elected offices. These Committees include:

State Executive Committee - two men and two women from each Senate District - no more than one man and/or woman from any county (except Kanawha) may be elected

County Executive Committee - one man and one woman from each district

Congressional District Committee - one man and one woman from each county

Senatorial District Committee - one man and one woman from each county within each State Senate District*

Delegate District Committee - one man and one woman from each county within each House of Delegates District*

*Senate and Delegate districts that lie completely within county are governed by the County Executive Committee and do not have their own separate committee.

Many of the Party Executive Committee positions are held by good Democrats who serve aptly in their positions; however, some spots draw no interested candidates and those vacancies have to be filled by appointment after the Primary. After the election officials certify the results of the Primary each newly elected Executive Committee must meet (usually in late May or early June) for an organizational meeting to fill vacancies and elect officers.

The filing fee for Party Executive Committees is only \$5 for Delegate District Committee, \$10 for County Committee, and \$20 for the State Executive Committee. If you want to get more involved in your Democratic Party you should consider running for a Party Committee.

For more information on running for office in West Virginia, visit the Secretary of State's website www.wvsos.com.

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