

PETITIONS, CERTIFICATES OF NOMINATION

Petitions and certificates of nomination are used to designate/nominate candidates.

Designating petitions are used for:

- Congress
- State Senate
- State Assembly
- County Offices
- City Offices
- Party Positions
- Some Town Offices (varies by party/by town – see list below)
 1. Republican petitions – (EXCEPT Otisco & Spafford – caucus)
 2. Democrat petitions – Marcellus, Salina & Spafford only (ALL other towns caucus)
 3. Independence petitions – ALL
 4. Conservative petitions – Camillus, Cicero, Dewitt, Elbridge, Geddes, Lysander, Manlius, Pompey, Salina & Van Buren (ALL others caucus)
 5. Green petitions
 6. Working Families petitions
 7. Reform petitions
- 8. Women's Equality petitions

Any town not covered above selects candidates by caucus

Caucuses may not be held before the first day to sign a designating petition. (Normally early June) The chairman of the party calling the caucus must publish in a local newspaper or post 10 notices in the town AND file a notice with the town clerk and the County Board of Elections. These notices of caucus are posted in the counter area for the public to see them.

Nomination Petitions are used by candidates seeking an independent line and are for all offices including town.

The number of signatures needed to qualify is determined by NYS Election Law. The signatures of 5% of the enrolled members of the party making the designation are required unless the statutory numbers are less. Independent nominating petitions are determined by the number of votes cast at the last gubernatorial election.

Petitions and certificates are filed with the Board of Elections during time frames established by election law. (Check political calendar for each year)

All materials received during this process are secured in a room located within the Board of Elections with a double key bipartisan lock. (See Office Security Procedure)