



CARLY KOPPES  
WELD COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER  
1400 NORTH 17<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 459  
GREELEY, COLORADO 80632  
WEBSITE: [www.weldvotes.com](http://www.weldvotes.com)

# Weld County 2020 County Candidate Qualifications

This document provides a general overview of candidate qualifications and should be used as a reference guide only. Please refer to the Colorado Constitution and the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) for applicable laws.

## Weld County offices up for election in 2020.

Office	Term of Office
County Commissioner At-Large	4 Years
County Commissioner District 1	4 Years
County Commissioner District 3	4 Years
County Council At-Large	4 Years
County Council District 1	4 Years

## Weld County Elected Officers

The Elective Officers of the County of Weld, Colorado, shall be five County Commissioners; five County Councilmen; one County Clerk, one County Sheriff; and one County Assessor. The salary or compensation, term of office and qualifications of such officers shall be as provided in this Charter. Notwithstanding the foregoing or any other provision of this Charter to the contrary, effective January 1, 2003, the Coroner shall be appointed and the office operated in accordance with the terms of Article IV §4.1(4) of this Charter. Such appointment shall be subject to the rules established in the personnel system described in Article IV §4-2B (2) of this Charter. Notwithstanding the foregoing or any other provision of this Charter to the contrary, effective January 1, 2003, the Treasurer shall be appointed and the office operated in accordance with the terms of Article IV §4.1(4) of this Charter. Such appointment shall be subject to the rules established in the personnel system described in Article IV §4-2B (2) of this Charter. Charter 6-1.

## Qualifications

### State Candidate Qualifications:

Qualifications may be found on the [Secretary of State](#) website.

### Weld County Candidate Qualifications:

- All elected officers shall be qualified electors of the County. Charter 6-5 (1).
- All elected officers shall have resided in the County for a consecutive period of not less than one (1) year immediately preceding election. Charter 6-5 (2).
- All elected officers shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age before assuming office. Charter 6-5 (3).
- Except for County Councilmen, each county office shall be the primary employment of the officer during the term for which he is elected or appointed. Charter 6-5 (4).

## Become a Candidate

Review the candidate requirements, office responsibilities, and duties of county elected offices in the Colorado Constitution and Revised Colorado Statutes and ensure you meet the qualifications.

Review your voter registration at [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com) to ensure that you are registered to vote and qualified to run for office.

You become a candidate when you publicly announce your intent to run for office and thereafter receive a contribution or making an expenditure in support of your candidacy. You must register a candidate committee with the Secretary of State at [tracer.sos.colorado.gov](http://tracer.sos.colorado.gov) before receiving or spending money.

Familiarize yourself with Colorado Campaign Finance rules and laws, as well as the Secretary of State TRACER system for all campaign finance disclosure reports and committee registration using the following resources:

- Colorado Campaign and Political Finance Manual published by the Colorado Secretary of State, available online at [tracer.sos.colorado.gov](http://tracer.sos.colorado.gov).
- Colorado Constitution Article XXVIII (Campaign and Political Finance) and XIV (Counties)
- Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) Title I, Article 45 (Fair Campaign Practices Act) and Article 4 (Elections- Access to Ballot by Candidates)
- Current year Election Calendar and campaign finance filing calendars at [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us).

Be prepared to register a candidate committee and submit your campaign finance disclosure reports within the timeframes allotted by Colorado law. Failure to file on time can result in monetary penalties.

Get your name on the ballot in one of three ways:

- Certificate of Designation by Assembly
- Certificate of Designation by Petition
- Certificate of Designation by Write-In

Complete a Candidate Affidavit Form within 10 days of becoming a candidate, have it notarized by a Notary Public and file with the Colorado Secretary of State Office.

## Instructions for Major Party Primary Designation Petition

Signatures required for a petition by a political party candidate seeking office in a political subdivision requires the lesser of one thousand signers or signers equal in number to ten percent (10%) of the votes cast in the political subdivision at the contested or uncontested primary election for the political party's candidate for the office for which the petition is being circulated or, if there was no primary election, at the last preceding general election for which there was a candidate for the office. [C.R.S. § 1-4-801(2)(a)]

Signatures Required by Party by Office for Weld County:

Office	Party	Total Votes Cast	Election	Percent of Signatures	Number of Signatures Required
Commissioner At-Large	Democratic	7,300	2016 Primary	10%	730
Commissioner At-Large	Republican	15,627	2016 Primary	10%	1,000
Commissioner District 1	Democratic	2,138	2016 Primary	10%	214
Commissioner District 1	Republican	5,234	2016 Primary	10%	523
Commissioner District 3	Democratic	2,295	2016 Primary	10%	230
Commissioner District 3	Republican	4,025	2016 Primary	10%	403

(It is recommend gathering extra signatures over the required amount.)

Signers must be eligible electors of the District that the candidate will represent. [C.R.S. § 1-4-801(2)(a)]

A preregistrant who is eligible to vote in a Primary Election under section 1-2-101(2)(c) is eligible to sign a petition to nominate a candidate for the Primary Election. [C.R.S. § 1-4-806]

Signers must be affiliated with the Political Party named in the petition for at least 29 days as shown in the statewide voter registration system and that the signer has not signed any other petition for any other candidate for the same office. [C.R.S. § 1-4-904(2)]

The entire signature line must be completed; a post office box is **NOT** sufficient for **PLACE OF RESIDENCE**.

Every nominating petition before it is filed shall have attached to it a notarized acceptance of the nomination of the candidate or notarized acceptances by both of the joint candidates. Each acceptance of nomination shall contain the full name of the candidate or joint candidate as the name will appear on the ballot and the candidate's full address. [C.R.S. § 1-4-906]

Petitions must be signed and notarized and filed with the Weld County Clerk no later than March 17, 2020 (No later than third Tuesday in March). [C.R.S. § 1-4-801(5)]

Party petitions shall not be circulated nor any signatures be obtained prior to the third Tuesday in January (January 21, 2020). [C.R.S. § 1-4-801(5)]

No person who attempted and failed to receive at least ten percent (10%) of the votes for the nomination of a political party assemble for a particular office shall be placed in nomination by petition on behalf of the political party for the same office. [C.R.S. § 1-4-801(4)]

**Contact your party to find out more about nomination by assembly or if you are interested in nomination by petition, contact the Weld County Election Department for more information.**

## Instructions for Unaffiliated Candidates for Weld County

Signatures required: The lesser of **one thousand (1,000)** or two percent (2%) of the votes cast for all candidates for that office in the most recent general election for any county office. [C.R.S. § 1-4-802(c)(VII)]

Office	Total Votes Cast	Election	Percentage of Signatures	Number of Signatures Required
Commissioner At-Large	123,133	2016 General	2%	1,000
Commissioner District 1	27,454	2016 General	2%	796
Commissioner District 3	69,885	2016 General	2%	769

(It is recommend gathering extra signatures over the required amount.)

Signers must be residents of the District that the candidate will represent.

A preregistrant who is eligible to vote in a Primary Election under section 1-2-101(2)(c) is eligible to sign a petition to nominate a candidate for the Primary Election. [C.R.S. § 1-4-806]

The entire signature line must be completed; a post office box is **NOT Sufficient for PLACE OF RESIDENCE.**

The candidate must complete the acceptance of nomination on the last page of each petition section.

Petitions must be signed and notarized and filed with the Weld County Clerk no later than **3:00 PM ON July 9, 2020**. (No later than 3 p.m. on the 117<sup>th</sup> day before the general election.) [C.R.S. § 1-4-802(1)(f)(I)]

Petitions shall not be circulated nor any signatures be obtained prior to **May 14, 2020**. (No earlier than 173 days before the general election.) [C.R.S. § 1-4-802(1)(d)(I)]

For general elections, no person shall be placed in nomination by petition unless the person is an eligible elector of the political subdivision or district in which the officer is to be elected and unless the person was registered as unaffiliated, as shown in the statewide voter registration system, no later than the first business day of the January immediately preceding the general election for which the person desires to be placed in nomination. (**January 2, 2020**) [C.R.S. § 1-4-802(1)(g)(II)]

## **Instructions for Weld County Council Nomination Petitions**

The first day to circulate petitions is **July 1, 2020**. Petitions may be obtained at the Weld County Election Department.

Must be signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified electors residing in the County for a candidate for Councilman-at-large. Charter 13-9(2)(a). A qualified elector may sign more than one nomination petition for Councilman-at-large. Charter 13-9(5).

Must be signed by at least one hundred (100) qualified electors residing in the candidate's district for a candidate Councilman from a specific geographic district. Charter 13-9(2)(b). A qualified elector may sign more than one nomination petition for a Councilman from a specific geographic district. Charter 13-9(5).

The entire signature line must be completed; a post office box is **NOT** sufficient for **PLACE OF RESIDENCE**.

Must have attached thereto an affidavit of the circulator of the nomination petition stating that each signature thereon is the signature of the person whose name it purports to be and that each signor has stated to the circulator that he is a qualified elector of the County or the County and geographic district, as the case may be, for which the nomination is made. Charter 13-9(3). The circulator and the affidavit must comply with the requirements of C.R.S. § 1-4-905.

Each petition section must have attached a signed, notarized and dated affidavit executed by the person who circulated the petition section.

May be circulated and signed beginning on the one-hundred and twenty-fifth (125<sup>th</sup>) day (**July 1, 2020**) and ending on the seventy-fifth (75<sup>th</sup>) day (**August 20, 2020**) prior to the day of the election. Charter 13-9(2).

Must have endorsed thereon or appended thereto the written notarized affidavit of the candidate accepting such nomination. Such acceptance of nomination must contain the full name (as it will appear on the ballot) and place of residence of the candidate. Charter 13-9(6). C.R.S. § 1-4-906.

### **Certificate of Designation by Write-In**

A write-in candidate is a candidate whose name does not appear on the ballot, but for whom voters may vote nonetheless by writing in the person's name.

Any person who wishes to be a write-in candidate must file an affidavit of intent with the County Clerk and Recorder by the 67th day before a Primary Election or by the 110th day before any other election (**April 24, 2020 or July 16, 2020**).

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **When are the 2020 Elections?**

The Presidential Primary is March 3, 2020. Only presidential candidates will be placed on the ballot.

The Primary Election is June 30, 2020. This Election determines each party's nominees for the General Election

The General Election is November 3, 2020.

### **Where do I file my candidate paperwork for County office?**

The following forms will need to be filed at the Weld County Elections Department.

- Certificate of Designation by Assembly (provided by the political party at the assembly)
- Candidate Acceptance of Nomination by Designation (provided by the political party at the assembly)
- Major Party, Minor Party or Unaffiliated Designation Petition Forms (provided by the county)
- Candidate Acceptance of Nomination by Petition (provided by the county)
- Affidavit of Intent for Write-In (provided by the county)

### **Which forms are filed with the Secretary of State?**

- Candidate Affidavit
- Campaign Finance Forms
- Committee Registrations

### **When do I file my petition and certificate of designation for County office?**

Please refer to the current year Election Calendar on the Secretary of State's website for important dates relating to your candidacy. Visit [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us), click on 'Elections & Voting,' then 'Election Information'.

### **When do I file my campaign finance paperwork?**

Please refer to the filing calendar at [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us). Click on 'Elections & Voting,' then Campaign Finance.

### **How do I verify my status and affiliation as a registered voter?**

You may review your voter registration at [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com). Click on 'Find my registration.' You may also call the Weld County Elections Department at 970-304-6525 to verify your registration status, affiliation and affiliation date.

### **Who do I contact with questions about running for county elected office?**

Please contact the Weld County Elections Department at 970-304-6525 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. or by e-mail to [elections@weldgov.com](mailto:elections@weldgov.com).

### **How can I get a list of voters in the county/municipality/district for which I am a candidate?**

You may request a list by calling us at 970-304-6525 or by e-mail to [elections@weldgov.com](mailto:elections@weldgov.com).

### **Where can I find results on Election night?**

Unofficial election results are posted beginning at 7 p.m. on Election night at [www.weldvotes.com](http://www.weldvotes.com).

## **Contact Information:**

### **Weld County Election Department**

Website: [www.weldvotes.com](http://www.weldvotes.com)

Phone: 970-304-6525

Fax: 970-304-6566

Email: [elections@weldgov.com](mailto:elections@weldgov.com)

### **Colorado Secretary of State**

Website: [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us)

Phone: 303-894-2200 ext. 6383

Email: [cpfhelp@sos.state.co.us](mailto:cpfhelp@sos.state.co.us)

## **Political Parties**

### **Democratic Party**

Website: <http://weldcountydems.org>

Phone: 970-351-7047

Address: 810 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Greeley, CO 80631

### **Republican Party**

Website: [www.weldcogop.com](http://www.weldcogop.com)

Address: PO Box 337501, Greeley, CO 80633