



Running for office as a Libertarian in Michigan is a powerful way to make a difference in your community and promote liberty at every level of government. Our party focuses on encouraging candidates to run competitive campaigns, especially for local offices, where your efforts are most likely to have the greatest chance for success.

The process of running for office with the Libertarian Party of Michigan (LPMI) is outlined in this abbreviated document (for more details and citations, please see our unabridged document). While not every step listed is mandatory, and there may be slight variations depending on the office sought, this process is your best path to success.

Candidates are encouraged to start their run for office by joining the LPMI.

<https://michiganlp.org/contribute/membership/> Candidates running for partisan office in Michigan receive a nomination for office at a convention or caucus. Non-partisan offices do not require party nomination and will file paperwork directly with their clerk before a primary election. These offices typically have a signature gathering requirement. The partisan convention or caucus replaces the primary election where Democrats and Republicans compete. A nomination at a convention, once accepted, puts a Libertarian candidate directly on the ballot at the general election.

It is important to determine if the office sought is within an affiliated county. County affiliates of the LPMI hold nominating caucuses for offices wholly contained in a single County, and any office with jurisdiction crossing county lines will be nominated at a Statewide Nominating Convention. Nominating conventions and caucuses take place between the primary filing deadline date and the fall primary.

Once a nomination for office is accepted the candidate will need to fill out three forms and turn them in to the appropriate offices within 24 hours. Additionally, once a nomination is accepted the candidate has 10 calendar days to form a Candidate Committee. After the committee's formation date, the candidate has an additional 10 calendar days to register the committee by filing a Statement of Organization form with their filing official. A person becomes a candidate under the Campaign Finance Act on the date the nomination is accepted.

The forms are:

- Affidavit of Identity
  - [https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/25delrio/E D104\\_Aff\\_ID\\_Fil\\_Rec\\_Vendor\\_83725\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/25delrio/E D104_Aff_ID_Fil_Rec_Vendor_83725_7.pdf)



- Certificate of Acceptance
  - <https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/Elections/Candidate-information/FC-FIL-7-Certificate-of-Acceptance-of-Party-Nomination.pdf>
- Statement of Organization
  - County Level filers:  
<https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/05delrio/CANSofOwithEF.pdf?rev=25018f10e0ef453baa767c35f66620a0>
  - State Level filers (No paper form, all online):  
<https://midisclose.nictusa.com/>
- Certification of Party Nomination
  - This is not a standardized form. This is a letter signed by either the State Party Chair and Secretary or the local affiliate Chair and Secretary.
    - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1u\\_21D2nV2CKft6UqLV5PF3awd6tl8M832lqS5zxhkas/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1u_21D2nV2CKft6UqLV5PF3awd6tl8M832lqS5zxhkas/edit?usp=sharing)

Once a candidate is on the ballot, there are additional considerations that can be reviewed on our unabreviated Running for Office Document.

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