



## BALLOT ACCESS IN NEW YORK

Here are some basic facts about getting on the ballot in New York State:

1. If you seek to run for state-wide office, you can be designated by the state committee of a party for nomination at a meeting.
2. All other party nominations of candidates for offices to be filled at a general election, except as provided for herein, shall be made at the primary election.
3. The designation of a candidate for party nomination at a primary election is by designating petition.
4. Rules on petitions are strict, only duly registered members of parties may sign petition.
5. All state legislature and congressional candidates must file petitions regardless of party nomination.
6. If more than one candidate submits valid petitions from a party, there is a primary.
7. Persons running as independents or from outside one of the qualified parties needs three times the number of signatures as those running in established parties.
8. Party members may also circulate petitions to create the opportunity to write in the name of an unspecified person for an office in which there is no contest for the party endorsement.
9. The current political parties are the Democratic, Republican, Conservative, Working Families, Independence and Green parties.
10. Any person who is not nominated by one of these parties must file an independent nominating petition. The requirements for all petitions are contained in [Article 6 of the Election Law](#) ( 3,303KB). The provisions for village elections vary slightly, and the reader is directed to [Article 15 of the Election Law](#) ( 3,303KB) for specifics.