

Run for Office: 2026 Toolkit

The 2026 elections are just around the corner. With many local and state offices up for election next year, we want to do our best in encouraging folks to step up and **champion their community.**

All too often these important elected offices are unopposed or left vacant so an unelected appointee fills the office. Voters deserve better, they deserve a choice of who will represent them. That can only happen if local residents step up to take on a leadership role in their communities.

Now is the time for people to begin researching what offices are up for election and the necessary paperwork.

- [Nonpartisan] For the Spring 2026 Election Cycle: Candidates have from Dec 1 through Jan 6, to file nomination papers, declarations of candidacy, and campaign registration statements with the filing officer.
- [Partisan] For the Fall 2026 Election Cycle: Candidates have from April 15 through June 1, to file nomination papers, declarations of candidacy, and campaign registration statements with the filing officer.

Save the dates for the upcoming elections:

- Spring Primary February 17
- Spring Election April 7
- Fall Primary August 11
- Fall General Election November 3

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin has put together digital resources that can be shared on social media and within your networks. In this toolkit you will find graphics sized for Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, along with suggested copy for posts.

You can also refer to our webpage, which can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Sample Newsletter Blurb 1- Champion Your Community: Run For Office

What would you like to see improved in your community? How can you make these changes? Consider championing your community and running for office this fall. By running for office, you can speak out and make a difference on issues that you are passionate about and are important to your community.

You bring your own unique perspective and background to the campaign. Running for a local or state office, like County Clerk, County Sheriff, State Assembly and State Senate not only gives you a say in your community, but it gives voters a say as well.

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Champion Your Community and learn more about running for office <u>here</u>.

Sample Newsletter Blurb 2

Do you have a passion for helping your community? Ever thought about running for office?

We'd bet you're more capable to run for office than you think you are. While experience and skills in subjects related to the activities of a board or committee can be important, it is not always necessary to be an expert in order to be a good contributor.

And, there are plenty of resources out there to help you get started!

To get on the ballot there are important forms to complete, nomination papers to circulate and important deadlines to keep in mind. If you're interested in running for office, you can find helpful checklists on the <u>Wisconsin Elections Commission's website</u>.

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*Graphics for your newsletter (option 2)

Post #1: Run For Office - General << click to access graphics folder

Suggested social media copy:

Be a champion for your community. By running for office, you can make a difference. Visit <u>this</u> <u>page</u> for more information.









Post #2: Important Documents

Suggested social media copy:

In order to get on the ballot there are important documents to submit by Jan 6. Learn more about the specifics of the office you are running for at elections.wi/.gov/candidates.



Run for Office Gifs





