

**WORD COUNT STANDARD FOR CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
(§9 – entire page)**

Each word shall be counted as one word except as specified on this page.

The following are the guidelines for computing the word count:

The title of the office, name, district, age, and occupation lines are not included in the word count –only the text is counted. For voter-nominated offices, the party preference line is also not included in the word count.

Punctuation marks are not included in the word count.

Symbols such as “&” (and), and “#” (number/pound) are not considered punctuation..... each symbol is counted as one word

Dictionary words.....one word
The words "a", "the", "and", and "an" are counted as individual words.

Geographical names -- **limited to cities, counties, and states**.....one word
Examples: County of Orange, Orange County, San Juan Capistrano, City of Brea

Abbreviations - UCLA, U.C.L.A., PTA, P.T.A., USMC, U.S.M.C.....one word

Acronyms.....one word

Regularly hyphenated words appearing in any generally available standard reference dictionary published in the United States within 10 years preceding the election. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.....one word

Dates - all digits (4/8/98).....one word
Words and digits (April 8,1998).....two words

Whole numbers - Digits (1 or 10 or 100, etc.).....one word
Spelled out (one or ten or one hundred).....each word counts as one word

Names of persons and things.....each word counts as one word
Gus Enright (two words); L.A. Basketball Team (three words)

Numeric combinations (1973, 18 1/2, 1971-73, 5%).....one word

Monetary amounts (if the dollar sign is used with figures - \$1,000).....one word
Spelled out (one thousand dollars).....each word counts as one word

Telephone/fax numbers.....one word

E-mail and website addresses.....one word

If the text exceeds the word limit, the candidate must delete or change a sufficient number of words, or a sentence, to put the statement within the required word limit before the statement is filed. The candidate should correct any misspellings before the statement is filed. **Other than formatting requirements, your statement will be printed as filed.**

The submitted statement must be typed. No word will be printed in "ALL CAPS", bolding or underlining. Do not use bullet points, stars, asterisks, or numbers that function as bullet points to block-indent paragraphs. However, you may block-indent within the paragraph without using bullets, etc. See “Candidate’s Statement Formatting Guidelines” for more information. The scanning equipment used by the Registrar of Voters’ office to produce camera ready copy for Sample Ballot Pamphlet

printing has some limitations; therefore, the style of a Candidate's conform to the sample you are given.

Reminder!

Excessive number of paragraphs or block-indentation in a Candidate's Statement may cause the statement to not fit in the allotted space even though the word count hasn't exceeded the maximum number of words. If the statement does not fit into the box, you will be asked to edit your statement. Keep this in mind as you write and format your statement.

IMPORTANT: The Candidate's Statement may make no reference to another candidate. The statement may include a description of the candidate's education and qualifications expressed by the candidate himself/herself. **§ 13308**

THE PRECEDING INFORMATION SHALL NOT APPLY TO COUNTING WORDS FOR BALLOT DESIGNATIONS UNDER SECTION 13107

The candidate must sign and date the statement before it is filed. **All statements are confidential until the expiration of the filing deadline.** The candidate is required to pay the estimated cost of the statement and sign a Deposit Agreement at the time the statement is filed. When the statement is filed, a copy of the signed statement and the signed Deposit Agreement will be given to the candidate. **§ 13311**

The statement must be filed at the same time that the Declaration of Candidacy is filed. The statement **may be withdrawn, but not changed**, during the period for filing nomination documents and until **5:00 p.m.** of the next working day after the close of the nomination period. **§ 13307(a)(2)**

NOTE: A nomination period may be extended because an incumbent, eligible to be elected, failed to file a Declaration of Candidacy. Candidates' Statements for that particular office filed by either candidate prior to the 88th day before the election or during the extended period, may be withdrawn, but not changed, until **August 12, 2016, 4:30 p.m.** **§ 8022**