

In Nebraska, school board election procedures vary depending on school district classification. Under Nebraska Revised Statute §79-102, Nebraska's public schools are classified as follows:

- Class III - any district embracing territory having a population of less than 150,000 inhabitants that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board. [§79-102(1)]
- Class IV - any district embracing territory having a population of 100,000 or more inhabitants with a city of the primary class within the territory of the district that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board. [§79-102(2)]
- Class V - any district whose employees participate in a retirement system established pursuant to the Class V School Employees Retirement Act and which embraces territory having a city of the metropolitan class within the territory of the district that maintains both elementary grades and high school grades under the direction of a single school board and any school district with territory in a city of the metropolitan class created pursuant to the Learning Community Reorganization Act and designated as a Class V school district in the reorganization plan. [§79-102(3)]

What Do I Need to Know?

Contact your local school district or ESU office to inquire about the availability of all forms necessary to file for office. The following lists the election process based on your district's classification.

Class III Districts:

(Except Westside Community Schools)

- 5 to 9 members on a board [§79-549 or §79-550]
- The school board must notify the Secretary of State, county clerk, or election commissioner of offices to be filled, term, vacancies, votes to cast, and filing deadlines for each office by January 6, 2020. [§32-404 and §32-601]
- Board members are nominated at the Statewide Primary Election (May 12, 2020) and elected at the Statewide General Election (November 3, 2020)
- Incumbents must file for office by February 18, 2020. [§32-606]
- Non-Incumbents must file for office by March 2, 2020 [§32-606]

Westside Community Schools:

- 6-member board [§79-547]
- Nominated by caucus [§79-549]
- Elected at the Statewide Primary Election (May 12, 2020)
- Two members elected at each election for six-year terms [§32-543(1)]

Class IV Districts:

- Board members nominated and elected by city council district and at the same time as city council members are elected [§32-544]
- Board members serve 4-year terms [§32-544]

Important Dates

December 2, 2019

First day an individual may file for office to have their name placed on the ballot as a candidate at the 2020 election. (§32-606)

January 6, 2020

Last day for political subdivisions [the school board] to notify the Secretary of State, county clerks or election commissioners of offices to be filled, terms, vacancies, votes to cast, and filing deadlines for each office. (§32-404 and §32-601)

February 18, 2020

Last day for **incumbents** (any current office holder) to file for office on the primary ballot. (§32-606)

March 2, 2020

Last day for **non-incumbents** (new filers) to file for office on primary election. (§32-606)

May 12, 2020

Statewide Primary Election (§32-401)

June 15, 2020

ESUs holding elections in conjunction with the statewide general election must notify the Secretary of State, county clerks or election commissioners of offices to be filled, terms, vacancies, votes to cast, and filing deadlines for each office. (§32-404 and §32-601)

July 15, 2020

Last day for **incumbents** (any current office holder) not on the Primary Ballot to file. (§32-606) Applies to educational service unit board members.

July 27, Sept. 21, & Oct. 12, 2020

NASB Candidate Webinars

The Board Leadership staff will present this free webinar that provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities of board members. Watch for more information at www.NASBOnline.org

August 3, 2020

Last day for **non-incumbents** (new filers) to file for office. (§32-606) Applies to educational service unit board members.

November 3, 2020

Statewide General Election (§32-403)

- The school board must notify the Secretary of State, county clerk, or election commissioner of offices to be filled, term, vacancies, votes to cast, and filing deadlines for each office by January 6, 2020 [§32-404 and §32-601]
- Board members are nominated at the Statewide Primary Election (May 12, 2020) and elected at the Statewide General Election (November 3, 2020)
- Incumbents must file for office by February 18, 2020 [§32-606]
- Non-Incumbents must file for office by March 2, 2020 [§32-606]

Class V Districts:

- One member elected from each of 9 districts [§32-552]
- Board members serve 4-year terms [§32-551(2)]
- The school board must notify the Secretary of State, county clerk, or election commissioner of offices to be filled, term, vacancies, votes to cast, and filing deadlines for each office by January 6,2020 [§32-404 and §32-601]
- Board members are nominated at the Statewide Primary Election (May 12, 2020) and elected at the Statewide General Election (November 3, 2020)
- Incumbents must file for office by February 18, 2020. (§32-606)
- Non-Incumbents must file for office by March 2, 2020 (§32-606)

Educational Service Units:

- The number of board members and the district each member represents vary for ESUs and are dependent on factors outlined in §79-1217.
- The ESU board must notify the Secretary of State, County Clerk, or Election Commissioner of offices to be filled, term, vacancies, votes to cast, and filing deadlines for each office by June 15,2020. [§32-404 and §32-601]
- Election of members only at Statewide General Election (November 3, 2020)
- Incumbents must file for office by July 15, 2020. [§32-606]
- Non-Incumbents must file for office by August 3, 2020. [§32-606]

For Additional Election Information

Please see the Nebraska Secretary of State website for:

Filing dates and deadlines: www.sos.ne.gov/elec/genvoterinfo.html

Candidates information: <http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/candidateinfo.html>

Local county clerk's office/ election commissioner: <http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/clerks.html>