

2026 MEMORANDUM 1

To: County Boards of Voter Registration and Elections
From: State Election Commission
Date: **February 4, 2026**
Subject: Public Notice of Candidate Filing

State law (S.C. Code Ann. § 7-13-45) requires each county board of voter registration and elections to publish public notice of candidate filing.

Publication Requirements

- The notice **must be published on March 2, 2026**, two weeks prior to the opening of the filing period.
- Counties must publish **one notice** covering all partisan candidates.
- Separate notices for each political party are **not permitted**.
- The notice must include information for **both state and county-level offices**.

COMMISSIONERS

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Notice Template

- A template is attached for your use.
- Complete all highlighted sections with your county's information.
- Remove all highlights before publication.

Newspaper Placement

- The notice must be published in a **newspaper of general circulation** in the county.
- The advertisement must be **at least five by seven inches**.
- If published in a weekly or bi-weekly paper, the notice must appear in the edition available to the public on **March 2, 2026**.

Required Notice Content

- Dates of the filing periods
- Offices open for filing
- Location and street address where filings may be submitted
- Hours an authorized individual will be available to receive filings

Reimbursement

- The State Election Commission will reimburse counties for the cost of publishing the notice.
- To receive reimbursement, submit:
 - The invoice, and
 - A tear sheet or affidavit with your county's reimbursement request.