

MACOMB COUNTY 2026 FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT

ELECTION DATES: The primary election (if necessary) will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026. The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

FILING LOCATION: Macomb County Election Department
32 Market St.
Mount Clemens MI 48043

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS: All candidates seeking a judgeship must be licensed to practice law in Michigan, have practiced law for at least five years, and be younger than age 70 on Election Day. Also, candidates must be a registered and qualified elector of the county by the filing deadline or the date the affidavit of candidacy is filed.

INCUMBENT FILING REQUIREMENTS: An incumbent candidate seeking nomination to the judicial office of Probate Court Judge must file an Incumbent Affidavit of Identity and Affidavit of Candidacy in duplicate no later than 5 p.m. on March 23, 2026.

NON-INCUMBENT FILING REQUIREMENTS: A non-incumbent candidate seeking a nomination to the judicial office of Probate Court Judge must file a Non-Incumbent Affidavit of Identity and Affidavit of Constitutional Qualification in duplicate and nonpartisan nominating petitions no later than 4 p.m. on April 21, 2026.

PETITION FORM: All non-incumbent judicial candidates are required to use the *nonpartisan nominating petition form* prescribed by the Secretary of State when collecting signatures. There are two versions of the form: 1) a “city/township” version and 2) a “countywide” version. The “city/township” version of the form is designed for circulation within a single city or township; the “countywide” version of the form can be signed by anyone registered to vote in a city or township within Macomb County. All Judge of Probate Court candidates may use either version of the form as convenient.

PETITION SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS: Minimum of 2,000 and maximum of 4,000 from qualified and registered electors of Macomb County.

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY REQUIRED OF ALL CANDIDATES

Michigan Election Law requires any candidate filing an Affidavit of Identity to state on the form that, at the date the affidavit was executed, all campaign finance statements, reports, late filing fees, and fines required of the candidate, or any candidate committee (current or past) organized to support the candidate's election under Michigan's Campaign Finance Act have been filed or paid. Candidates that have any outstanding notices of Failure to File or outstanding late filing fees with any filing official in Michigan are ineligible to appear on the ballot (MCL 168.558).

AFFIXING OFFICE DESIGNATION ON PETITION: Petitions for Macomb County Judge of Probate Court must bear the appropriate designation listed below to indicate the office sought by the candidate. These categories refer to the type of judicial position to be filled at the election, not the candidate's status as a non-incumbent or new judge (if elected). Filed petitions using an improper office designation are invalid.

- Regular Term – Incumbent Position

Other Information Regarding Office Designation

"Incumbent Position" refers to a position held by a judicial officer who is seeking reelection to his or her seat. "Non-Incumbent Position" refers to a position held by a judicial officer who is not seeking reelection to his or her seat. "New Judgeship" refers to a position that will be filled for the very first time at this election and is used when a new position is created by legislative enactment.

Please Note: Office designations may change during the petition circulation period, at the incumbent filing deadline, or when a vacancy is filled by gubernatorial appointment.

An "Incumbent Position" designation may change to "Non-Incumbent Position" if an incumbent judge who is eligible to seek re-election fails to file the Affidavit of Identity and Affidavit of Candidacy by the incumbent filing deadline.

a. All petition sheets circulated after the incumbent filing deadline when the incumbent fails to file must include the office designation "Non-Incumbent Position" in the heading.

b. Signatures on petition sheets circulated before the incumbent filing deadline when the incumbent fails to file that contain the "Incumbent Position" designation will count toward the candidate's total number of signatures filed as long as the signatures are otherwise validly signed.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE: All candidates are required to comply with the Campaign Finance Act filing requirements with the State of Michigan.

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE: The deadline for an incumbent candidate to withdraw their candidate filing is 5 p.m. on the third day after the filing deadline. The deadline for a non-incumbent candidate to withdraw their candidate filing is 5 p.m. on the third day after the filing deadline. Candidates must submit a written notice of withdrawal to the Macomb County Election Department.

QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

Macomb County Elections Department
32 Market Street, Mount Clemens MI 48043

Phone: (586) 469-5209
Email: elections@macombgov.org
Web: macombgov.org/elections