



CalPERS Board of Administration

## 2026 State, School, and Public Agency Member Elections Candidate Statement Information and Format Criteria

**Important:** Candidates may, but are not required to, submit a candidate statement. Candidate Statements may be submitted in-person, via mail, or email to the [Board Election Coordinator](#). If mailing, certified mail is recommended. Candidate Statements must be received by the Board Election Coordinator no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 14, 2026.

For in-person submissions:

CalPERS  
ATTENTION: CalPERS Board Election Coordinator  
Lincoln Plaza West - 400 Q Street, Room W1570  
Sacramento, CA 95811

For mailed submissions:

CalPERS  
ATTENTION: CalPERS Board Election Coordinator  
P.O. Box 942702  
Sacramento, CA 94229-2702

Email submissions should be sent to [Board\\_Election\\_Coordinator@calpers.ca.gov](mailto:Board_Election_Coordinator@calpers.ca.gov).

### Candidate Statements

Each candidate for an elective Board Member position may provide a statement including the candidate's name, the word "Incumbent" when the candidate is the incumbent in the position for which the election is being held, job classification, employer, years of CalPERS-covered service, and a general statement of no more than 300 words. The statement must be truthful and shall contain no obscene, vulgar, profane, libelous, or defamatory assertions or information. The statement shall not include any remarks or questions that are inherently misleading, including rhetorical remarks.

Once filed, statements may not be changed or withdrawn except as provided in Section 554.6 (e), (f) of the Board Election regulations. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to make Candidate Statements or the authors thereof free or exempt from any civil or criminal action or penalty because of any statements offered for printing or distributed to voters. Information contained in the statement is the responsibility of the candidate. CalPERS accepts no responsibility for the validity of the statement or the contents thereof.

In accordance with Section 554.6 (d), it is urged, but not required, that the Candidate Statement provide answers to some or all of the following questions:

- (1) Why do you want to be a CalPERS Board member?
- (2) What are your qualifications to hold the position of CalPERS Board member?
- (3) What are the issues of greatest importance to CalPERS?
- (4) What actions would you take to address the issues of greatest importance to CalPERS?
- (5) What would you do to enhance the organization?
- (6) Within the past five (5) years, have you had any financial hardships, such as bankruptcy filings, insolvencies, assignments for the benefits of creditors, monetary judgements, liens and attachments, wage garnishments, notices of foreclosure, or similar hardships? If yes, please explain the nature of the hardship and how it was resolved.
- (7) Have you ever been subject to any legal or employment action on the grounds of discrimination or sexual harassment? If yes, please explain the nature of the legal or employment action and how it was resolved.
- (8) Do you have any conflicts of interest that could impact your role as a CalPERS Board Member? If yes, please explain the nature of the conflict(s) and how you would address it (them) if you are elected to the Board.
- (9) Will you maintain the confidentiality of all non-public information that you receive in your position on the CalPERS Board?

In addition to the 300 word Candidate Statement, each candidate will be provided the opportunity to submit a 300 word Addendum to the original candidate statement. The criteria for this Addendum can be found in Section 554.6 (c) Candidate Statements. The Addendum shall be sent to the candidates as stipulated in Section 554.6 (c). You will have the opportunity to video record your Candidate Statement and Addendum in or around August 2026.

An arbitration may be requested within five (5) working days following the distribution of both the candidate statement and addendum by submitting a written request to the CalPERS Board Election Office. If an arbitration is requested, all parties involved must split the cost of the arbitration. If the arbitration is withdrawn, all parties involved must split the cost accrued to the point of withdrawal.

## Instructions

Candidate Statements and any Addenda should be prepared in a word processing program, and candidates should keep in mind **the statement will also serve as a video script for videotaping purposes**. It is recommended the statement be written for both a reading and viewing audience. Check the statement to ensure it meets the standards above and meets the format shown below.

Candidate Statements and Addenda must be submitted either to the physical address above or via email to the Board Election Coordinator at [Board\\_Election\\_Coordinator@calpers.ca.gov](mailto:Board_Election_Coordinator@calpers.ca.gov).

Your final Candidate Statement and Addendum will be included in the Candidate Statement Voter Pamphlet (CSVP) for the election in which you are a qualifying candidate. The CSVP will be mailed to eligible voters on August 28, 2026, and again on November 6, 2026, in the event a runoff election is held in the contest for which you are a candidate. In addition, you will have the opportunity to video record your Candidate Statement and Addendum in or around August 2026.

Due to space considerations and printing costs of the CSVP, your Candidate Statement and Candidate Statement Addendum will be limited to 300 words each and published using the format criteria detailed below.

After you submit your Statement and Addendum, you may be contacted either by phone or email to resolve any necessary format issues. The formatting issues may include the criteria contained in this document or minor edits such as misspelled words, punctuation, typos, etc. that do not change the content of your original Statement and Addendum text.

## Format Criteria

1. Paragraphs will be typeset in block style without indentation.
2. Only *italics* can be used to emphasize a word. Words that are submitted in underline, bold, or all upper-case letters will be typeset in upper- and lower-case italics as appropriate.
3. Abbreviations or acronyms are acceptable, or you may choose to completely spell out the words. Any acronym used for “California Public Employees’ Retirement System” will be typeset as “CalPERS”.

### Example:

Word Description	Word Count	Abbreviation or Acronym	Word Count
Bachelor of Arts	3	B.A. or BA	1
California Highway Patrol	3	C.H.P. or CHP	1
California State Employees’ Association	4	C.S.E.A or CSEA	1
Los Angeles	2	L.A. or LA	1
California State University	3	C.S.U or CSU	1
Americans with Disabilities Act	4	ADA	1

4. The inclusion of one or more of each of the following items of information is acceptable: phone number, email address, mailing address, and webpage.

5. Words may not be combined to meet the maximum word count for the candidate statement or the ballot designation. Each word used in a hyphenated or hyphenated compound word will be counted separately. For instance, 'first-class' will be counted as two words and 'merry-go-round' will be counted as three words, and so forth.
6. The use of numbers and bullets for a series of items is acceptable. Format for a series can be in paragraph or list style. Any other symbol used to list items will be replaced with numbers or bullets when typeset. Numbers will count against the total word count; bullets will not.

**Example 1:**

My goals in the next five years are to: (1) purchase property, (2) build a home, and (3) start my own home business.

**Example 2:**

My goals in the next five years are to:

- (1) Purchase property
- (2) Build a home
- (3) Start my own home business

**Example 3:**

My goals in the next five years are to:

- Purchase property
- Build a home
- Start my own home business