



CalPERS Board of Administration

2026 State, School, and Public Agency Member Elections Criteria for Ballot Designation

CCR § 554.4 In accordance with the California Code of Regulation (CCR) § 554.4:

(a) Each candidate for an elective Board member position may choose a Ballot Designation at the time he or she certifies acceptance of nomination as a candidate. The Ballot Designation will be printed below the candidate's name, on the ballots that are mailed to each, eligible voter and will appear after the candidate's name on the online and telephone ballots. The Ballot Designation must be accurate and not misleading and conform to the following guidelines:

(1) If the candidate already holds the Board member position to which he or she is seeking election, then the candidate may use the single word "Incumbent" and this is the only time it may be used as a designation.

(2) The candidate may designate the principal profession or occupation in which he or she is engaged, at the time he or she certifies acceptance of nomination. This designation may be general or specific, but it shall not exceed three words in length. If the candidate is retired from the principal profession or occupation, it may still be designated if preceded by the word "Retired."

(3) The determination of whether or not a Ballot Designation conforms to these guidelines shall be made in the sole discretion of the Election Coordinator. The Election Coordinator may request the candidate to verify the truthfulness of the Ballot Designation. If a Ballot Designation does not conform, in whole or in part, it shall be reformed by the Election Coordinator with prior notice to the candidate, before it is printed on the ballots.

(b) The Election Coordinator will provide each candidate with written criteria for choosing a Ballot Designation in conformity with these guidelines, including examples of designations that were used in prior elections. The choice of Ballot Designation must be made by each candidate, and CalPERS accepts no responsibility for the content or validity of a given Ballot Designation.

**Ballot
Designation
Examples**

- Affirmative Action Coordinator
- Air Quality Engineer
- Attorney
- Benefits Administrator
- Certified Public Accountant
- Community College Instructor
- Community Relations Administrator
- Dentist
- Deputy City Attorney
- Employment Program Manager
- Engineer
- Fire Battalion Chief
- Fire System Technician
- Firefighter
- Governmental Analyst
- Maintenance Worker
- Personnel Specialist
- Planning Graphics Supervisor
- Public Works Inspector
- Registered Nurse
- Retired Attorney
- Retired Correctional Lieutenant
- Retired Transportation Director
- State Correctional Officer
- State Employee
- Wastewater Supervisor