

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding SWCD Elections During Oregon's 2020 COVID-19 State of Emergency



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

1. How do I gather original signatures for the “*Petition for Nomination Signature Sheet*” with social distancing guidelines in place?

- » Although original signatures are required on the signature sheet, the signatures can be spread across multiple sheets. You can email or mail individual signature sheets to valid registered voters and have those sheets physically mailed back to you.
- » ODA recommends that you secure 12-15 signatures in case any of the signatures cannot be validated. You will need 10 valid signatures.

2. How do I get my “*Petition for Nomination Signature Sheet*” validated by the county clerk’s office if the office is closed to the public?

- » Each county elections office is developing individual protocols for verification. Please contact your county elections office for details. Contact information for the county election offices in Oregon are on the reverse of this FAQ sheet.

3. I was not able to gather enough signatures or get the signatures verified before the August 25th deadline. What do I do now?

- » You may declare to be a write-in candidate by mailing or emailing the “Declaration of intent and request for write-in votes to be tallied” form to ODA between August 26th and October 20th. The form does not require any signatures other than your own.

4. Our district has unfilled board seats because some of the potential candidates were unable to submit their paperwork before the deadlines. Can we reappoint current or new board members?

- » On January 1, 2021 board positions which had no candidate file or a request to count write-in ballots submitted will automatically become vacant. If the board continues to have a quorum of board members, they may appoint eligible individuals to the vacant positions.

5. Our district was unable to have enough board members on the ballot to continue to meet the minimum quorum requirements to hold a meeting. Can we still appoint new board members?

- » No. Without a quorum, the board cannot appoint new board members. Through its statutory authority, ODA will appoint enough board members to meet the minimum quorum requirements and then the board can appoint individuals for the remaining board positions. A district in this position should contact Sandi Hiatt for details.

Election Forms and Instructions:

- » <https://oda.direct/Elections>

SWCD Program Contacts:

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