

CANDIDATE'S GUIDE FOR AROOSTOOK COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Candidates may obtain nomination petitions from the Aroostook County Manager's Office or from the Elections Division of the Secretary of State. Nomination petitions and candidate consent forms can also be downloaded from the Division of Elections web site:

<https://www.maine.gov/sos/elections-voting/becoming-a-candidate>

- The candidate or circulator for the candidate must obtain a minimum of 50 signatures and a maximum of 80 signatures of registered voters in the candidate's commission district. **Petitions must be printed double-sided on 8.5 x 14 inch (legal size) paper.**
- Any registered voter can sign the commission member petition if they reside in the charter commission district. A voter need not be enrolled in any party to sign.
- Each petition must be verified by its circulator. All signatures must be certified by the applicable registrar of voters prior to filing with the Secretary of State (see below for further details).
- Petitions must be submitted to the appropriate Registrars or Municipal Clerks for certification by 5 p.m. May 26, 2026.
- The candidate must sign and submit a "Candidate's Consent and Certification of Voter Registration" before a notary public (see below for further details).
- The petitions and Candidate's Consent and Certification of Voter Registration must be submitted to the Elections Division for review on or before 5 p.m., June 1, 2026. If properly completed with the required number of signatures, the petitions will be accepted and filed by the Secretary of State.
- Each candidate will be notified by the Secretary of State of the acceptance of the petitions.

CHARTER COMMISSION MEMBER CANDIDATE PETITION:

Information on petition forms must be typed or printed except where a signature is required. Separate petition forms should be used for each municipality in which signatures are solicited.

1. State the candidate's name in one of the following forms:
 - a. last name (and suffix, if any), first name, middle name
 - b. last name (and suffix, if any), first name, middle initial
 - c. last name (and suffix, if any), first initial, middle name
 - d. last name (and suffix, if any), first name
2. The office name is prefilled on the nomination petition – Aroostook County Charter Commission Member.
3. State the electoral division to be represented (Charter Commission District 1, 2 or 3). The Charter Commission District is the County Commissioner District in which the voter resides. See listing of towns in each district below. Two charter commission members will be elected from each commissioner district.

4. State the residence address where the candidate is registered to vote.
5. State the mailing address of the candidate, if different. If the mailing address is the same, so indicate.
6. Petition may only be signed by voters who reside in the electoral district in which the nomination is sought. Each voter must sign his or her name personally.
7. The printed name of the voter, the date signed, the street address and municipality may be completed by either the voter or the circulator. Ditto marks are permitted only for street address and municipality of registration.

VERIFICATION, CERTIFICATION AND CONSENT FOR CHARTER COMMISSION MEMBER CANDIDATE PETITION

1. The circulator of each petition must take the oath before a notary public that each signature is the signature of the person whose name it purports to be; was made in his or her presence; and that each signer is a registered voter of the electoral district named in the petition.
2. The Registrar or Municipal Clerk must certify that each person whose name appears on the petition is registered to vote in that municipality, in the electoral district named in the petition.

Candidate's Consent and Certification of Voter Registration

Candidate's Consent: The candidate's consent is a separate document from the petition. Consent forms are customized with the qualifications of each office. Candidates must ensure they meet the qualifications for the office and the consent form submitted is the correct one for the office sought.

The full residence address is required on the consent form. Upon written request by the candidate to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State may deem the candidate's street name and number confidential provided they are not material to the candidate's qualifications to serve (i.e., the candidate's municipality of residence is wholly within the relevant electoral district).

Candidates must complete the phonetic pronunciation section following the candidate's name section, ensuring the candidate's name will be pronounced correctly on the accessible audio ballot. Example: If your name is Colin Boucher, write your name phonetically "Ko-lin BOW-cher" or "Kollin Bushy" as you would like it to be pronounced on the audio ballot.

The candidate must sign the candidate's consent form before a notary public (or other official authorized to administer oaths), which includes: a statement the candidate will accept the nomination of the general election; a declaration of the candidate's municipality of residence and that the candidate is registered to vote at the time of certification; and a statement the candidate meets the qualifications of the office sought. The signature of the candidate on the consent form must appear in the same manner as the name of the candidate on the petition form(s).

Certification of Voter Registration: The certification of voter registration is included on the candidate's consent form. The registrar of voters or municipal clerk in the candidate's municipality of residence must certify the candidate was registered to vote in the municipality on the date the petition is certified.

COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION DISTRICTS FOR AROOSTOOK COUNTY

Voters elect County Charter Commission Members from the County Commissioner District in which they reside. For example, voters in County Commissioner District One will vote for two County Charter Commission Members in District One.

Aroostook County is divided into the following 3 districts:

A. Commissioner District Number 1 consists of the minor civil divisions and unorganized territories of Amity, Blaine, Bridgewater, Crystal, Dyer Brook, Easton, Fort Fairfield, Glenwood, Hammond, Haynesville, Hersey, Hodgdon, Houlton, Island Falls, Linneus, Littleton, Ludlow, Macwahoc, Mars Hill, Merrill, Monticello, Moro, New Limerick, Oakfield, Orient, Reed, Sherman, Smyrna, South Aroostook and Weston.

B. Commissioner District Number 2 consists of the minor civil divisions and the unorganized territories of Ashland, Caribou, Castle Hill, Central Aroostook, Chapman, Mapleton, Presque Isle, Washburn and Westfield.

C. Commissioner District Number 3 consists of the minor civil divisions and unorganized territories of Allagash, Caswell, Connor, Cyr, Eagle Lake, Fort Kent, Frenchville, Garfield, Grand Isle, Hamlin, Limestone, Madawaska, Masardis, Nashville, New Canada, New Sweden, Northwest Aroostook, Perham, Portage Lake, Saint Agatha, Saint Francis, Saint John, Square Lake, Stockholm, Van Buren, Wade, Wallagrass, Westmanland, Winterville, and Woodland.