



TOWN OF CAREFREE

2022 FALL ELECTION INFORMATION

FOR CANDIDATES

Office of the Town Clerk
(480) 488-3686

8 Sundial Circle
P.O. Box 740
Carefree, AZ 85377

Email: kandace@carefree.org

Website: www.carefree.org



TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Dear Candidate:

Thank you for your interest in the Town of Carefree election. The Town is represented by the Mayor and six Councilmembers. The Mayor and Council are elected at-large for a two-year term of office. Elections are regularly scheduled in the Fall of even-numbered years. Electors will consider candidates for the offices of Mayor and Councilmembers in the Primary Election, to be held on August 2, 2022; and if necessary, a runoff election will be held at the General Election on November 8, 2022. Newly elected officials will take office at the first regularly scheduled Council meeting of the new year, January 3, 2023.

Enclosed you will find the necessary paperwork to open a committee as well as information relevant to the 2022 Election. Candidates are required to obtain the minimum number of signatures to appear on the ballot. Nomination signatures are due in the Town Clerk's Office located at 8 Sundial Circle, Carefree, AZ 85377 between **March 7, 2022*** and **April 4, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.**

Effective August 27, 2019, aspiring candidates must file a Statement of Interest with the Town Clerk's Office **prior to collecting their first nomination petition signature.** [A.R.S. §16-311(H); §16-341(I)] [S.B. 1451 § 6(A), 54th Leg., 1st Sess. (Az. 2019)]. Pursuant to A.R.S. §16-905B, once you have received contributions or make expenditures, in any combination, of at least \$500, a Statement of Organization must be filed with the City Clerk's Office within ten days if it has not already been filed.

All forms contained in this packet are available on the Town Clerk's Office website at: www.carefree.org/167/Elections, under the "Election Forms" section. Please make note of the Election calendar located at <https://www.azsos.gov/elections/elections-calendar-upcoming-events> which highlights important dates relevant to your campaign, such as candidate filing periods and campaign finance report due dates.

Candidates are encouraged to refer to the Arizona State Constitution and the Arizona Revised Statutes for legal requirements pertaining to candidates for elective office. If you need further assistance during the nomination period or the election process, please contact the Town Clerk's Office to schedule an appointment at (480) 488-3686 or Kandace@carefree.org.

Sincerely,

Kandace French Contreras, CMC
Town Clerk/Treasurer

*First day to file as a candidate has been changed due to City Offices being closed on Saturday, March 5, 2022.

Disclaimer: Candidates are responsible for compliance with the Arizona Constitution, Title 16 of the Arizona Revised Statutes and Carefree Town Code as applicable to elections. Questions regarding completion of forms or interpretation of election laws should be referred to an attorney

**TOWN OF CAREFREE
2022 PRIMARY/GENERAL ELECTION**

Number of Signatures Required

CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER

The qualified signature count for a candidate requires at least 5% and not more than 10% of the highest vote cast for an elected official of the Town at the last preceding election unless an alternative procedure has been adopted by Ordinance as provided in A.R.S § 16-322(A)(10)(B).

Highest vote cast for an elected official at the last election:1,276.

1,276 x 5% = 63.8 or 64 minimum signatures

1,276 x 10% = 127.6 or 128 maximum signatures

Candidate Packet

1. **Statement of Interest** - This form must be filed with the Town Clerk's Office prior to any signatures being collected.
2. **Statement of Organization** - If candidates will be spending or receiving, in any combination, more than \$500 during the election cycle, this form must be filed. Please maintain all documentation so that this form may be filed once the candidate hits the \$500 level.
3. **Candidate Nonpartisan Petitions** – Completed petitions will not be filed until March/April of 2022, along with the signed petitions and completed Financial Disclosure Statement.
4. **Candidate Nonpartisan Nomination Paper** - This form will be filed in March/April of 2022, along with the signed petitions and completed Financial Disclosure Statement.
5. **Financial Disclosure Statement** - This form will be filed in March/April of 2022, along with the signed petitions and completed Nonpartisan Nomination Paper.
6. **Financial Disclosure Guide** - This guidebook explains how to complete the above Financial Disclosure Statement.

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FILING DEADLINES

The following forms with original signatures must be filed at the same time in the office of the Carefree Town Clerk to constitute the official filing of a candidate:

NO EARLIER THAN – Monday, March 7, 2022

NO LATER THAN – Wednesday, April 4, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Nonpartisan Nomination Paper
2. Nonpartisan Nomination Petitions
3. Financial Disclosure Statement
4. Statement of Organization (if applicable)

CANDIDATE FORMS – WHAT ARE THEY?

Candidate Nonpartisan Nomination Paper

A combined form including an Affidavit of Qualification and a Campaign Finance Statement. The Nomination Paper must be notarized and contain basic information about the candidate. The Affidavit of Qualification includes sufficient information to indicate that the person will be qualified to hold the office. The Campaign Finance Statement portion includes a statement indicating that the candidate has read all applicable laws relating to campaign finance and reporting.

Nonpartisan Nomination Petitions

A Nonpartisan Nomination Petition is signed by qualified electors who support the nomination of the individual whose name appears in the certificate portion. Only those persons who are qualified electors of the State of Arizona **and the Town Carefree** may sign a nomination petition. A person may sign a nomination petition for only one candidate for each office. For this election, **an individual may sign up to three (3) nomination petitions for Town Councilmember.**

The petition circulator must be qualified to register to vote in the State of Arizona. Each petition must be signed by the circulator who circulated that petition. The circulator's name shall be typed or printed under his/her signature. The circulator shall verify that, in his/her belief, each signer was a qualified elector who resides at the address given as the signer's residence on the date indicated.

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Financial Disclosure Statement

State law requires candidates who receive or expend, *in any combination*, \$500 or more to register as a candidate committee and account for all monies or things of value received

and expended by them, their campaign committee or individuals on behalf of a person's candidacy for public office.

For example, if a candidate receives \$200 and spends \$301, the total amount is over \$500 and the candidate is required to register as a committee. Any combination of contributions or expenditures that remains below \$500 does not trigger committee registration.

There is no longer a Threshold Exemption Statement. Therefore, you do not have to register or complete any campaign finance forms or reports if you do not receive or spend, in any combination, \$500. Once a candidate receives contributions or makes expenditures, in any combination, of \$500, the candidate **must** file a Statement of Organization with the clerk within ten days.

Thank you for your interest in the Town of Carefree. If you have questions, please feel free to call me.

Kandace French Contreras

Town Clerk, Treasurer

Town of Carefree

480-488-3686

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