

**NEW POLITICAL PARTY QUALIFICATION
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2012 AND 2014 PRIMARY ELECTIONS**
(Based on the number of persons who voted at the 2010 General Election)

There are two methods by which political bodies can qualify for official party status, which enables them to place candidates on a primary election ballot. The qualification deadline for each method is 135 days before a statewide primary in an even-numbered year, based on the registration totals as of the 154th day before that election.

1. **Registration.** A political body must have obtained registrations equal in number to one percent of the total vote of the state in the most recent gubernatorial election. The current registration requirement is 103,004 [1% of 10,300,392 (Elections Code section 5100(b))].
2. **Petition.** A political body must have collected petition signatures of registered voters equal in number to 10 percent of the total vote of the state in the most recent gubernatorial election. The current signature requirement is 1,030,040 [10% of 10,300,392 (Elections Code section 5100(c))].

To retain its official status, a political party must maintain a registration level equal to one-fifteenth of one percent (0.00067) of the total voter registration of the state at all times [Elections Code section 5101]. In addition, after each gubernatorial election, each political party's qualifications are reviewed. To retain its official status after the election, each political party must:

1. Maintain a registration level equal to at least one percent of the entire vote of the state at the most recent gubernatorial election [Elections Code section 5100(b)]; or
2. Have a candidate for statewide office (Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, or United States Senator) receive at least two percent of the vote for that office [Elections Code section 5100(a)].