

**SECRETARIES OF STATE EMAIL RESPONSES  
CONFIRMING NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
FOR WRITE-IN CANDIDATES IN THESE SEVEN STATES:  
VT, WA, WY, RI, IA, NJ, AND OR**

**VERMONT:**

✉ **Isabelle, Jean Paul**

Today at 5:38 AM

IJ

To: Scotty McCampbell, SOS - Elections Cc: Bjornlund, Lori, Senning, Will  
RE: Question regarding write-in candidates in Vermont for the presidential election

 New contact info found in this email: Jean Paul Isabelle [jean.paul.isabelle@sec.state.vt.us](mailto:jean.paul.isabelle@sec.state.vt.us) [add...](#) 

Hi Jeffrey.

You are correct and you have cited the correct statute. First, there is no filing requirement for write-in candidates. They do not have to announce they are running and do not have to file paperwork with us or the Town Clerk in order to run as a write in candidate. As you cite in the law, each ballot is reviewed for voter intent and each write-in is required to be recorded.

You also had a question about the voting of the Presidential Electors. Under 17 VS A 2732, Vermont's electors "must vote the candidates for president and vice president who receive the greatest number of votes...". <http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/17/057/02732>. So if a write-in candidate for president were to receive the most votes, under Vermont law, the electors would have to vote for that person.

Hope this is helpful. Let me know if you have any other questions.

JP

**JP Isabelle**

JD- VLS 2011

Elections Administrator

Vermont Office of the Secretary of State

128 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05633

Phone: 802-828-2304

Fax: 802-828-2496

<http://vermont-elections.org/>

# WASHINGTON:

☆ Elections - Public

Today at 2:22 PM

EP

To: Scotty McCampbell Cc: Elections - Public

RE: Write-in votes for President in Washington

New contact info found in this email: Elections - Public elections@sos.wa.gov

add...

Hello,

Votes for a write-in candidate count even if that candidate has not filed a declaration of write-in candidacy. If a write-in candidate for president were to win the majority vote in Washington state, their campaign would have to present the names and addresses for 12 electors as soon as it is determined that the write-in candidate is the winner. If they cannot do this, the candidate may forfeit. You may find it helpful to take a look at our short explanation of the [Electoral College](#).

I hope this answers your questions!

**Selena Faller**

Office Assistant

Washington State Elections | Office of the Secretary of State

(360) 902-4180 | [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov)



Office of the Secretary of State

Elections Division

## WYOMING:

**From:** Joe Chenchar <joe.chenchar@wyo.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Write-in votes for President in Wyoming  
**Date:** October 7, 2016 at 8:04:34 AM PDT  
**To:** Jeffrey Scott McCampbell <mcsoup@mac.com>

Mr. McCampbell,

Thank you for contacting our office. The answers to your questions appear below:

1. Yes, write-in votes would be counted. Wyoming does not require write-in candidates to submit a declaration of intent or similar form.
2. This question would require consultation with our Attorney General's office for a definitive answer, since it would involve interpretation of the Election Code. However, WS 22-19-108 states "All Wyoming electors shall vote for the candidates for the office of president and vice-president receiving the highest number of votes in the Wyoming general election." It would be our understanding that regardless of the chosen electors, they would be statutorily required to vote for the candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

If you have additional inquiries, please contact our office.

Thank you,

***Joe Chenchar***

Election Records & Research Specialist  
Wyoming Secretary of State's Office  
phone: [307-777-3573](tel:307-777-3573)  
fax: [307-777-7640](tel:307-777-7640)  
[joe.chenchar@wyo.gov](mailto:joe.chenchar@wyo.gov)  
<https://www.facebook.com/wyosos>

E-Mail to and from me, in connection with the transaction of public business, is subject to the Wyoming Public Records Act and may be disclosed to third parties.

## RHODE ISLAND:

☆ Rob Rock 

Today at 2:58 PM

RR

To: Scotty McCampbell, elections

RE: ATTENTION: [SOS.RI.GOV](https://sos.ri.gov) FORM SUBMISSION



Mr. McCampbell,

Thank you for contacting Secretary of State Nellie M. Gorbea's office.

There are no filing requirements for write-in candidates in Rhode Island. They simply need to get voters to write-in the name on the "Write-in" line and then fill in the oval next to the name.

If a write-in candidate were to win the state of Rhode Island, we would need a list of electors immediately after the election.

The Board of Elections oversees the counting of voters and I recommend contacting them as well. Their number is 401.222.2345.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks.

Rob



**Rob Rock**

*Director of Elections*

RI Department of State | Secretary of State Nellie M. Gorbea




Email: [rrock@sos.ri.gov](mailto:rrock@sos.ri.gov) | Website: [www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov) | Twitter: [@RISecState](https://twitter.com/RISecState)

148 W. River Street, Providence RI 02904 | 401-222-2340




**Our Mission:** The Rhode Island Department of State engages and empowers all Rhode Islanders by making government more accessible and transparent, encouraging civic pride, enhancing commerce and ensuring that elections are fair, fast and accurate.

## IOWA:

---

questions on write-ins for the November 8th presidential Recibidos x   

---

 **Anne Korzun** <amkorzun@gmail.com> 5 oct. (hace 2 días) ☆  

para sos ▾




If voters in Iowa write in Bernie Sanders for president, will those votes be counted, considering he has filed no paperwork in advance?

And, if Bernie Sanders were to win the state based on these write-in votes, and then did NOT file any acceptance paperwork afterwards, how would Iowa's electors be chosen and are they still required to vote for him in the Electoral College vote?

Thank you in advance for your response.

Sincerely,  
Anne M. Korzun

---

 **Gookin, Eric [SOS]** Eric.Gookin@sos.iowa.gov [a través de](#) [sosiowa.onmicrosoft.com](#) 19:53 (hace 6 horas) ☆  

para mí ▾

Ms. Korzun:

Thank you for your question. If Senator Sanders were to win via write-in campaign, the only paperwork he would need to file is after he wins. There is no paperwork requirement for write-in voters in Iowa unless they win. All votes, write-ins or otherwise, are counted. In Iowa, candidates for president choose their own slate of electors. If Sen. Sanders wins via write-in, we will inform him of the requirements at that time.

Best wishes,  
Eric

## NEW JERSEY:




Thu 10/6/2016 4:28 PM

Barber, Donna <Donna.Barber@sos.nj.gov>

RE: Election questions

To:  Crippen, Kathleen A

 You replied to this message on 10/6/2016 4:32 PM.

Please be advised that the Division of Elections does not have authority to provide any legal advice. You may need to seek private counsel with regards to your concerns.

New Jersey's voting machines allow any voter the option of writing a personal choice for any office. Additional information on write-in voting can be found in N.J.S.A. 19:48-1 and 19:49-5.

In addition, your Sample Ballot will provide instructions on how to "write-in" a candidate.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Donna Barber  
Elections Manager


## OREGON:

☆ FLOWERS Janet

Today at 3:48 PM

To: mcsoup@me.com Cc: WHALEN Alma, SOS Elections  
RE: Question re: Write In Candidates for President in Oregon

FJ

 New contact info found in this email: Janet Flowers janet.flowers@state.or.us

[add...](#) 

Mr. McCampbell,

Good Afternoon,

You asked what would happen if a person won the Presidential race by write-in and did not return the write-in acceptance form by the deadline.

After discussing this with management. This scenario would be dependent on if the person who won the write-in votes had not been on the Primary ballot or was a member of an Oregon minor party. If the person had been on the Primary ballot then ORS 249.048 would apply. If the person was a member of a recognized Oregon minor party that party would need to name 7 people to be electors if they have not already done so. If the candidate not a member of any party, the write-in candidate name 7 people to be their electors. If the candidate does not return the acceptance form, those people would have no one to vote for so there would be no votes from Oregon when the Electoral College is held.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Thank you,  
Jan

Jan Flowers, CERA  
Compliance Specialist  
Elections Division  
P.503.986.1518  
F.503.373.7414  
T.F.866.673.8683

☆ FLOWERS Janet

Today at 4:53 PM

To: Jeffrey Scott McCampbell  
RE: Question re: Write In Candidates for President in Oregon

FJ

If the write-in votes total more than the votes of someone who is printed on the ballot then they will count write-in votes.

For example:

Mary Jones gets 350, 000 votes

Elizabeth Smith get 250,000 votes

Write-in's (regardless of how names are written in) get 350,001 votes

The write-in votes will be counted individually.

But if the write-in votes get 349,999 then they lump all the votes in the write-in category but will not individually count the votes.