

LIBERTARIAN
PARTY OF ARKANSAS



ADDRESS

PO Box 46730
Little Rock, AR 72214

CONTACT

E : elections@lpar.org

CANDIDATE HANDBOOK

2022 ARKANSAS LIBERTARIAN PARTY



LIBERTY FOR EVERYONE!

SEEKING CANDIDATES

The Libertarian Party of Arkansas (LPAR) is seeking candidates to run for office in 2022. We welcome all freedom-minded individuals who want to make a difference. The following pages provide a step-by-step guide to be a Libertarian candidate for public office in 2022.

As a “new political party,” Arkansas election law requires that the party nominate its candidates by convention for the first general election following certification [Ark. Code Ann. § 7-7-102(b)]. For the Libertarian Party of Arkansas in 2022, this means that all candidates for public office, on every level, will be chosen at a state convention to be held in Little Rock on February 18-20, 2022. Candidates will be required to file during the party filing period from February 22-March 1, 2022.



CONTENTS

01	MAKE THE DIFFERENCE	PAGE 04
02	REQUIREMENTS TO RUN FOR OFFICE	PAGE 05
03	FILING FEES	PAGE 06
04	TYPES OF CAMPAIGNS	PAGE 06
05	PAPERWORK: A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE	PAGE 07
06	REPORTING	PAGE 08
07	CANDIDATE RESPONSIBILITIES & PARTY SUPPORT	PAGE 09
08	CONVENTION INFORMATION	PAGE 10
09	CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE	PAGE 10-13
10	FEDERAL CANDIDATE CAMPAIGN CRITERIA	PAGE 14
11	STATE LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATE CAMPAIGN CRITERIA	PAGE 15

MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Those who decide to run as a candidate for office make a significant difference and contribution toward a freer Arkansas and United States. The Libertarian Party of Arkansas (LPAR) is committed to filling the ballot with liberty-minded individuals like you, to help hold officeholders publicly accountable.

In the Libertarian Party there are three different kinds of candidates (See Types of Campaigns on Pages 5-6 for details). Take some time and think about what kind of candidate you want to be.

While running for office can be fun, remember to be professional. Keep in mind that you are representing a party – a smaller party – that is looking to become a major party. And meeting a Libertarian candidate may be someone’s first impression of the LPAR.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO LIBERTY.



REQUIREMENTS TO RUN FOR OFFICE

- 01** BE A US CITIZEN FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED FOR THE OFFICE (RANGES FROM 0-9 YEARS).

- 02** BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.

- 03** BE REGISTERED TO VOTE.

- 04** BE OF LEGAL AGE TO HOLD THE OFFICE (RANGES FROM 18 TO 30).

- 05** BE AN ARKANSAS RESIDENT FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED FOR THE OFFICE (RANGES FROM 0 TO 7 YEARS).

- 06** BE A RESIDENT IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED FOR THE OFFICE (RANGES FROM 0-1 YEAR FROM DATE OF GENERAL ELECTION).

- 07** MUST NOT HOLD ANY OTHER FEDERAL, STATE, OR CIVIL OFFICE (YOU CANNOT HOLD TWO OFFICES AT THE SAME TIME.)

- 08** MUST NEVER HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT OF PUBLIC MONEY, BRIBERY, FORGERY, OR OTHER INFAMOUS CRIME.

- 09** MUST NOT BE A CONVICTED FELON. *

- 10** MUST NOT BE PAST YOUR TERM LIMIT IN THAT OFFICE.

THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE DETAILED ON PAGES 10-18 OF THE RUNNING FOR OFFICE HANDBOOK PUBLISHED BY THE ARKANSAS SECRETARY OF STATE.

*A prospective candidate for state, district, county, municipal, or township office who has had a felony conviction expunged in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. Section 16-93-301-303 or similar expunction statute in another state may certify that he or she has never been convicted of a felony, provided the candidate presents a certificate of expunction from the court that convicted the prospective candidate. See Ark. Code Ann. Section 7-6-102(d).

FILING FEES

US CONGRESS, US SENATE, GOVERNOR.....	\$250
STATE LEGISLATURE, STATE OFFICER (EXCEPT GOVERNOR).....	\$100
COUNTY, LOCAL, TOWNSHIP OFFICES.....	\$25

Note that filing fees are paid to the LPAR and will be used for party-building and candidate promotion during the campaign season. Filing fees are non-refundable, but may be “rolled down” to pay the fee for another office. This means if you do not receive the nomination you want but decide to run for a lower-level office, you will not need to pay multiple filing fees.

TYPES OF CAMPAIGNS

“CHOICE” CANDIDATE

A “choice candidate serves as a placeholder who agrees to sign the paperwork and add his or her name to the ballot, but does not actively campaign. Choice candidates play a vital role in our electoral strategy. They add numbers to our vote totals while giving all voters, not just members of our party, a choice to vote for a Libertarian on Election Day. Many placeholder candidates also fill out candidate surveys to let the voters know about our positions on various issues. These campaigns cost very little and take very little time to run.

“CHANGE” CANDIDATE

A “change” candidate is one step beyond a “choice” candidate, playing more of an educational role. Change candidates appear at candidate debates/forums and provide Libertarian answers to any questionnaires they may receive. They may also produce a website, brochures, or business cards. This is your chance to advocate for change and to hold an elected official accountable in a public arena! A great change campaign can be run for less than \$500.

“CHALLENGE” CANDIDATE

A “challenge” candidate runs an active campaign with the intent of winning the election and challenging the status quo. Running this type of race requires a statistical chance of winning along with fierce dedication and a commitment to campaigning, fundraising, and educating voters. Nominated candidates who pursue this active level of campaigning will receive the most active support for their campaign that the LPAR can offer.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TYPES OF CAMPAIGNS

- *If this is your first political campaign, running as a “choice” candidate might be the most comfortable level of activity as you develop campaign skills.*
- *Potential “change” and “challenge” candidates should pay careful attention to the candidate campaign criteria worksheets for a better idea of expectations for those types of campaigns.*
- *“Challenge” candidates are expected to run, to the very best of their ability, a professional campaign that promotes the LPAR and our principles in a manner that brings respect to the party.*

PAPERWORK: A STEP BY STEP GUIDE



TO BECOME AN OFFICIAL CANDIDATE OF THE LIBERTARIANS PARTY OF ARKANSAS, YOU WILL NEED TO BE NOMINATED BY OUR MEMBERSHIP AT THE STATE NOMINATING CONVENTION, FEBRUARY 18-20, 2022. TO SUCCESSFULLY PUT YOUR NAME FORWARD AT THE CONVENTION, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

- 01** **BECOME A MEMBER OF THE PARTY! MEMBERSHIP IS A REQUIREMENT TO BE A LPAR CANDIDATE.**
VISIT [HTTPS://LPAR.ORG/JOIN/](https://lpar.org/join/)

- 02** **COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE RUN FOR OFFICE FORM ON THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY WEBSITE:**
[HTTPS://MY.LP.ORG/RUN-FOR-OFFICE/](https://my.lp.org/run-for-office/)

- 03** **COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE INCLUDED IN THIS HANDBOOK. YOU MAY COMPLETE IT ELECTRONICALLY AND SUBMIT IT TO [ELECTIONS@LPAR.ORG](mailto:elections@lpar.org), OR YOU MAY PRINT, COMPLETE, AND SUBMIT IT TO: LPAR ELECTIONS COMMITTEE, PO BOX 46730, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72214. THIS INFORMATION WILL BE INCLUDED IN OUR CONVENTION HANDBOOK SO THAT DELEGATES WILL KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU BEFORE THEY CAST THEIR VOTE AT CONVENTION. PLEASE NOTE THAT WHILE COMPLETION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE IS NOT REQUIRED FOR NOMINATION, FAILURE TO COMPLETE IT WILL DEPRIVE THE DELEGATES OF VITAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR BELIEFS AND POSITIONS, WHICH MAY IMPACT YOUR CHANCES OF NOMINATION NEGATIVELY AT THE CONVENTION.**

- 04** **PLAN TO ATTEND OUR NOMINATING CONVENTION SO WE CAN MEET YOU, VOTE ON YOUR NOMINATION, COMPLETE OTHER REQUIRED PAPERWORK, COLLECT YOUR FILING FEE, AND SHARE TRAINING RESOURCES WITH YOU. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE ALL CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATION TO PERSONALLY ATTEND THE CONVENTION. REGISTRATION AND OTHER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT:**

*A prospective candidate for state, district, county, municipal, or township office who has had a felony conviction expunged in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. Section 16-93-301-303 or similar expunction statute in another state may certify that he or she has never been convicted of a felony, provided the candidate presents a certificate of expunction from the court that convicted the prospective candidate.

REPORTING

Candidates for Federal Office (US House, US Senate) must file with the Federal Elections Commission if their receipts or expenditures exceed \$5,000. A candidate guide is available at <https://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/guides/>. Reporting forms are also available at the FEC website.

Candidates for State and Local Office must comply with the regulations of the Arkansas Ethics Commission. Financial reporting is required if receipts or expenditures exceed \$500. Candidates should consult the publication "Running for Public Office" from the Secretary of State's office:

https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/2022_Running_for_Public_Office_11-16-21.pdf

Please be aware that Arkansas now requires electronic filing for candidate finance and other reports. You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with this system. Please see: <https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/financial-disclosure>.

Be aware that, as a candidate for state or local public office, you are required to submit personal financial disclosure forms in addition to campaign finance reports. The LPAR does not provide legal advice. You are responsible for your own campaign and financial reporting. However, the Arkansas Ethics Commission can answer questions by phone and provide educational material for candidates.

You can contact them at:

ARKANSAS ETHICS COMMISSION

(501) 324-9600 or (800) 422-7773

PO Box 1917

Little Rock, AR 72203-1917

<http://ArkansasEthics.com>



CANDIDATE RESPONSIBILITIES & PARTY SUPPORT

The Libertarian Party of Arkansas will make every effort to assist its candidates, but does not render legal services or legal advice. The Arkansas Ethics Commission (<http://arkansasethics.com>) and the Secretary of State's division of elections (<http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/elections/>) have attorneys on staff who can convey legal opinions.

A candidate seeking the nomination of the Libertarian Party of Arkansas is responsible for his/her own campaign. The LPAR will provide informational services and support, but candidates are responsible for their own fundraising and for campaign management. The LPAR may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, direct funding toward specific campaigns.

Candidates are nominated with the general expectation that they are familiar and largely in agreement with the Libertarian platform. While candidates might not fully agree with every plank of the platform, emphasizing Libertarian principles and promoting Libertarian positions during campaigns should be a priority for Libertarian candidates. The 2018 national Libertarian platform can be found here: <https://www.lp.org/platform/>. The Libertarian Party of Arkansas' 2019 platform can be found here: <https://lpar.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2019/08/2019-Platform.pdf>.

Because future ballot access depends on the electoral performance of our candidate for governor, the LPAR asks all candidates to support our nominee for governor. We also ask that our candidates do not publicly endorse candidates from other parties.

CONVENTION INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 18-20, 2022

DOUBLETREE HOTEL
424 W. MARKHAM ST.
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201

FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTER AT:

<https://lpar.org/lpar-annual-convention-feb-18-20-2022/>

Libertarian Party of Arkansas Candidate Application/Questionnaire

The following pages contain basic questions about you and your views on some general issues. Your answers will help introduce you and your candidacy to the delegates voting at the state convention. The first part covers personal information that you can feel free to share to help introduce yourself. The second part contains a two-part survey of your political views, from a Libertarian perspective. For each statement, please select the response that best fits your view: Agree, Maybe, Disagree, or No Opinion.

You can return this questionnaire by email to elections@lpar.org or mail to LPAR Elections Committee, PO Box 46730, Little Rock, AR 72214. Or you can choose to complete this survey online, and pay the filing fee in advance, at <https://lpar.org/2022-candidate-application/>.

Please return this information as soon as possible so that we can compile all candidate information to be included in the Convention Handbook.

CANDIDATE APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

BIRTHDATE _____

OFFICE SOUGHT _____

WHAT IS YOUR REASON FOR RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

PERSONAL ISSUES

	Agree	Maybe	Disagree	No Opinion
The only legitimate use of force is in defense of individual rights against aggression.				
Military service should be voluntary. There should be no draft.				
Government's primary objective should be to defend the rights of individuals.				
The Constitution and Bill of Rights shall not be suspended even during time of war.				
Government should not censor speech, press, media, or internet.				
Flag burning and "hate speech" are protected by the Free Speech clause of the Bill of Rights.				
Government should not be involved in reducing the amount of violence or pornography in TV, movies, games, etc.				
There should be no national ID card.				
The Patriot Act should be repealed—Personal freedoms should never be sacrificed, even for greater security.				
Protection from unreasonable search and seizure should include records held by third parties, such as email, medical, and library records.				
Individuals should be free to make choices for themselves and to accept responsibility for the consequences of the choices they make.				
Only actions that infringe on the rights of others can properly be termed crimes. Laws enforcing moral behavior infringe on individual freedoms.				
Criminal law should seek the restitution of the victim to the fullest degree possible at the expense of the criminal or negligent wrongdoing.				
There should be no laws regarding sex for consenting adults.				
Government should be kept out of the matter of abortion, leaving the question to each person for their conscientious consideration.				
Marijuana should be legalized for adults.				
All drugs should be legalized for adults.				
It is unconstitutional for the government to require permits, registration, or restrictions for gun ownership.				
Private citizens and/or companies are more capable than the government at protecting our environment.				
All religions including no religion should be equally valid and protected.				
Individuals should have the freedom to determine ALL aspects of their medical care, including no health care and end-of-life decisions.				
Parents, or other guardians, have the right to raise their children according to their own standards and beliefs.				
All persons are created equal and should be treated equally under the law regardless of sex, wealth, race, color, creed, age, national origin, personal habits, political preference or sexual orientation.				

ECONOMIC ISSUES

	Agree	Maybe	Disagree	No Opinion
Foreign financial and/or military aid harms other countries and should be eliminated.				
The only proper role of government in the economic realm is to protect property rights, adjudicate disputes, and provide a legal framework to protect voluntary trade.				
Most government agencies, like the FDA, the EPA, and DHS do more harm than good.				
All federal programs and services not required under the Constitution should be abolished.				
A free and competitive market allocates resources in the most efficient manner.				
Government should provide no subsidies to business, labor, or any other special interest.				
Government should not introduce any impediments to free trade among citizens of US or with other nations.				
The income tax should be repealed, and the Internal Revenue Service abolished.				
Central Banks create deflation, inflation, and debt and should be eliminated. Banks should be governed by the free-market system.				
Individuals should be free to associate or not associate in labor unions and employers should have the right to recognize or refuse to recognize a union.				
A "Balanced Budget Amendment" should be added to the US Constitution, and the federal budget should be balanced by cutting expenditures and not by raising taxes.				
Minimum wage laws should be repealed.				
Employer/Employee agreements are private contracts. The government should enforce these contracts, not interfere with their creation.				
Individuals engaged in voluntary exchange should be free to use as money any mutually agreeable commodity or item. There should be no "legal tender" laws.				
People should be free to purchase health insurance across state lines.				
All education should be provided by the free market. This will achieve greater quality, efficiency, and diversity of choice.				
Retirement planning is the responsibility of the individual, not the government. The Social Security system should be phased out, transitioning to a private, voluntary system.				
Replace government welfare with private charity.				
Voluntary efforts by private groups and individuals are the most effective way to help the poor. Society would be strengthened by reducing government's role in this area.				
Eminent domain laws that allow property to be taken for private development are unconstitutional.				
Property owners have full rights to the control, use, disposal, or enjoyment of their property without interference, unless this exercise infringes on the valid rights of others.				
Efforts by government to redistribute wealth are an improper use of its authority.				
Immigration should be open to all who wish to be self-sufficient, productive members of our society.				

**THANK YOU &
GOOD LUCK!**



LIBERTARIAN
PARTY OF **ARKANSAS**