

Nonpartisan Candidates in Partisan Contests

To appear on the general election ballot, nonpartisan candidates running in partisan elections must meet one of the following qualifications:

- Method 1: receive at least 10% of the votes cast for the office.
- Method 2: receive a vote equal to or greater than the lowest vote received by the partisan candidate who was nominated.

If more nonpartisan candidates qualify to run in the general election than there are seats available, then the nonpartisan candidate who receives the most votes will appear on the general election ballot.

This FACTSHEET is intended for informational purposes only and should not be used as an authority on Hawaii election law. Requirements and/or deadlines may change. Consult Hawaii Revised Statutes and other sources for more detailed requirements.

Office of Elections
802 Lehua Avenue
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782
Phone: (808) 453-VOTE (8683)
Neighbor Island Toll Free: 1-800-442-VOTE (8683)
TTY: (808) 453-6150

Sample Election Contest

Candidate	Votes Received	Qualify for General
Democrat A	300	No
Democrat B	725	Yes
Republican	500	Yes
Green	50	Yes
Libertarian	225	Yes
Nonpartisan A	40	No
Nonpartisan B	75	Yes
Total Votes	1,915	

Method 1 Calculation

1,915 votes x 10% = 191.5 or 192 votes required

Neither nonpartisan candidate qualified under this method.

Method 2 Calculation

Green Candidate: 50 votes
Nonpartisan Candidate A: 40 votes
Nonpartisan Candidate B: 75 votes

Nonpartisan candidate B qualifies under this method and will appear on the general election ballot.

For complete information, please refer to HRS §12-41(b).