

desires to run in the primary election may become a candidate for nomination only:

(1) By direction of the Secretary of State who shall place the name of [the] A candidate [upon the ballot] FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY NOMINATION ON THE BALLOT ON THE FIRST REGULAR BUSINESS DAY IN THE YEAR IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT IS ELECTED AND THE NAME OF A CANDIDATE FOR NOMINATION BY ANY OTHER PARTY ON THE BALLOT no sooner than 90 days nor later than 70 days preceding the date set by law for the primary election. THE SECRETARY SHALL PLACE THE NAME OF A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ON THE BALLOT when he has determined in his sole discretion that the candidate's candidacy is generally advocated or recognized in the news media throughout the United States or in Maryland, in accordance with the national party rules, unless the candidate executes and files with the Secretary of State an affidavit stating without qualification that he is not and does not intend to become a candidate for the office in the Maryland primary election; OR

(2) By making the payment required and by filing with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws a petition in the form prescribed by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws which shall contain the signatures of not less than 400 of the registered voters within each congressional district[.]. FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE NOMINATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, THE PAYMENT AND FILING MUST BE MADE NOT LATER THAN 9 P.M. ON THE DAY WHICH IS ONE WEEK LATER THAN THE FIRST REGULAR BUSINESS DAY OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS ELECTED. FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE NOMINATION OF ANY OTHER PARTY, THE PAYMENT AND FILING MUST BE MADE at least 70 days preceding the date set by law for the primary election. Nothing in this section shall require compliance with § 7-1 of this article.

27-9.

(d) (1) In a general or special election, OR A PRIMARY ELECTION IN THE YEAR IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS ELECTED, a ballot received from a location outside the United States shall be considered as received timely provided:

(i) It has been received by the board from the United States Postal Service not later than 4 p.m. on the second Friday following the election day; and

(ii) 1. It was mailed before election day; and

2. The United States Postal Service, or the postal service of any other country, has provided verification of that fact by affixing a mark so indicating on the covering envelope.