

**WORD COUNT STANDARD FOR CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
(§9 – entire page)**

Each word shall be counted as one word except as specified on this page.

The following are the guidelines for computing the word count:

The title of the office, name, district, age, and occupation lines are not included in the word count –only the text is counted. For voter-nominated offices, the party preference line is also not included in the word count.

Punctuation marks are not included in the word count.

Symbols such as “&” (and), and “#” (number/pound) are not considered punctuation..... each symbol is counted as one word

Dictionary words.....one word

The words "a", "the", "and", and "an" are counted as individual words.



All proper nouns including geographical names and names of persons.....one word
Examples: County of Orange, Orange County, San Juan Capistrano, City of Brea, Gus Enright, Jane Smith.

Abbreviations - UCLA, U.C.L.A., PTA, P.T.A., USMC, U.S.M.C.....one word

Acronyms.....one word

Regularly hyphenated words appearing in any generally available standard reference dictionary published in the United States within 10 years preceding the election. (Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word).....one word

Dates.....one word

Whole numbers - Digits (1 or 10 or 100, etc.).....one word
Spelled out (one or ten or one hundred).....each word counts as one word

Names of things.....each word counts as one word
L.A. basketball team (three words)

Numeric combinations (1973, 18 1/2, 1971-73, 5%).....one word

Monetary amounts (if the dollar sign is used with figures - \$1,000).....one word
Spelled out (one thousand dollars).....each word counts as one word

Telephone/fax numbers.....one word

E-mail and website addresses.....one word

If the text exceeds the word limit, the candidate must delete or change a sufficient number of words, or a sentence, to put the statement within the required word limit before the statement is filed. The candidate should correct any misspellings before the statement is filed. **Other than formatting requirements, your statement will be printed as filed.**

The submitted statement must be typed. No word will be printed in "ALL CAPS", bolding or underlining. Do not use bullet points, stars, asterisks, or numbers that function as bullet points to block-indent paragraphs.



However, you may block-indent within the paragraph without using bullets, etc.

Keep in mind that a 200 and 250-word statement must fit into a box (the size of a quarter page) and a 400-word statement must fit into a box (the size of a half-page).

Excessive block-indentation or numerous paragraphs consisting of one or two sentences each may extend the statement beyond the size of the box even though your statement may contain less than the maximum number of words. **If the statement does not fit into the box, you will be asked to edit your statement.**



The Candidate's Statement may make no reference to another candidate. The statement may include a description of the candidate's education and qualifications expressed by the candidate himself/herself.

§ 13308

THE PRECEDING INFORMATION SHALL NOT APPLY TO COUNTING WORDS FOR BALLOT DESIGNATIONS UNDER SECTION 13107