Candidate Statement

How to Count Words

Candidate statements are limited to a certain number of words. The rules below explain how we count words. Theses rules are based on California law, and cannot be changed.

Before you file your material, count the words carefully. If you have too many words, we will ask you to revise your text.

Items counted as 1 word:	**Examples**
Official jurisdiction names including State, City, County or District	Brooklyn High School District, New Jersey, County of Marin, Palos Verdes
Symbols	# % &
Proper nouns used to denote a specific person, place, or thing.	Carnegie Hall, Sacramento River Delta, Levi Stadium, George WashingtonCornell University
Abbreviations & acronyms	Dist., UCLA, U.S.M.C.
Measure designation	Measure A
Any descriptive date	July 21, 1989 or 7/21/89
Numbers written in numerals only, including telephone numbers	0, 12, 1,000,000, 415-473-6456
Numerals and letters or symbols that form a single word	100s, $1000, 12th
Website & e-mail addresses	www.smcare.org , kristajoymartinelli@yahoo.com
Hyphenated words listed in a standard U.S. dictionary	Attorney-at-law, ex-president

Items NOT counted as 1 word:	**Examples**
Numbers that are spelled will be counted as a separate word	one hundred = 2 words
Hyphenated words that are not listed in a standard U.S. dictionary published within the 10 years before the date of the election	

Items NOT counted:	**Examples**
Punctuation marks	? " ! .

We do **not** count the words "Education and Qualifications" on a Candidate Statement.

We do **not** count the words that appear before "Education and Qualifications."

Refer to Election Code # 9 for word count regulations.