FILING FOR THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY

Every candidate who wants to run for president in New Hampshire must file a Declaration of Candidacy at the secretary of state's office in the NH State House. Over the years, it has become a tradition that candidates appear in person to sign the form that enters them in the race. It usually turns into a big campaign event, with lots of supporters coming out to cheer them on.

NH Stories:

Lesser-known candidates and colorful characters sometimes arrive at the state house wearing interesting costumes. One candidate was dressed as Abraham Lincoln!

Fun Fact:

63

That's the number of people who filed for the NH primary in 1992, the highest number ever!

Who can run for president in NH?

Candidates must:

- Have been born in the United States and lived in the country for the past 14 years
- Be 35 years old
- Pay a \$1,000 filing fee
- File for the presidency under their own (legal) name

Do all the states have the same requirements to run for president?

No! New Hampshire's requirements are some of the easiest to meet. Other states make it much harder for people to run for the president. It often costs a lot more money, and candidates sometimes have to get thousands of people to sign a petition for them to be able to run.

Another filing day tradition is for candidates to stop in the State House Visitors Center, take pictures with the staff, and sign campaign memorabilia like a poster or bumper sticker. The director of the Visitors Center, Virginia Drew, has met every major candidate for the presidency since 2004.

