



Candidate Participation Criteria for Primary Election Debates, 2022

The Ohio Debate Commission aims to foster substantive debates that lead to well-informed voters. With this in mind, we seek to include all qualified candidates who satisfy the following objective criteria:

The Candidate is a legally qualified candidate under rules established by the Federal Communications Commission (<https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/47/73.1940>) based on one of the following:

1. Candidate has publicly announced the intention to run for the office, is qualified under applicable law to hold the office, and has had their signatures accepted by the Ohio Secretary of State for a place on the Ohio ballot

OR

2. In the case of a write-in candidacy, the candidate has publicly committed to seeking election by the write-in method

AND, IN ADDITION:

3. Candidate has received at least 7.5% or more support in a professionally conducted statewide public opinion survey by an independent poll

OR

4. Candidate provides verifiable evidence of an active, formal campaign with a designated treasurer. Verifiable evidence of any 7 of the following 10 activities will meet this requirement:
 - a. A staffed campaign headquarters.
 - b. Evidence of at least 5 instances of press coverage distributed to at least 10% of the race's eligible voters.
 - c. Policy positions on at least 5 issues are available for the public to review.
 - d. A campaign website with a biography, ability to contact the campaign by phone or email, and make donations.
 - e. Social media presence on at least one platform, other than the campaign website, with more than 25 non-bot followers.
 - f. Participation in at least 50% of other candidate forums for the same race.
 - g. Community engagement, demonstrated by at least 12 campaign related events such as news conferences or neighborhood association meetings.
 - h. At least \$100,000 in campaign contributions reflected in the last filing statement prior to the debate.
 - i. At least 50 monetary contributions unrelated to the candidate's family as reported on the last filing statement prior to the debate.
 - j. Evidence of print campaign literature mailed to at least 10% of the race's registered voters.