

Fair Political Practices Commission

Filing Schedule for State Slate Mailer Organizations November 3, 2026 Ballot

<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Form</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Within 24 Hours <i>Late Payment Report</i>	8/5/26 – 11/3/26	498	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if a payment of \$2,500 or more is received from a single source to produce a slate mailer supporting or opposing candidates or measures listed on the November 3, 2026, ballot. Online filing only for all filers.
Jul 31, 2026 <i>Semi-Annual</i>	* – 6/30/26	401	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All slate mailer organizations must file this statement.
Sep 24, 2026 <i>1st Pre-Election</i>	7/1/26 – 9/19/26	401	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if payments of \$500 or more are received or made to produce a slate mailer supporting or opposing candidates or measures listed on the November 3, 2026, ballot.
Oct 22, 2026 <i>2nd Pre-Election</i>	9/20/26 – 10/17/26	401	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> File if payments of \$500 or more are received or made to produce a slate mailer supporting or opposing candidates or measures listed on the November 3, 2026, ballot.
Feb 1, 2027 <i>Semi-Annual</i>	* – 12/31/26	401	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All slate mailer organizations must file this statement. The January 31 deadline falls on a Sunday, so the deadline is extended to the next business day.

Additional Notes:

- ***Period Covered:** The period covered by any statement begins on the day after the closing date of the last statement filed, or January 1, if no previous statement has been filed.
- **Paper Filings:** Paper filings may be filed by first-class mail or by email with a verified digital signature unless otherwise noted. Persons required to file a report or statement by paper with the Secretary of State's Office may instead file by email (digitalfiling@sos.ca.gov) with a verified digital signature or other secure digital means as prescribed by the Secretary of State's Office. Please visit the Secretary of State's [website](#) for more information on how to file with a digital signature.
- **Deadline Extensions:** Deadlines are extended when they fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. This extension does not apply to any 24-hour Late Payment Report (Form 498) that is due the weekend before the election. Such reports must be filed within 24 hours, regardless of the day of the week. Statements filed after the deadline are subject to a \$10 per day late fine.
- **Form 401:** All state slate mailer organizations (SMOs) must file an original in paper format with the Secretary of State.** These statements must be filed on paper by personal delivery, first-class mail, or email with a verified digital signature. E-filers also file online/electronic statements. Two copies must also be filed with the county clerk in which the SMO is domiciled.

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- **E-filer:** A slate mailer organization (SMO) that has received contributions or made expenditures totaling \$25,000 or more for the purpose of producing slate mailers.
- A slate mailer organization (SMO) receiving payments that are not from the candidate or measure committee listed on the ballot, or receiving payment from a third party for the purpose of listing a candidate or measure, should reference the [Slate Mailer Organization Manual](#) for information on reporting and disclosure requirements.
- **Public Documents:** All reports and statements are public documents.
- **Resources:** Campaign manuals and other instructional materials are available on the [Campaign Rules](#) page. You can also visit www.fppc.ca.gov > Learn > Campaign Rules.

Local Elections:

- **Pre-Election Statements:** A slate mailer organization (SMO) that produces slate mailers supporting or opposing local candidates or slate mailers supporting or opposing measures being voted on in an election, is required to file pre-election statements if payments of \$500 or more are received for support of or opposition to the candidates or measures. Pre-election statements are also required if an SMO spends \$500 or more. To view filing deadlines for pre-election statements, see the filing schedule for the election of the specific candidate or measure.
- **Late Payment Reports:** A slate mailer organization (SMO) that receives a payment of \$2,500 or more during the 90 days before an election or on the date of the election, for the purpose of supporting or opposing a local candidate or measure in a slate mailer, must file a Form 498 within 24 hours. To determine the 90-day, 24-hour reporting period, see the filing schedule for the election of the specific candidate or measure.