

Supervisor elections are May 2, 2020. In order to properly to hold an election each NRCD is required to **appoint an election board** that is responsible for conducting the elections (A.R.S. § 16-531.A).

Only **qualified electors may run for office**, be appointed to office and vote in district elections. An NRCD qualified elector is a person who is a district cooperater and a qualified elector of the state (A.R.S. § 37-1002.13). **Qualified electors must meet statutory residency** requirements. The location of a person's family residence is the primary determining factor for residency, not the location or place of one's business, farm or ranch. A person may have only one residence for the purpose of voter registration. A person can be a cooperater in more than one district, but can only vote and hold office in the district where they reside.

District cooperators are any person who has entered into a cooperative agreement with the district for the purpose of protecting, conserving and practicing the wise use of natural resources under his or her control. Cooperative agreements may apply to owners of residential lots as well as large ranches. Many farms and ranches are now operated by trusts, L.L.C.s or other corporate bodies. The qualified elector of the district is a natural person, not an artificial person such as a corporation.

New cooperater agreements must be reviewed by the NRCD board at the next meeting, but do not require formal board action via a motion to approve and vote for acceptance; the criteria to become a cooperater are stated in A.R.S. 37-1002 and cannot be challenged by board action. In advance of NRCD elections, cooperater and qualified elector lists should be reviewed and updated by the NRCD board of supervisors or the election board to ensure accuracy.

If an individual meets the requirements of a qualified elector, they are eligible to run for office by filing a nominating paper or a write-in nominating paper. A **nominating paper must be received by ASLD 10 days before the election**. The number of signatures required to nominate a candidate for district elections is set at 25 by A.R.S. § 37-1051.B. **Write-in candidates do not have a signature requirement, but must file their nominating papers no later than 40 days before the election** per A.R.S. §16-312. Any person not filing the required affidavit or filing by these deadlines will not have their name printed on the official ballots and cannot be counted in the final vote tally.