

Fair Political Practices Commission

2025 Filing Schedule for State Slate Mailer Organizations

<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Form</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Jan 31, 2025 <i>Semi-Annual</i>	* – 12/31/24	401	All slate mailer organizations must file this statement.
Jul 31, 2025 <i>Semi-Annual</i>	1/1/25 – 6/30/25	401	All slate mailer organizations must file this statement.
Feb 2, 2026** <i>Semi-Annual</i>	7/1/25 – 12/31/25	401	All slate mailer organizations must file this statement.

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.
- ****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 that is due the weekend before the election. Such reports must be filed within 24 hours, regardless of the day of the week.
- **Penalties:** Failure to file a statement on time may subject a Slate Mailer Organization (SMO) to a fine of \$10 per day on both the paper and e-filed version, resulting in \$20 per day for a late e-filed statement. Failure to file a statement could result in an enforcement penalty of up to \$5,000 per violation.
- **Form 401:** All state slate mailer organizations (SMOs) must file an original statement 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 clerk of the county in which the slate mailer organization is domiciled.
- **Paper Filings:** All 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 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.
- **E-File:** A state SMO that has received contributions or made expenditures totaling \$25,000 or more for the purpose of producing slate mailers.
- **State Special Elections:** If a state special election is held in 2025, a filing schedule will be posted on the FPPC website. Additional statements may be required.
- If an SMO receives payments to list a candidate or measure but the payment is not from the candidate or measure committee listed on the ballot, the SMO should contact the FPPC for advice.
- **Public Documents:** All forms are public documents.
- **Resources:** Campaign manuals and other instructional materials are available on the [Campaign Rules](#) page. Or, visit www.fppc.ca.gov > Learn > Campaign Rules.

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Local Elections:

- **Pre-Election Statements:** If the SMO produces a slate mailer supporting or opposing local candidates or measures being voted on in an election, pre-election statements are required if payments of \$500 or more are received for support of or opposition to the candidates or measures, or if the SMO spends \$500 or more. Use the filing schedule for that particular candidate's or measure's election to determine the deadlines for filing pre-election statements.
- **Late Payment Reports:** An 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 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.