

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: 2026 Qualifying Fees

DATE: December 4, 2025

BUDGET INFORMATION: N/A
ANNUAL-
CAPITAL-

☐ **RECOMMENDATION**
☐ **POLICY DISCUSSION**
☐ **STATUS REPORT**
☒ **OTHER**

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: December 15, 2025

PURPOSE: To request approval of resolution 2025-12-001 setting the 2026 qualifying fees for candidates seeking election to certain county offices as required by O.C.G.A 21-2-131 (a) 1 A.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY: As defined in OCGA 21-2-131 (a) 1 A, the governing authority shall fix and publish a qualifying fee for each county office to be filled in the upcoming primary election.

FACTS AND ISSUES:

- a. The Board of Commissioners are required to set and publish the qualifying fees for each county office to be filled in the upcoming primaries or elections by February 1st of the year in which they are held.
- b. Fees are set in accordance with the formula prescribed by O.C.G.A 21-2-131 (a) 1B as shown on attachment. The salaries used are from the year preceding the election year (2025).

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve Resolution 2025-12-01 setting the 2026 qualifying fees for the offices listed.
- 2) Deny the Resolution 2025-12-01 setting the 2026 qualifying fees for the offices listed.
- 3) Commission defined alternative

RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION: “ I motion to approve Resolution 2025-12-01 setting the 2026 qualifying fees for the offices listed.”

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Brandalin Canes

Director: Brandalin Canes

ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMENTS:_____

DATE:_____ **County Manager:**_____

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-001 SETTING THE 2026 QUALIFYING FEES FOR CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION TO CERTAIN OFFICES

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of O.C.G.A 21-2-131 the governing authority of Habersham County is required to set the qualifying fees for candidates seeking election to certain offices; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following qualifying fees are established for the offices set forth below:

County Commission District 2	\$288.00
County Commission District 3	\$288.00
Board of Education Dist. 3	\$193.50
Board of Education Dist. 4	\$193.50
Board of Education Dist. 5	\$193.50

The above Resolution was adopted by the Habersham County Board of Commissioners on this 15th day of December 2025.

BY: _____
Jimmy Tench, Commission Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Brandalin Carnes, County Clerk

2026 ELECTION RACE TEMPLATE

OFFICE NAME	CORRELATING SALARY	3% FEE	CALCULATION
County Comm.-District 2	\$9,600.00	\$288.00	Based on Local Legislation
County Comm.-District 3	\$9,600.00	\$288.00	Based on Local Legislation
BOE-District 3	\$6,450.00	\$193.50	Based on Total GROSS Salary
BOE-District 4	\$6,450.00	\$193.50	Based on Total GROSS Salary
BOE-District 5	\$6,450.00	\$193.50	Based on Total GROSS Salary

PUBLIC NOTICE

Qualifying Fees for County Offices

In compliance with O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-131(a), the Habersham County Board of Commissioners fixed the following qualifying fees for the respective public offices shown below at a regular scheduled meeting held on December 15, 2025:

County Commission District 2	\$288.00
County Commission District 3	\$288.00
Board of Education Dist. 3	\$193.50
Board of Education Dist. 4	\$193.50
Board of Education Dist. 5	\$193.50

Qualifying Dates

Qualifying for the May 19, 2026 General Primary will be held Monday, March 2, 2026 through Friday, March 6, 2026.

- Monday, March 2, 2026 – Thursday, March 5, 2026: Qualifying is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.
- Friday, March 6, 2026: Qualifying will end at noon (12:00 p.m.).

These qualifying dates and times are established in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 21-2-153(c).