



NYSWI CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

WHY ENDORSE CANDIDATES?

The legislative platform of NYSWI is best served by endorsing candidates that support our legislative priorities. These priorities include, but are not limited to, ensuring workplace equity, work-life effectiveness, protection of civil rights and protection of women's health rights.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

NYSWI will support candidates that support the advancement of our legislative goals and will work to assist women in politics.

To accomplish goals and objectives, the NYSWI will:

- 1) Endorse qualified candidates for statewide office who support NYSWI State Legislative platforms.
- 2) Encourage qualified women to run for political office.

ENDORSEMENT COMMITTEE:

The Endorsement Committee is part of the Advocacy / Status of Women committee. Contact the Advocacy Chair for more information.

CRITERIA FOR ENDORSEMENT:

Prerequisites for endorsement by NYSWI are the following:

- 1) Application for endorsement must be received by the NYSWI Advocacy Committee at least 30 days prior to the primary or general election.
- 2) Five copies of the application and supporting information must be sent to the Chair of the Advocacy Committee, who will forward the material to each member of the Committee.
- 3) The application and information must include:
 - a. Statement of Endorsement signed by the Region Director, Local Chapter President, State Officer or Member of the Advocacy Committee,
 - b. Completed Candidate Endorsement Questionnaire supplied by the NYSWI Advocacy Committee,
 - c. Candidate's Website Address, and
 - d. If available, the names of other groups or organizations endorsing the candidate and what support the candidate is receiving from her/his political party.
- 4) If the candidate is an incumbent, the candidate's voting record must show strong support for NYSWI issues.
- 5) All candidates must have electability.

In primary elections only, the following criteria must be met before an endorsement will be considered:

When there is an open seat (no incumbent running), priority will be given to qualified female candidates with strong name recognition.

SPECIAL ELECTIONS:

The criteria listed previously apply in special elections. Since the time period between the filing date and election is usually very short, it is important to act promptly when endorsement is requested from NYSWI Advocacy Committee.

GENERAL POLICY FOR ENDORSEMENT:

- 1) When there is an incumbent running for re-election:
If the incumbent is to be supported, the candidate must be a strong supporter of NYSWI issues. Further, NYSWI Advocacy Committee will not support an opponent of an incumbent who has been a supporter of NYSWI issues.
- 2) NYSWI will endorse candidates regardless of party affiliations, sex, race, national origin, age, etc., if they meet the applicable criteria.
- 3) Candidates may be from the Democratic, Republican or other third parties.

Refer to the NYSWI Manual of Instruction (MOI) Status of Women Committee and Toolkit for additional information, guidelines and Candidate Endorsement Forms.