

Table 6.19
STATE RECALL PROVISIONS: APPLICABILITY TO STATE OFFICIALS AND PETITION CIRCULATION

State or other jurisdiction	Officers to whom recall is applicable (a)	No. of times recall can be attempted	Recall may be initiated after official has been in office	Recall may not be initiated with days remaining in term	Basis for signatures (b) (see key below)		Maximum time allowed for petition circulation (c)
					Statewide officers	Others	
Alabama.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alaska.....	All but judicial officers	...	120 days	180	25% VO	25% VO	...
Arizona.....	All elected officials	1 (d)	6 mos./5 days legislators	...	25% VO (e)	25% VO (e)	120 days
Arkansas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
California.....	All elected officials	(f)	90 days	6 mos.	12% VO, 1% from 5 counties	20% VO	160 days
Colorado.....	All elected officials	(g)	6 mos	6 mos.	25% VO	25% VO	60 days
Connecticut.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Delaware.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Florida.....	All state level officials, county and city elected officials	...	180 days	180	15% EV (h), 1/15 from each congressional district	30% EV (h)	(f)
Georgia.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hawaii.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho.....	All but judicial officers	(d)	90 days	...	20% EV g	50% VO	60 days
Illinois.....	Governor	...	...	...	15% VO from 25 counties	20 state Rep. and 10 state Sen. 150 days	...
Indiana.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kansas.....	All but judicial officers	1	120 days	180	40% VO	40% VO	90 days
Kentucky.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Louisiana.....	All but judicial officers	(i)	1 day	6 mos.	33 1/3% EV (k)	40% EV (k)	180 days
Maine.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maryland.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Massachusetts.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Michigan.....	All but judicial officers	No limit	1 year	1 year	25% VG in district	25% VG in district	60 days
Minnesota.....	All state level officials	No limit	...	6 mos.	25% VO	25% VO	90 days
Mississippi.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Missouri.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Montana.....	All state level officers & elected officials	(l)	2 mos.	...	10% EV	(m)	3 mos.
Nebraska.....	Elected officials from political subdivisions	(n)	6 mos.	6 mos.	...	35-45% VO	...
Nevada.....	All officers	(d)	6 mos. (o)	...	25% VO in given jurisdiction	25% VO in given jurisdiction	90 days
New Hampshire.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Jersey.....	All elected officials	(p)	(q)	(r)	25% EV in given jurisdiction	25% EV in given jurisdiction	(s)
New Mexico.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New York.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Carolina.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Dakota.....	All elected state officials	1	...	190	25% EV g	25% EV	90 days
Ohio.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oklahoma.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oregon.....	All elected state officials	No limit	180 days (t)	...	15% (u)	15% (u)	90 days
Pennsylvania.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rhode Island.....	Gov., lt. gov., atty. gen., sec. of state, treasurer	...	6 mos.	...	15% VO	...	90 days
South Carolina.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

See footnotes at end of table.

STATE RECALL PROVISIONS: APPLICABILITY TO STATE OFFICIALS AND PETITION CIRCULATION — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Officers to whom recall is applicable (a)	No. of times recall can be attempted	Recall may be initiated after official has been in office	Recall may not be initiated with days remaining in term	Basis for signatures; (b) (see key, below)		Maximum time allowed for petition circulation (c)
					Statewide officers	Others	
South Dakota.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tennessee.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Texas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Utah.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vermont.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Virginia.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Washington.....	All but judges of courts of records	...	IM	180	25% VO	35% VO	(v)
West Virginia.....	All elected officials	1	1 yr.	...	25% VG (w)	25% VG (w)	60 days
Wisconsin.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wyoming.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
American Samoa...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. Mariana Island.	All elected officials	(x)	180 days	...	40% EV (y)	...	(z)
Puerto Rico.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
U.S. Virgin Islands..	All elected officials	Unlimited	1 year	365	...	Registered electors	180 days

Sources: The Council of State Governments, Mar. 2016.

Key:

- ... — Not applicable.
- All—All elective officials.
- VO—Number of votes cast in the last election for the office or official being recalled.
- EVg—Number of eligible voters in the last general election for governor.
- EV—Eligible voters.
- VG—Total votes cast for the position of governor in the last election.
- VP—Total votes cast for position of president in last presidential election.
- IM—Immediately.

- (a) An elective official may be recalled by qualified voters entitled to vote for the recalled official's successor. An appointed official may be recalled by qualified voters entitled to vote for the successor(s) of the elective officer(s) authorized to appoint an individual to the position.
- (b) Signature requirements for recall of those other than state elective officials are based on votes in the jurisdiction to which the said official has been elected.
- (c) The petition circulation period begins when petition forms have been approved and provided to sponsors. Sponsors are those individuals granted permission to circulate a petition, and are therefore responsible for the validity of each signature on a given petition.
- (d) Additional recall attempts can be made provided that the state treasury is reimbursed the cost of the previous recall attempt(s). The specific reason for recalling on one petition cannot be the basis for a second recall petition during the current term of office.
- (e) 25% of the number of votes cast at the preceding general election for all candidates for the office held by the officer, even if the officer was not elected at that election, divided by the number of offices that were being filled at that election. (A.R.S. § 19-201.)
- (f) Open ended.
- (g) One attempt unless a second petition is circulated and valid signatures gathered are at least 50% of votes cast for all candidates in last election.
- (h) Eligible voters for office at last general election to fill office.

- (i) For any statewide office, 90 days. Any officer holding an office other than statewide office and for whom no less than 5,000 signatures are required for the recall petition, 45 days. Any officer holding an office other than statewide office and for whom less than 5,000 are required, 30 days.
- (j) Unlimited. Once every 18 months.
- (k) Basis for signatures, 33 1/3 percent if over 1,000 eligible voters; 40 percent if under 1,000 eligible voters.
- (l) No recall petition may be filed against an officer for whom a recall election has been held for a period of 2 years during his term of office unless the state or political subdivisions financing such recall election is first reimbursed for all expenses of the preceding election.
- (m) 15 percent of eligible for district offices.
- (n) If voted on, no recall for one year.
- (o) For legislators, anytime after 10 days from the beginning of the first legislative session after their election.
- (p) An elected official sought to be recalled who is not recalled as the result of a recall election shall not again be subject to recall until after having served one year of a term calculated from the date of the recall election.
- (q) The recall drive may not commence before the 50th day preceding the completion of the elected official's first year of the current term.
- (r) No election to recall an elected official shall be held after the date occurring six months prior to the general election or regular election for that office, as appropriate, in the final year of the officials term.
- (s) The maximum time allowed for petition circulation is 320 days for a governor or U.S. Senator or 160 days for other elected officials.
- (t) Unless it is a state senator or representative and then it is anytime after fifth day form the beginning of legislative session after election of legislator.
- (u) 15 percent of the total number of votes cast in the public officer's electoral district for all candidates for governor at the last election at which a candidate for governor was elected to a full term.
- (v) Statewide officials 270 days; others 180 days.
- (w) At least 25 percent of the vote cast for the office of governor at the last election within the same district or territory as that of the officeholder being recalled.
- (x) Not more than once a year or not during the first six months in office.
- (y) Grounds for recall must be stated and must be signed by 40% of voters represented by the elected official.
- (z) Until 120 days before the election.