

Metadata Description

Data Dictionary - Candidate Master File

General Description

This file contains one record for each candidate who has filed the FEC Form 2 for the upcoming election. In addition, this file includes candidates who have active campaign committees without regard to election year and candidates who are referenced as part of a draft committee or a nonconnected committee that registers as supporting or opposing a particular candidate. The file contains basic information about the candidate including the candidate's identification number, candidate's name, office, election year and address.

Header file and file format information

A comma delimited header file is available for [download](#).

The end-of-line (EOL) marker is line feed '\n' (LF, 0x0A, 10 in decimal). The Candidate Master File contains the following information:

Column Name	Field Name	Position	Null?	Data Type	Description
CAND_ID	Candidate Identification	1	N	VARCHAR2(9)	A 9-character alpha-numeric code assigned to a candidate by the Federal Election Commission. The candidate ID for a specific candidate remains the same across election cycles as long as the candidate is running for the same office.
CAND_NAME	Candidate Name	2	Y	VARCHAR2(200)	
CAND_PTY_AFFILIATION	Party Affiliation	3	Y	VARCHAR2(3)	The political party affiliation reported by the candidate.
CAND_ELECTION_YR	Year of Election	4	Y	Number(4)	Candidate's election year from a Statement of Candidacy or state ballot list.
CAND_OFFICE_ST	Candidate State	5	Y	VARCHAR2(2)	House = state of race President = US Senate = state of race
CAND_OFFICE	Candidate Office	6	Y	VARCHAR2(1)	H = House P = President S = Senate
CAND_OFFICE_DISTRICT	Candidate District	7	Y	VARCHAR2(2)	Congressional district number. Congressional At Large 00 Senate 00 Presidential 00
CAND_ICI	Incumbent Challenger Status	8	Y	VARCHAR2(1)	C = Challenger I = Incumbent O = Open Seat is used to indicate an open seat. Open seats are defined as seats where the incumbent never sought re-election.
CAND_STATUS	Candidate Status	9	Y	VARCHAR2(1)	C = Statutory candidate F = Statutory candidate for future election

						N = Not yet a statutory candidate P = Statutory candidate in prior cycle
						The ID assigned by the Federal Election Commission to the candidate's principal campaign committee for a given election cycle.
CAND_PCC	Principal Campaign Committee	10	Y	VARCHAR2(9)		
CAND_ST1	Mailing Address - Street	11	Y	VARCHAR2(34)		Mailing Address - Street
CAND_ST2	Mailing Address - Street2	12	Y	VARCHAR2(34)		Mailing Address - Street2
CAND_CITY	Mailing Address - City	13	Y	VARCHAR2(30)		Mailing Address - City
CAND_ST	Mailing Address - State	14	Y	VARCHAR2(2)		Mailing Address - State
CAND_ZIP	Mailing Address - Zip Code	15	Y	VARCHAR2(9)		Mailing Address - Zip Code