

# BECOMING A Local Government Election Candidate<sup>1</sup>

**ELECTIONSNB**



## WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A CANDIDATE?

In a local government election a candidate must be:

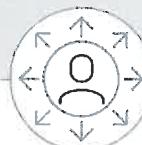
- 18 years of age on or before Election Day;
- a Canadian citizen;
- a resident of the province and the local government or rural district for at least 6 months immediately preceding election day; and
- In a local government or rural district that is divided into wards for election purposes, a candidate for a ward must be a resident of that ward when they are nominated.



## WHO CANNOT BE A LOCAL GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE?

- A local government official or a full-time employee of a local government cannot be a candidate in that local government.
- A council member is not eligible for appointment as an officer of the local government or for employment with the local government, at any time while the person holds office.
- Before filing nomination papers it is the responsibility of a candidate to consult with their employer to determine if they must seek approval to become a candidate.

*Note: Check the Elections New Brunswick website for a complete list of individuals that are ineligible to run.*



## HOW DO I BEGIN?

Each candidate must complete a nomination paper. You can download a blank nomination paper from the forms page at [electionsnb.ca](http://electionsnb.ca) or pick one up from the Municipal Returning Officer after an election has begun.

Nomination papers must be returned to the Municipal Returning Officer for the local government or rural district where the candidate will be running (and not to your local government office) no later than 2 p.m. on the date fixed for the close of nominations.



## HOW DO I FILL OUT A NOMINATION PAPER?

Each candidate must fill out the nomination paper with their name, address and position they are running for. You may also include a phone number, e-mail and/or website address that will be included along with your name and address in a List of Candidates shown on Elections New Brunswick's website during the election.

Next, the candidate, or an agent, must collect the signatures of at least ten (10) nominators, who each must be qualified electors living in the local government or rural district, and ward if applicable, where the candidate is running. (We recommend obtaining a few additional signatures in case a nominator is not eligible to vote for the candidate.)

- The candidate, or a family member of a candidate, or any other person, may collect and be the witness to each nominator signature.
- The person collecting the nominators' signatures must be present and witness each eligible elector sign the form.
- A nominator cannot be their own witness.
- The person who obtained the nominators' signatures must complete the included declaration. (If more than one person collected nominator signatures, each person must complete a separate declaration.)

*Note: Incomplete or late nomination papers cannot be accepted.*



## HOW MUCH WILL I GET PAID?

Each local government sets the salary that is paid to council members and some local governments may also offer an annual spending allowance to its elected officials.

Members elected to Rural District Advisory Committees will be paid a stipend established by the Department of Environment and Local Government.



## DO I NEED AN AGENT OR CAMPAIGN MANAGER?

Unlike federal or provincial elections, you are not required to appoint an agent. You may decide to appoint a scrutineer, or candidate representative, who can enter polling stations and observe voting procedures and/or counting of the ballots on your behalf.



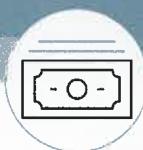
## HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

To find out more about becoming a candidate, visit [electionsnb.ca](http://electionsnb.ca) and review the information for local government candidates. During an election you can also contact the Municipal Returning Officer for your area.

*Note 1: This information is summarized for educational purposes and should not be used as legal advice. Please refer to the Elections NB website, the Municipal Elections Act and Local Governance Act for additional details.*

# RULES FOR FINANCING & ADVERTISING IN Local Government and District Education Council

**ELECTIONS NB**



## HOW MUCH CAN I SPEND ON MY CAMPAIGN?

There are **NO** rules requiring candidates to keep track of contributions or expenditures related to their campaign. Candidates are not required to file a financial return at the conclusion of the election.



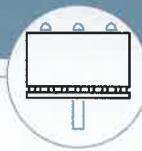
## WHEN CAN I START ADVERTISING?

Candidates may conduct an advertising campaign at any time, and may begin before an election has been called. However, there are rules relating to when and where advertising may be placed.



## PRINTED ADVERTISING

All printed election advertisements, signs, posters, and handbills must include the name and address of its printer and publisher on the face of the document. It is an offence to not include this information.



## WHERE CAN I PUT MY SIGNS?

On Election Day and on Advance Voting Days, no election advertising or campaign material of any kind may be carried, worn, or placed within thirty metres (100 feet) of the entrance to a polling station.

The Province does not permit advertising signs within the right-of-way of highways or where they cause safety concerns. Some local governments may also have by-laws that limit where or when advertising signs may be placed. Bell Aliant and NB Power ask all candidates to not post advertising signs on utility poles.



## WHEN AM I NOT ALLOWED TO ADVERTISE?

Between 12:01 a.m. on the Sunday before Election Day and 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, no election speeches, entertainment, or advertising may be broadcast on radio or TV, published in newspapers, or transmitted by computers.

It is prohibited during the restricted advertising period to advertise on social media and to boost or intentionally use other methods to spread speeches or entertainment beyond a candidate's followers.

Existing websites can remain active, new signs may be placed, and Canada Post can continue to deliver flyers to homes.

On Election Day, no advertising signs may be placed on a moving motor vehicle.



## DO I NEED A LIST OF ELECTORS?

A candidate may request a copy of the List of Electors for their contest. They will identify a list agent (who may be the candidate) to whom an account will be provided to download the information from Elections NB's candidate portal system.

Candidates must ensure that the list will only be used for legitimate campaign purposes during the current election and that any copies of the list will be destroyed after the election.

Candidates and one appointed scrutineer are allowed to be present at polling stations to observe voting procedures, as long as they do not engage in any kind of campaigning or interfere with the polling process.



## WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

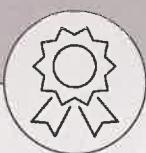
To find out more about becoming a candidate, visit [electionsnb.ca](http://electionsnb.ca) and review the information for local government and district education council candidates.

During an election you can also contact the municipal returning officer for your region.

*Note 1: This information is summarized for educational purposes and should not be used as legal advice. Please refer to the Elections NB website for additional details.*

# BECOMING A District Education Council (DEC) Candidate<sup>1</sup>

**ELECTIONSNB**



## WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A CANDIDATE?

In a district education council election a candidate must be:

- 18 years of age on or before Election Day;
- a Canadian citizen;
- a resident of the school district in New Brunswick for at least six months immediately preceding election day; and
- a resident of the relevant school district and subdistrict or zone when nominated.

\* You do not have to have a child attending school to qualify as candidate.



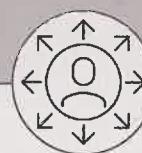
## WHO CANNOT BE A DEC CANDIDATE?

School personnel, such as:

- teachers, school bus drivers, building maintenance personnel, including custodians;
- secretaries and clerks;
- persons other than teachers engaged to assist in the delivery of programs and services.

Employees of the school district and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development may not be a candidate.

\* *It is the responsibility of a candidate to consult with their employer to determine if they must seek approval to become a candidate.*



## HOW DO I BEGIN?

Each candidate must complete a nomination paper. You can download a blank nomination paper from the forms page at [electionsnb.ca](http://electionsnb.ca) or pick one up from the Municipal Returning Officer after an election has begun.

Nomination papers must be returned to the Municipal Returning Officer for the school subdistrict where the person will be a candidate no later than 2 p.m. on the date fixed for the close of nominations.



## HOW DO I FILL OUT A NOMINATION PAPER?

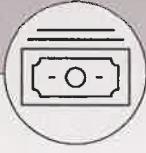
Each candidate must fill out the nomination paper with their name and address. Candidates may also include a phone number, e-mail and/or website address that will be included along with your name and address in a List of Candidates shown on Elections New Brunswick's website during the election.

Next, the candidate, or an agent, must collect the signatures of at least ten (10) nominators, who each must be a qualified elector living in the subdistrict or zone of the candidate, and a parent of a child registered in a public school in the district (but not necessarily the subdistrict of the candidate).

We recommend obtaining a few additional signatures in case a nominator is not eligible to vote for the candidate.

- The candidate, or a family member of a candidate, or any other person, may collect and be the witness to each nominator signature.
- The person collecting the nominators' signatures must be present and witness each eligible elector sign the form.
- A nominator cannot be their own witness.
- The person who obtained the nominators' signatures must complete the included declaration. (If more than one person collected nominator signatures, each person must complete a separate declaration.)

*Note: Incomplete or late returns cannot be accepted.*



## HOW MUCH WILL I GET PAID?

DEC members will receive \$3000 per year and the elected Chair of each Council will receive \$6000 per year. Members who travel out-of-town for meetings may also claim the cost of travelling to the meeting including meals and hotel accommodations in accordance with the provincial travel policies.



## DO I NEED AN AGENT OR CAMPAIGN MANAGER?

Unlike federal or provincial elections, you are not required to appoint an agent. You may decide to appoint a scrutineer, or candidate representative, who can enter polling stations and observe voting procedures and/or counting of the ballots on your behalf.



## HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

To find out more about becoming a candidate, visit [electionsnb.ca](http://electionsnb.ca) and review the information for district education council candidates. During an election, you can also contact the local Municipal Returning Officer for your area.

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