

# Candidates FAQs

**Interested in running for Office? Here are some frequently asked questions.**

**Q: I would like to run for office, am I eligible to run?**

A: To run for Mayor or Councillor, on the day the nomination paper is filed, a person must be:

- A Canadian Citizen
- At least 18 years of age
- A resident of the Town of Lincoln or an owner or tenant of land in the Town of Lincoln, or the spouse of the owner or tenant
- Not legally prohibited from voting
- Not disqualified by any legislation from holding Municipal Office

**Q: I would like to run for office, how do I file my nomination?**

A: Nominations must be **filed in person** at the Office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, as original signatures are required. To file a nomination, you must provide:

- [Nomination Paper \(Form 1\)](#)
- [Endorsement of Nomination \(Form 2\)](#) with at least 25 declarations of endorsement (Mayor and Councillor candidates are only required to submit endorsements)
- Current [applicable identification](#) and proof of Canadian Citizenship
- Nomination filing fee (paid by cash, debit, or certified cheques, money orders and bank drafts must be payable to: The Town of Lincoln)
- The filing fee is \$200 for candidates running for Mayor and \$100 for Councillors or School Board Trustee candidates
- [Election Sign Deposit Application Form](#)
  - Mayor/Regional Councillor (\$250.00)
  - Ward Councillor (\$150.00)
  - Registered Third Party or School Board Trustee (\$100.00)

\*Nomination fees are refunded to candidates once they file the required financial statement.

**Q: How to submit your nomination package?**

A: Appointments must be made with the Office of the Town Clerk to file nominations.

- You must file your nomination papers between May 2, 2022 and 2 p.m. on Aug. 19, 2022 at the Office of the Town Clerk, at Town Hall, located at 4800 South Service Road, Beamsville.

Nominations can be filed during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) by appointment only. Appointments can be made by contacting 905-563-2799 or email the Clerks Department at [election@lincoln.ca](mailto:election@lincoln.ca)

**Q: I no longer want to run for office but I have already filed my nomination, what should I do?**

A: If you no longer wish to run in the Town of Lincoln Municipal Election, you must advise the Town Clerk in writing before the end of the nomination period, August 19. Candidates cannot withdraw after the nomination period has closed.

Candidates who have withdrawn their nomination are still required to file a financial statement.

**Q: I want to learn more about the municipal and school board elections; is there a guide that I can review?**

A: Yes, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing publishes guides for candidates, voters and third-party advertisers to provide information about municipal and school board elections. The guides outline rules as described in the Municipal Elections Act and other legislation and regulations.

The three guides for candidates, voters and third party advertisers are **now available online** at [www.ontario.ca/municipalelections](http://www.ontario.ca/municipalelections) or French at [www.ontario.ca/electionsmunicipales](http://www.ontario.ca/electionsmunicipales)

**Q: Will I need to file a financial statement if I run for office?**

A: Yes, Candidates are responsible for keeping records of all financial transactions related to their campaign and for filing a [Financial Statement - Form 4](#). A current campaign will show all financial activity from the day the nomination paper is filed until the end of the campaign period.

- Friday, March 31, 2023 at 2 p.m.: deadline for candidates to file their initial financial statement

- Monday, May 1, 2023 at 2 p.m.: end of 30-day grace period during which candidates can still file their initial financial statement if they pay a \$500 late filing fee

There are other deadlines for special circumstances that may be applicable.

You are required to keep all of your campaign financial records until Nov. 15, 2026 when the next council or school board takes office.

**Q: Can I use the Town of Lincoln logo in my campaign?**

A: No. Town logos are the property of the Corporation of the Town of Lincoln and are not permitted to be used in campaign material. Please click here to learn about the [Use of Municipal Resources During an Election Campaign Period](#)