



Who may run for office?

A person, who has not been disqualified from seeking or holding elected office, may become a **candidate** in a local government election.

A candidate for **mayor** or **councilor** must:

- be 18 years of age or older on **general voting day**;
- be a Canadian citizen;
- have been a resident of British Columbia for at least six months prior to filing nomination documents; and,
- not be disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from being nominated for, being elected to or holding office, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

Prospective candidates for local government office must be nominated by at least two eligible electors from the local government where the person is seeking election.

Who May Not Run for Office?

A person is not eligible to run as a candidate for any local government office if they:

- have been convicted of an indictable offence and are in custody;
- are involuntarily committed to a psychiatric or other institution;
- are judges of the Provincial Court, Supreme Court or Court of Appeal;
- are employees or salaried officers of the local government or related local government (e.g. the regional district), including volunteers who are paid for their services – unless they have taken a leave of absence to run for office and agree to resign when elected;
- are federal employees – unless they have requested and obtained prior permission from Public Service Commission of Canada (PSC) to run for office;
- have been found guilty of an elections offence, such as intimidation or vote buying, and are prohibited from holding office; or
- have been disqualified for failing to:
 - file a **candidate disclosure statement** in the previous election;
 - make an oath of office; or,
 - attend meetings for 60 consecutive days or four consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, without being granted permission by the municipal council or regional district board, unless the absence is due to illness or injury.