

## Frequently Asked Election Questions... Answered

This is a list of generalized election questions frequently asked of the municipal advisors at Local Government Services. Please note that some provisions of the [Local Authorities Election Act](#) differ for Summer Villages.

1. **Can a candidate put up campaign signage prior to Nomination Day?**
2. **How many signatures are required on my nomination papers?**
3. **Can I fax my nomination paper in?**
4. **I'm not around on nomination day (September 17, 2007 between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon). Can I file my nomination papers earlier?**
5. **Do I have to pay a deposit when I file my nomination papers?**
6. **Do I get my nomination deposit back?**
7. **What if no nominations are received for a particular position?**
8. **Is it possible to withdraw my nomination?**
9. **What happens if a candidate dies after nomination day?**
10. **What happens if the nominations received meet, but do not exceed, the number of positions available?**

**Q: Can a candidate put up campaign signage prior to Nomination Day?**

**A:** There are no limitations on when a candidate may start campaigning.

**Q: How many signatures are required on my nomination papers?**

**A:** You must have at least 5 signatures of electors eligible to vote in that election. A city with a population over 10,000 may by bylaw, require that up to 100 signatures are required. Section 27, [Local Authorities Election Act](#).

**Q: Can I fax my nomination paper in?**

**A:** No. Original documents must be filed with the Returning Officer between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon.

**Q: I'm not around on nomination day (September 17, 2007 between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon). Can I file my nomination papers earlier?**

**A:** Only if the elected authority has passed a bylaw allowing the returning officer to receive nominations earlier than 10:00 a.m. Any person may file your completed nomination papers on your behalf. Section 28, [Local Authorities Election Act](#)

**Q: Do I have to pay a deposit when I file my nomination papers?**

**A:** Only if the elected authority has passed a bylaw (at least 30 days prior to nomination day) requiring a deposit. The amount of the deposit will be stated in the bylaw. Section 29, [Local Authorities Election Act](#)

**Q: Do I get my nomination deposit back?**

**A:** Your deposit will be returned to you if you:

- are elected,
- or withdraw your nomination in accordance with Section 32 of the [Local Authorities Election Act](#), or
- receive at least half the number of votes as the candidate elected in your race with the least number of votes.

Example: If the winning candidates in your ward receive 10,000 and 8,000 votes, you need to receive at least 4,000 votes (half the votes of the second place winner) to reclaim your deposit.

If you do not meet any of these conditions, your deposit is paid into the general revenues of the local jurisdiction or the appropriate School District. Section 30, [Local Authorities Election Act](#)

**Q: What if no nominations are received for a particular position?**

**A:** If the required number of nominations are not received for the number of positions available on nomination day, the Returning Officer will continue to receive nominations on Tuesday, September 18, 2007, at the local jurisdiction, between 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

Nominations will continue to be received at the same place between the same times until the required number of nominations has been received or a period of six working days, including nomination day.  
Section 31, [Local Authorities Election Act](#)

**Q: Is it possible to withdraw my nomination?**

**A:** You can withdraw **within 24 hours after the close of nominations:** that is, before 12 Noon on September 18, 2007. Your notice of withdrawal must be submitted in person, in writing, to the Returning Officer at the local jurisdiction. Faxed notices of withdrawal are **NOT** accepted.

Your nomination cannot be withdrawn after the 24-hour deadline has passed, and your name will appear on the ballot.

In addition, you can only withdraw your nomination if the number of remaining candidates meet the positions in the race. In other words, if you are the only candidate running for School Board Trustee in your division or ward, you cannot withdraw your nomination. If you are running for councillor in a local jurisdiction with 6 seats and there are only six nominated candidates, no candidate may withdraw.  
Section 32, [Local Authorities Election Act](#)

**Q: What happens if a candidate dies after nomination day?**

**A:** If the local jurisdiction has passed a bylaw providing for the death of a candidate prior to the opening of the voting stations on Election Day, the election for the position will be discontinued and a new election will be held.

If the candidate dies after being nominated and a bylaw has not been passed, the returning officer will post a notice of the death in a conspicuous location at all relevant voting stations. However, the deceased person's name will remain on the ballot. Section 33, [Local Authorities Election Act](#).

**Q: What happens if the nominations received meet, but do not exceed, the number of positions available?**

**A:** If the number of nominations does not exceed the number of positions available, after the close of nominations, the Returning Officer will declare the candidate(s) nominated for the position elected by acclamation.  
Section 34, [Local Authorities Election Act](#)