



MUNICIPAL CANDIDATE FILING GUIDE



Potential Candidate Beginner's Guide
for City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO KNOW?

Filing your Declaration of Intention to Become a Candidate is the fastest, easiest part of the process. Gathering signatures on your Nominating Petitions requires significant time, effort, and attention to detail.

The more you know about what you need to do, the better your chances at success. To help you succeed, the City Clerk - Election Division is committed to providing tools to help you by:

- Offering Candidate Filing and Petition Circulation Workshops.
- Linking you to a variety of helpful resources.

For more information, contact City Clerk - Election Division: Call (213) 978-0444, or visit our website at clerk.lacity.org/elections

Important Milestones

Dates are expressed as the number of months/days prior to the Primary Nominating Election.

24 months

Candidates running for Mayor, City Attorney, or Controller should contact the City's Ethics Commission for City campaign finance rules and guidelines.

18 months

Candidates running for City Council and LAUSD should contact the City's Ethics Commission for City campaign finance rules and guidelines.

12 months

Any interested parties should contact the City Clerk - Election Division to be included in notices of important events, emails, and press releases regarding candidate filing.

150 days

Residency requirement deadline.

150-115 days

Candidate Information Sessions are conducted. Signature Gathering Workshops are conducted.

120-115 days

Declaration of Intention filing period. Ethic Commission's Form 700.

115-90 days

Nominating Petition signature gathering period. Nominating Petitions filing period.

80 days

Nominating Petition review completed. Official Candidate List finalized.

ELECTION DAY *Your Vote Counts!*



• A more detailed calendar, which includes dates specific to the next election for these offices, is provided at the time of filing your candidacy.
• If any candidate receives a majority of the total votes cast in the Primary Election, he/she is declared the winner. If not, the top two vote-getters in a race move to the General Election.

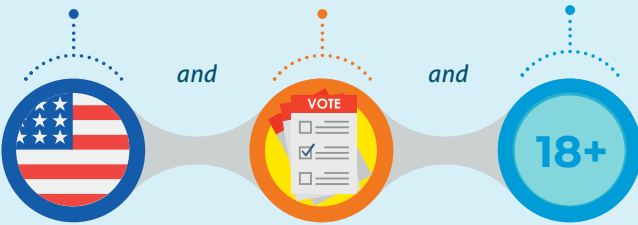
The Elected Offices in the City of Los Angeles are

- Mayor
- City Council Members
- City Attorney
- LAUSD Board Members
- City Controller

WHO CAN RUN FOR OFFICE:

Registered voters of the
City of Los Angeles or
the Los Angeles Unified
School District at the
time of election

18 years of
age at the time
of election



For City Attorney, additional requirements apply.

WHAT ARE THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS?

At least 30 days prior to the first day to file for candidacy, you must:

- Reside in the City of Los Angeles if running for Mayor, City Attorney, or City Controller.
- Reside within the applicable Council District if running for Council Member.
- Reside within the applicable LA Unified School District if running for School Board Member.

WHEN ARE THESE ELECTIONS HELD?

Primary Nominating and General Municipal Elections for the City are **consolidated with California State elections**, conducted in March (Primary) and November (General) of even-numbered years (ex.: 2020, 2022, 2024, etc.)

The following office seats are up for elections on the years listed:

Years	2020, 2024, 2028, 2032, 2036...
Offices	Council Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 Board of Education Districts 1, 3, 5, 7
Years	2022, 2026, 2030, 2034, 2038...
Offices	Mayor, City Controller, City Attorney Council Districts 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15 Board of Education Districts 2, 4, 6

WHAT ARE THE FILING REQUIREMENTS?

- File fundraising paperwork with the City Ethics Commission.
- Officially declare your intention to become a candidate by filing Declaration of Intention paperwork, in person, at the City Clerk – Election Division’s office.
- File a Nominating Petition with the City Clerk containing 1,000 valid signatures (and no filing fee) or 500 valid signatures (and a \$300 Filing fee).

WHAT ARE THE ETHICS REQUIREMENTS?

The City of Los Angeles’ Ethics Commission requires you to:

- File campaign disclosure statements.
- Attend campaign finance training.
- Disclose your financial interests.

Contact the **Ethics Commission** at (213) 978-1960, or visit their website at ethics.lacity.org for more information.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Holly L. Wolcott City Clerk
Petty Santos Executive Officer
Jinny Pak Chief of Elections

This candidate filing guide is part of the Office of the City Clerk’s “L.A. City Votes!” Voter Outreach and Education Campaign.

The campaign seeks to increase electoral participation and awareness of municipal elections among eligible voters in Los Angeles.

WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION?

City Clerk - Election Division:
Call (213) 978-0444, or visit our website at clerk.lacity.org/elections



#LACityVotes #IVoteLA @LACityClerk



As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.