

2024 Guide for Local Elected Office



Providence Board of Canvassers

25 Dorrance Street, Room 102

Providence RI 02903

(401) 680-5525 | elections@providenceri.gov

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Introduction

This candidate guide is intended to provide information to potential candidates interested in running for local public office in 2024 in the City of Providence. This guide explains how to become a candidate for the newly elected school board positions appearing on the November 2024 ballot. The information in this guide is intended solely for informational purposes and does not constitute any legal interpretation of the law.

Background

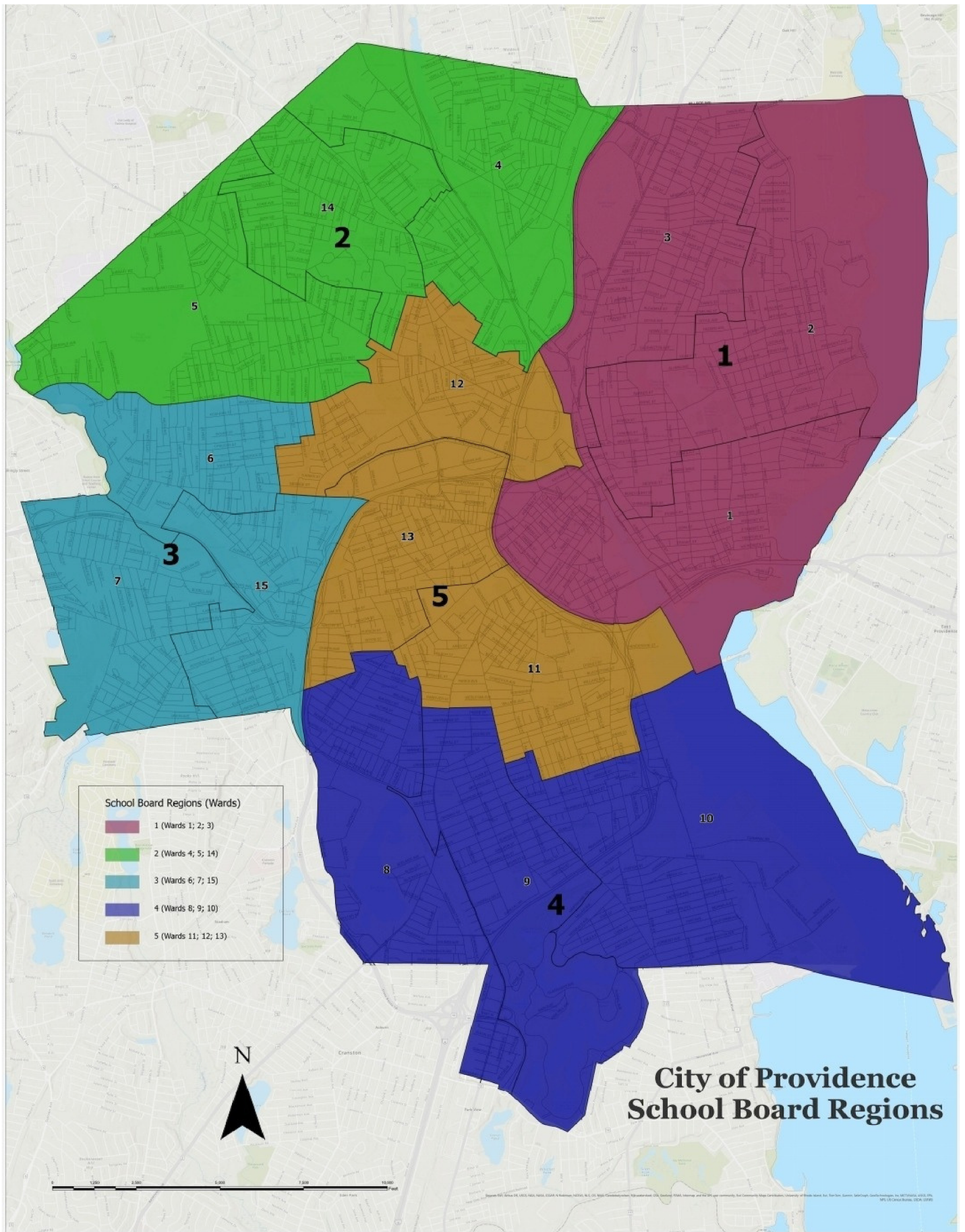
In 2022 the Providence Charter Review Commission was established to review the City Charter to make recommendations for any necessary changes. One of the recommendations made by the Charter Review Commission was to change the membership of the Providence School Board transitioning from a fully appointed school board to a hybrid school board comprising of both *elected* and *appointed* members.

The change recommended and subsequently approved by the city council and ultimately adopted by Providence voters during the 2022 November election, allows for five (5) appointed members by the mayor and five (5) elected members, one (1) elected from each of the five (5) school regions.

The five (5) school regions were determined by the city council after holding several public forums.* The candidates running for school board in 2024 will be elected as *non-partisan without party marks or designation*, meaning they do not represent a political party and will serve a four (4)-year term starting in January of 2025.

**Final passage of the school regions is pending.*

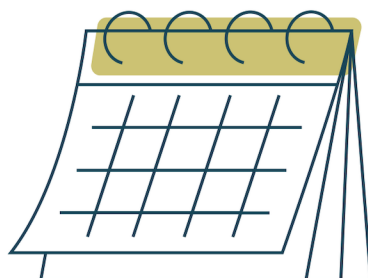




Important Dates and Deadlines

- **May 25** - Deadline for candidates to register to vote from their legal residence to be eligible to run for local office.
- **June 24, 25 and 26** - Declarations of Candidacy forms are filed with the local board of canvassers. Forms cannot be filed earlier.
- **July 2** - Nomination papers are ready to be picked up by candidates or their designee from the local board of canvassers. **Designees should present written authorization from the candidate.*
- **July 12** - Completed and notarized nomination papers are returned to the local board of canvassers.
- **July 15** - Deadline to file withdrawals of candidacy for local office with the local board of canvassers.
- **(TBD)** Ballot Placement Lottery takes place at the local board of canvassers.
- **November 5** - Election Day

***Because the School Board is a non-partisan office, there is no primary.



Becoming a Candidate

Who is eligible to be a candidate?

To be eligible to be a candidate, a declaration of candidacy must be filed for the position of Providence School Board member and be a registered and eligible voter in the school region for which you are filing.

For example, if you reside in School Region 1, you must be registered to vote from your residence within the School Region 1 and you must be registered to vote from your residence at least 30 days before the election.

Declaration of Candidacy

The Declaration of Candidacy is the document you file to start the process of becoming a candidate. You “declare” as a candidate for the eligible elected office.

Do I need to file a Declaration of Candidacy to run for office?

Yes. All candidates for local elected office must file a Declaration of Candidacy.

Where do I get a Declaration of Candidacy form?

The Declaration of Candidacy form is available at vote.ri.gov and also available with the local board of canvassers located at 25 Dorrance Street Room 102 in Providence City Hall.

Where do I file my Declaration of Candidacy form?

The Declaration of Candidacy must be filed with the local board of canvassers on June 24, 25 and 26 located in Providence City Hall, 25 Dorrance St, Suite 102, it cannot be filed before the 24th and must be received by 4 pm on the 26th.

Can I file a Declaration of Candidacy form for more than one office?

You cannot file a Declaration of Candidacy for more than one public state or local office in a primary or election. However, if you file for a state or local public office, you can still file for a state or local party office. Party offices are offices elected in a primary. You must file a separate Declaration of Candidacy for every office you seek.

Example: You may file a Declaration of Candidacy as a Democrat for representative in the General Assembly and another Declaration of Candidacy as a Democrat for Democratic representative district committee.

Declaration of Candidacy



Filing Dates:

June 27, 28, and 29, 2022 by 4:00 p.m.

Election Dates:

Primary Election - **September 13, 2022**

General Election - **November 8, 2022**

Candidates for Federal and Statewide Offices File at:

RI Department of State
148 W. River Street | Providence | RI | 02904

Candidates for State and Local Offices File at:

Local Board of Canvassers (*see back for contact information)

Candidate Declaration

The undersigned hereby declares that they are eligible under the provisions of [Chapter 17-14](#) of the General Laws of 1956, as amended, to be a party candidate to be voted for at a Primary, or as an unaffiliated candidate to be voted for at the General Election and make the following declarations:

Candidate Information (As it appears on the voting list - PRINT OR TYPE)

First Name	Middle Name or Initial	Last Name	Suffix
Street Address	City/Town	State	Zip Code
Date of Birth	Place of Birth (City/Town and State)	Email	
Length of Residence in Rhode Island	Length of Residence in City or Town	Phone Number	

File Declaration As Declaration for Party Candidate OR Declaration for Independent/Unaffiliated Candidate

Democrat Non-Partisan Local Office Independent Other: _____
 Republican

Indicate Organization/Political Principle represented - Cannot be more than 3 words and cannot contain the words "Democrat" or "Republican".

Title of Office (check only **one** office on this form and enter district number, if applicable)

<p>Federal Offices:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Representative in Congress District _____	<p>State Offices:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Senator in General Assembly District _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Senatorial District Committee District _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Representative in General Assembly District _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Representative District Committee District _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic State Committeeman District _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic State Committee woman District _____
<p>Statewide Offices:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Governor <input type="checkbox"/> Lt. Governor <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary of State <input type="checkbox"/> General Treasurer <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney General	<p>Local Offices:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Ward/District _____ Title of local office being sought

I hereby certify that I am not now imprisoned upon a felony conviction, nor have I been lawfully adjudicated to be non compos mentis (of unsound mind); and (if a party candidate) I have not been a member of a political party other than the declared party within ninety (90) days of filing date.

If a candidate for state or local office, I hereby certify that I have not within the preceding three (3) years served any sentence, incarcerated or suspended, on probation or parole, for a crime committed after November 5, 1986 upon a plea of nolo contendere or guilty or upon a conviction of a felony or for a misdemeanor for which a sentence of imprisonment for six (6) months or more, whether suspended or to be served was imposed.

By signing and filing this Declaration of Candidacy, it is my express intention to withdraw any and all declarations of candidacy that I previously filed for any state or local public office during this current declaration period. I do so with full knowledge that any previously filed Declaration of Candidacy shall become null and void.

Signature of Candidate as it appears on voting list

Date

Nomination Papers

What are nomination papers?

Nomination papers are the forms on which you will obtain valid signatures, which are signatures of registered voters from the designated area you seek to represent and who are eligible to vote for the office you are seeking. To qualify to appear on the ballot, you are required to get 50 valid signatures on your nomination papers if you are running for local elected office. Each elected office requires a different total number of valid signatures, please call our office if you are looking to run for another elected office.

Who needs nomination papers?

All candidates for elected office require nomination papers.

When and where do I pick up my nomination papers?

You may pick up your nomination papers from the local board of canvasser office starting on July 2nd at 8:30 a.m.

How many signatures are required on nomination papers to qualify for local elected office?

You will need **50 signatures** of eligible voters to sign your nomination papers. The signers must be eligible to vote for the office you seek when signing the nomination paper.

- *State Senator candidates require 100 signatures*
- *State Representative candidates require 50 signatures*

As nomination papers are received and signatures are verified and validated we will enter the number of valid signatures for each candidate into our database. This information will be updated at the end of each day during the nomination paper certification process and posted live on **vote.ri.gov**.



State of Rhode Island
DEMOCRAT NOMINATION PAPER
 Federal Offices

Form #
 Total # of Validated Signatures
 10912

DUE TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF CANVASSERS BY Thursday 01/11/2024, 04:00PM

TITLE OF OFFICE	DISTRICT #	NAME OF CANDIDATE	RESIDENCE (NUMBER & STREET)

Each of the signers of this paper by so signing their name (as it appears on the voting list) severally certifies that they are a voter in the area from and for which the above-named candidates(s) seek to be elected.

- Only registered and qualified voters from the City/Town listed below should sign this nomination paper.
- If a voter from another City/Town signs this form, the signature will be disqualified.
- This nomination paper must be filed at the City/Town listed below. Another City/Town cannot accept this form.

Signers of this nomination paper are from the City or Town of _____ .

Print Voter's Name (print legibly)	Voter's Residence (Number & Street)	Voter's Signature	BOC Code*
1.			
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SAMPLE NOT TO BE USED

***FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

BOC Disposition Codes: A = Accepted B = Blank line D = Duplicate N = Not registered/found NE = Not eligible S = Signature does not match WD = Wrong District

	PRINT VOTER'S NAME (Print legibly)	VOTER'S RESIDENCE (Number and Street)	VOTER'S SIGNATURE	BOC CODE*
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3.				
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16.				
17.				
18.				

* FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

SAMPLE NOT TO BE USED

NOMINATION PAPER CERTIFICATIONS		
<p>AFFIDAVIT OF SIGNATURES OBTAINED</p> <p>I, _____, of _____, of the City/Town of _____, under oath, make affidavit and say that the signers of the within nomination paper did so sign the paper in my presence.</p> <p>_____ Signature</p> <p>_____ Residence Address</p> <p>_____ City/Town and State</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: gray;">Received Date Stamp for City/Town</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NOTARY PUBLIC</p> <p>State of Rhode Island</p> <p>County of _____</p> <p>Subscribed and sworn to before me on this _____ day of _____, 20_____.</p> <p>_____ Signature of Notary Public</p> <p>_____ Printed Name of Notary Public</p> <p>_____ Notary Public ID Number</p> <p>_____ Date Commission Expires</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: gray;">Notary Public Ink Stamp Only</p>	<p>BOARD OF CANVASSERS CERTIFICATION</p> <p>The undersigned certify that _____ of the within signatures are names of qualified electors in the City/Town of _____.</p> <p>_____ Board of Canvassers' Signature</p> <p>_____ Board of Canvassers' Signature</p> <p>_____ Board of Canvassers' Signature</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: gray;">Received Date Stamp for RI DOS</p>

BOC Disposition Codes: A = Accepted B = Blank line D = Duplicate N = Not registered/found NE = Not eligible S = Signature does not match WD = Wrong District

Withdrawal of Candidacy

If I file a Declaration of Candidacy, can I decide not to run?

Yes, but you must file a withdrawal of candidacy with the local board of canvassers.

When and where do I file a withdrawal of candidacy?

Your withdrawal of candidacy must be filed with the local board of canvassers by 4 p.m. on July 15th.

Ballot Placement

Is there a primary for the office of school board member?

School board candidates are elected as non-partisan, there is no primary election held for the school board.

How is my ballot placement determined if I am a candidate in the general election?

The order in which you will appear on the general election ballot for local elected office is determined by a lottery conducted by the local board of canvassers.

Campaign Finance

Title 17, Chapter 25 of the Rhode Island General Laws entitled “Rhode Island Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting” governs campaign finance.

The Campaign Finance Division of the State Board of Elections administers this chapter of the Rhode Island General Laws. The State Board of Elections also promulgates rules and regulations regarding campaign finance.

The Campaign Finance Division provides information relative to campaign finance reporting requirements as well as information on contribution and expenditure limits and restrictions relative to financing a campaign.

For further information regarding campaign finance, contact:

State Board of Elections

2000 Plainfield Pike

Cranston, RI 02921

Phone: 401-222-2345

Fax: 401-222-4424

Email: campaign.finance@elections.ri.gov

Website: elections.ri.gov

Ethics Commission Filing

All candidates running for state or municipal elected office are REQUIRED to file a financial disclosure statement with the Rhode Island Ethics Commission, covering the prior calendar year. See R.I.G.L. § 36-14-16(c). This disclosure must be filed within thirty (30) days of filing a Notice of Organization (CF-1) or a Declaration of Candidacy, whichever occurs first.

How to File

- Online: Forms may be completed and submitted online at <https://ethics.ri.gov/>.

The Ethics Commission strongly recommends online filing because it is simpler and faster than submitting a hard copy, and they will automatically email you a receipt and copy of your completed online form.

To file online for the first time, you must contact the Ethics Commission (401-222-3790) to obtain a PIN# and I.D.

- Hard Copy: If you do not wish to file online, you may obtain a hard copy of the financial disclosure form and file it via regular mail or hand delivery to the Ethics Commission office. To obtain a copy of the form contact the Ethics Commission.

Rhode Island Ethics Commission

40 Fountain Street

Providence, RI 02903

Email: ethics.email@ethics.ri.gov

Website: <https://ethics.ri.gov/>

Phone: 401-222-3790



CONTACT US

Providence Board of Canvassers

25 Dorrance Street, Suite 102

Providence, RI 02903

(401) 680-5525 | elections@providenceri.gov

Web: providenceri.gov/board-of-canvassers/

RI Department of State - Election Division

148 West River Street Providence, RI 02904

(401) 222-2340 | elections@sos.ri.gov

Web: vote.sos.ri.gov

RI Board of Elections

2000 Plainfield Pike

Cranston, RI 02920

(401) 222-2345 | boe.elections@elections.ri.gov

Web: elections.ri.gov