



Run for Office



Run for Public Office

1. **Make the decision to run for public office**
2. **File a letter of intent at the Town Clerk's Office**
3. **Receive the Candidate's packet which includes Nomination Papers**



Letter of Intent

Each candidate must file with the Town Clerk a written, signed, dated statement of his/her intention to be a candidate giving his/her name, address, elected office being sought and the term of the office. Intentions are filed in person by the candidate.

The intention and the authorization must be signed exactly as the candidate is registered to vote.

Two (2) nomination papers will be provided. Each one should be filled out at the top, before the start of collecting signatures.

Nomination Papers

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Each nomination paper should be filled out at the top by the candidate, before the start of collecting signatures.



Collect Extra Signatures

Candidates should collect more signatures than required because some might be disallowed in the certification process.

Candidates for Hamilton Town Offices must obtain at least Forty (40) signatures. It is recommended that candidates obtain signatures from at least 50 registered voters.

Signatures on Nomination Papers

How Voter's Name Should Be Written



To avoid certification issues, it is wise to ask the voters to sign essentially as registered.

The law allows a voter to include or omit a middle name or initial. Include the first and last name when signing.

Do not use nicknames or initials in place of given names.

Registrars cannot certify the signature unless they can reasonably determine the identity of the voter from the form of the signature.

Signatures on Nomination Papers (2)



Voter Must Sign for Self

No person may sign for another unless the voter is physically disabled. One spouse may not sign for another. Persons who are prevented from signing by physical disability may authorize another individual to sign for them in the voter's presence.

Signatures on Nomination Papers (3)

Count How Many Voters Have Signed



A voter may sign once for each candidate for an office. If a voter signs more than once for the same candidate, that voter's name will be certified only once. Additional signatures will be disallowed. Voters may sign for as many different candidates as they wish, even for the same office.

Nomination Papers have been filed with Registrars of Voters What Next?

After the Board of Registrars of Voters have certified the required number of voters names on your nomination papers, the papers will automatically be filed with the Town Clerk on the deadline. No further action is required by the candidate.

If you decide not to run before the deadline to file nomination papers with the Town Clerk has passed, you do not need to file a withdrawal. You must let the Town Clerk know of your decision **and** pick up your certified nomination papers from the Town Clerk's office by the deadline.

If the deadline has already passed, you will need to file an official notarized letter of withdrawal.

You are a Candidate for Office

Congratulations!



Once your certified nomination papers have been filed with the Town Clerk, you are officially a candidate for public office.

Your name will appear on the ballot at the Town Election



Thank You For Your Willingness To Serve as an Elected Public Official!

