LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

CANDIDATES

Candidate checklist

Introduction

Candidacy in local government elections can be both stressful and rewarding – sometimes at the same time. We are providing this checklist in hopes that having an easily skimmed list of tasks and obligations will help you plan your time and fulfill your obligations as a candidate.

This version of the checklist only covers the time before the notice of election is issued. A full version will be released at the end of October.

Each time period has a table with tasks and obligations. Not all items will apply to every candidacy. After each table, we've included a list of resources that may assist you during this period.

Most resources including fact sheets, handbooks, forms and user guides can be found at ecq.qld.gov.au/factsheets.

We tried to cover as much ground as possible in a short checklist, but this document may not contain all obligations for all candidates. Please be sure to review our comprehensive array of educational materials or contact us at fad@ecq.qld.gov.au for additional information or questions.



Before the election period

Your obligations for the election begin as soon as you announce or otherwise indicate your candidacy for the election.

| Tasks and obligations | |
|--|--|
| Create an account in the Self Service Portal (SSP) | |
| Announce your candidacy in SSP (even if you've been a candidate previously) | |
| Open a dedicated campaign bank account | |
| Lodge your dedicated campaign bank account details with the ECQ via SSP | |
| Access the Electronic Disclosure System (EDS) | |
| Appoint an agent (if desired) | |
| Register as a group (if desired) | |
| Complete mandatory training 'So you want to be a councillor?' | |
| Check your electoral expenditure cap amount on ECQ's website | |
| Use dedicated campaign bank account to receive all gifts or loans and pay all electoral expenditure (ongoing obligation) | |
| Disclose electoral expenditure in real-time via EDS (ongoing obligation) | |
| Disclose gifts or loans in real-time via EDS (ongoing obligation) | |
| Notify donors of disclosure requirements (ongoing obligation) | |
| Keep records of all gifts, loans, and electoral expenditure | |

Resources (available at ecq.qld.gov.au/factsheets):

- Fact sheet 17 Dedicated campaign bank accounts for candidates
- EDS user guide for candidates and their agents
- Form FAD3B Appointment of an agent (candidate)
- Fact sheet 22 Group registration process
- Fact sheet 19 Expenditure caps for candidates
- Fact sheet 18 Real-time disclosure of electoral expenditure for candidates, groups of candidates and registered political parties
- Fact sheet 20 Real-time disclosure of gifts and loans by candidates
- Fact sheet 8 Record keeping requirement