

2026 Election Deadlines & Filing Requirements

City Council and Mayor Candidates

All required forms and detailed instructions are available on the **Michigan Secretary of State website** at: www.michigan.gov/sos

Filing Deadline

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 — No later than 4:00 p.m.

All documents listed below must be filed **on or before** this deadline. Late filings cannot be accepted.

Non-Partisan Nominating Petitions

- Candidates must file **non-partisan nominating petitions**
- **Minimum signatures: 20**
- **Maximum signatures: 40**
- Only **registered voters of the City** may sign petitions

Important Petition Instructions

- The **top portion of each petition must be completed before collecting signatures**
- Petitions must clearly state the office sought, such as:
 - **City Mayor – Term Ending November 21, 2028**
 - **City Council Member – Term Ending November 19, 2030**
- Signatures collected on incorrectly completed forms **cannot be counted**
- **Primary Date is August 4, 2026**
- **General Election Date is November 3, 2026**

Voter Signature Limits

- A registered voter may only sign petitions equal to the number of offices available:
 - **Mayor: one (1) petition**
 - **City Council: up to three (3) petitions**
- If a voter signs more petitions than allowed:
 - Only the **earliest-dated signature** will be valid
 - If signatures are dated the same day, **both will be invalid**

Candidates are strongly encouraged to submit petitions early to allow time for signature verification. Signatures **cannot be corrected or added after the April 23 deadline.**

Offices with Terms Expiring

The following officials will continue to serve until **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17, 2026:**

- Mayor Tom Banks
 - Mayor Pro-Tem Mark Richard
 - Ryan Heslop
 - Todd Pangle
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Affidavit of Identity Due by April 21, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

- The **Affidavit of Identity** must be filed **at the same time** the nominating petitions are submitted
- A fillable form is available on the Secretary of State website
 - Search: *Affidavit of Identity*
 - The Affidavit of Identity and the petitions must be filed here at the at the **City of Montrose Offices**, 139 S. Saginaw Street, Montrose, MI 48457

Campaign Finance Forms Due within 10 days after filing the Affidavit of Identity

Candidates must file the following with:

Genesee County Clerk's Office – Election Division
324 S. Saginaw Street
Flint, MI 48502

- **Statement of Organization** (establishes a campaign committee), and
- **Campaign Finance documents**, including a waiver if no contributions are collected

Fillable forms are also available on the Secretary of State website.

****Note for Incumbents:** If you already have a Statement of Organization on file, no additional action is required unless notified by the County Clerk.

Write-In Candidates

- Write-in candidates must file a **Declaration of Intent**
- **Deadline:** October 25, 2026 by 4:00 p.m.
- Campaign finance filings are **not required unless the candidate is elected and takes office**

Disclaimer: It is the **candidate's responsibility** to ensure all forms are completed correctly and filed on time. City Clerk and City staff **cannot instruct candidates on how to complete forms.**