

Eligibility, requirements and process for filing for candidacy for school board of trustees.

Requirements

Form, Content, and Procedure:

An application for a place on the ballot must be in writing; signed, sworn to by the candidate before a person authorized to administer an oath, and dated; timely filed with the district's filing authority (often the superintendent's secretary or another designated district employee); and contain specified information about the candidate:

- the candidate's name, date of birth, and occupation;
- the candidate's residence address or the address at which the candidate receives mail with a description of the location of the candidate's residence;
- the candidate's length of continuous residence in Texas and in the district (and single member district, if applicable) as of the date the candidate swears to the application;
- if available, a public mailing address and email address at which the candidate receives correspondence relating to the candidate's campaign;
- the office sought, including any place or other distinguishing number and an indication of whether the office sought is for a full or unexpired term;
- statements that the candidate is a U.S. citizen; has not been determined by a court to be mentally incapacitated; has not been convicted of a felony; is aware of the nepotism law; and swears an oath to support and defend the U.S. and Texas Constitutions and laws.

Eligibility:

An individual is eligible to be a candidate for, or elected or appointed to, a Texas school board if the individual:

- is a United States citizen;
- is 18 years of age or older on the first day of the term to be filled at the election or on the date of appointment, as applicable;
- has not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote;
- has not been finally convicted of a felony;
- has resided continuously in the state for 12 months and in the territory from which the office is elected for six months immediately preceding the following date:
 - for an independent candidate, the date of the regular filing deadline for a candidate's application for a place on the ballot;
 - for a write-in candidate, the date of the election at which the candidate's name is written in; or
 - for an appointee to an office, the date the appointment is made;
- is registered to vote in the territory from which the office is elected on the date described above; and
- satisfies any other eligibility requirements prescribed by law for the office.

Tex. Elec. Code § 141.001; Tex. Educ. Code § 11.066.

The Texas Education Code imposes additional requirements:

- To be elected to a school board, an individual must be a qualified voter: 18 years of age or older, a U.S citizen, a Texas resident, a registered voter, not determined to be totally or partially mentally incapacitated by an appropriate court, and not finally convicted of a felony. Tex. Educ. Code § 11.061; Tex. Elec. Code § 11.002.
- A person is ineligible to serve on a school board if the person has been convicted of a felony or an offense under Texas Penal Code section 43.02(b) regarding prostitution. Tex. Educ. Code § 11.066.

Process & Important Dates:

To file for a place on the ballot:

To file for a place on the ballot, an interested individual must complete the [Application for a Place on the Ballot](#), as well as the [Campaign Treasurer Appointment form](#). A candidate for school board may pick up an application for place on the ballot, treasurer appointment form and all required financial statements from Jo Ann Cooper, Administrative Assistant, West Rusk CCISD. The completed application and accompanying forms may be submitted in person at the West Rusk Administration office, 10705 S Main, Hwy. 42, New London, Texas or via email to cooperj@westruskisd.org or sent by mail to the following address: Attn: Superintendent's Assistant, P. O. Box 168, New London, Texas 75682. Submitted applications must be received by the deadline of 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2023.

Please contact Jo Ann Cooper via phone at (903) 392-7850 ext. 1101 or via e-mail at cooperj@westruskisd.org if you have any questions.

First day to file for a place on the general election ballot: Saturday, July 22, 2023 (since the school district does not work on this date the first day to file is Monday 24, 2023)
Last day to file for a place on the general election ballot: Monday, Aug. 21, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

Resources & Forms may be found on the Secretary of State Elections website or in person from Jo Ann Cooper in the West Rusk CCISD administration office.