

# Candidate Eligibility

## Who is eligible to run for a seat?

All elected members of Education Councils must be the parent or legal guardian of a student currently attending a school or program funded by New York City Public Schools (NYCPS).

Additional requirements vary by council:

- **Community Education Councils (CEC):** Your child must be a Pre-K through grade 8 student currently attending a district school in the community school district where you wish to serve on the CEC. If your child attends a District 75 (D75) program in the CEC's geographic district, you also qualify for a reserved D75 seat.
- **Citywide Council on High Schools (CCHS):** Your child must currently attend a public, non-charter high school in NYC. Each borough has a separate election; the location of your child's school determines which ballot you qualify for.
- **Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL):** You must have a child classified as an English Language Learner (ELL) who is currently enrolled in an NYCPS Dual Language, Transitional Bilingual Education, or English as a New Language (ENL) program, or who was enrolled in such a program within the previous two years.
- **Citywide Council on Special Education (CCSE):** You must have a child who currently has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) receiving NYCPS-funded services in a public, charter, or private school.
- **Citywide Council for District 75 (CCD75):** You must have a child enrolled in a District 75 school or program. This also qualifies you to run for the CEC of the district in which your child's program is physically located.

## When is your eligibility determined?

Eligibility for the **2025–2027 term** is determined as of the date you submit your application.

- **CEC and CCHS:** You can complete your two-year term, even if your child no longer attends a qualifying school.
- **CCELL, CCSE, and CCD75:** You must resign if your child no longer qualifies as an ELL (CCELL), no longer has an IEP (CCSE), or no longer attends a D75 school (CCD75).

## Who is NOT eligible to serve on an Education Council?

NYCPS employees, most elected public officials, and members of the Panel for Educational Policy cannot serve. If you fall into these categories, you can run for a seat but must choose between your current role and serving on a council if elected. Other restrictions may apply; see Chancellor's Regulation D-140-170 ([schools.nyc.gov/VolumeD](https://schools.nyc.gov/VolumeD)).

[schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025](https://schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025)

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For more information on Eligibility Requirements, please visit [schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025](https://schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025). If you have additional questions, please reach out to [Elections2025@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:Elections2025@schools.nyc.gov).

# Candidate Checklist

## JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2025

### Application Period

- You must have a New York City Schools Account (NYCSA) in your name with all your children linked** to run and vote for a council seat. To learn how to sign up for a new account and add students, visit [schools.nyc.gov/NYCSA](https://schools.nyc.gov/NYCSA).
- Learn more about serving on Education Councils:** Attend a local council meeting, speak with current members, and review the Community and Citywide Education Council Elections Guide to learn more about what becoming a member entails.
- Determine your eligibility for the council you wish to run for:** All elected members of the Education Councils must be the parent or legal guardian of a student currently attending a school or program funded by NYCPS. Read the Candidate Eligibility Guide for specific requirements for each of the councils. Once you have started your application, NYCSA will automatically determine the councils for which you are eligible.
- Draft a brief candidate statement:** Personal statements are not required, but are strongly encouraged. Statements will be published for voters and are a great way to connect with them!
- Submit your application form:** The application itself can be completed in 5–10 minutes.

## FEBRUARY-APRIL 2025

### Candidate Forums and Campaigning

Speak to your community about why you should be elected. Candidates may:

- Participate in the virtual Candidate Forum for the council(s) you are running for—these are the only NYCPS-supported campaign events.
- Reach out to potential voters through e-mail distribution lists, social media, mail, blogs, or websites.
- Write op-eds or articles that help promote your opinions about educational issues.
- Allow family and friends to volunteer to help promote your campaign.
- Distribute flyers and campaign materials in public locations in your neighborhood.

Ensure that you remain consistent with guidelines including:

- **No** campaigning or advertising is permitted on NYCPS property.
- NYCPS employees are not permitted to assist with campaigns.
- Candidates may not accept political endorsements or contributions.

Remember to keep a record (e.g. receipts or invoices) of the money you spend on your campaign. Candidates may not spend more than \$500.

### Looking Ahead: Voting and Election Results

Parents will vote for all 357 council members seats by May 13, 2025. Results will be announced in June. Elected members will serve two-year terms from July 1, 2025–June 30, 2027.

[schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025](https://schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025)

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For more information about running for a seat, visit [schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025](https://schools.nyc.gov/Elections2025).