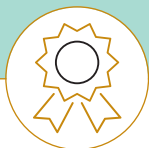




# BECOMING A District Education Council (DEC) Candidate<sup>1</sup>



## WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A CANDIDATE?

In a district education council election a candidate must be:

- 18 years of age on or before Election Day;
- a Canadian citizen;
- a resident of the school district in New Brunswick for at least six months immediately preceding election day; and
- a resident of the relevant school district and subdistrict or zone when nominated.

*Note: You do not have to have a child attending school to qualify as candidate.*



## WHO CANNOT BE A DEC CANDIDATE?

School personnel, such as:

- teachers;
- school bus drivers;
- building maintenance personnel, including custodians;
- secretaries and clerks;
- persons other than teachers engaged to assist in the delivery of programs and services.

Employees of the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development.

*\* Check the Elections New Brunswick website for a complete list.*



## HOW DO I BEGIN?

Each candidate must complete a nomination paper. You can download a blank nomination paper from the forms page at [electionsnb.ca](http://electionsnb.ca) or pick one up from the Municipal Returning Officer after an election has begun.

Nomination papers must be returned to the Municipal Returning Officer for the school subdistrict where the person will be a candidate (and not the local municipal or school office) no later than 2 p.m. on the date fixed for the close of nominations.



## HOW DO I FILL OUT A NOMINATION PAPER?

Each candidate must fill out the nomination paper with his or her name, address and occupation. You may also include a phone number, e-mail and/or website address that will be included along with your name and address in a List of Candidates shown on Elections New Brunswick's website during the election.

Next, the candidate, or an agent, must collect the signatures of at least ten (10) nominators, who each must be a qualified elector living in the subdistrict or zone of the candidate; and a parent of a child registered in a public school in the district (but not necessarily the subdistrict of the candidate).

We recommend obtaining a few additional signatures in case a nominator is not eligible to vote for the candidate.

- The candidate, or a family member of a candidate, or any other person, may collect and be the witness to each nominator signature.
- The person collecting the nominators' signatures must be present and witness each eligible elector sign the form.
- A nominator cannot be his or her own witness.
- The person who obtained the nominators' signatures must complete the included declaration. (If more than one person collected nominator signatures, each person must complete a separate declaration.)

*Note: Incomplete or late returns cannot be accepted.*



## HOW MUCH WILL I GET PAID?

DEC members will receive \$3000 per year and the elected Chair of each Council will receive \$6000 per year. Members who travel out-of-town for meetings may also claim the cost of travelling to the meeting including meals and hotel accommodations in accordance with the provincial travel policies.



## DO I NEED AN AGENT OR CAMPAIGN MANAGER?

Unlike federal or provincial elections you are not required to appoint an agent. You may decide to appoint a scrutineer, or candidate representative, who can enter polling stations and observe voting procedures and/or counting of the ballots on your behalf.



## HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

To find out more about becoming a candidate, visit [electionsnb.ca](http://electionsnb.ca) and review the information for district education council candidates. During an election, you can also contact the local returning officer for your region.

*Note 1: This document is intended for information purposes and should not be used as legal advice. Please refer to the Elections NB website and the Municipal Elections Act and Education Act for additional details.*