



2025 REGULAR LOCAL ELECTION

FAQ'S

Question: I want to be a candidate in the 2025 Regular Local Election, what do I need to do?

Answer:

1. Reside and be a registered voter within the Santa Fe City Limits.
2. For City Councilor, confirm your City Council District.
3. Fill out, sign, and return to the City Clerk, the Declaration of Candidacy Form.
4. If you are seeking to become a publicly financed candidate, fill out, sign and return to the City Clerk, the Declaration of Intent to Use Public Campaign Financing Form.
5. Familiarize yourself with the rules and regulations regarding the Regular Local Election. [NM Statutes Annotated](#), [Santa Fe Municipal Charter](#) and, [Santa Fe City Code](#).

Question: If I want to run a privately financed campaign, what do I need to do?

Answer:

1. Obtain the required number of signatures needed for the Nominating Petitions in accordance with Section [4.03](#) of the Santa Fe Municipal Charter.
2. Refer to the [Santa Fe County Clerk's website](#) for the Declaration Form and follow the process as required by SFCC Section [9-1.6\(C\)](#).

Question: Do I need to schedule a meeting with the City Clerk to be a candidate?

Answer: No, it is not necessary. You may retrieve all the information and forms from the City Clerk's Election page on our [website](#). Please submit all forms to Andréa Salazar, City Clerk/Director of Community Engagement at asalazar@santafenm.gov and Geralyn

Cardenas, Deputy City Clerk at gfcardenas@santafenm.gov. If you would like to schedule a meeting with the City Clerk, you may do so by calling our office at 505-955-6521.

Question: How does Rank Choice Voting affect my campaign?

Answer: If you are running in an uncontested race, Rank Choice Voting will not affect your campaign. If you are running in a contested race where there are 3 or more candidates, Rank Choice Voting does affect your campaign. Please refer to SFCC Section [9-1.7](#) for information on Ranked Choice Voting.

Question: What is Seed Money?

Answer: See Section [9-3.6](#) of the Santa Fe City Code.

Question: When can I start collecting \$5 contributions to qualify for Public Campaign Financing?

Answer: During the qualifying period under SFCC Section [9-2.3\(V\)](#), which is May 5, 2025, through July 21, 2025. See SFCC Section [9-3.7](#) for all information regarding Qualifying Contributions.

Question: What are Matching Funds for Publicly Financed Candidates?

Answer: Please refer to SFCC Section [9-3.13](#).

Question: How much money can I get as a Public Financed Candidate?

Answer: Please see SFCC Section [9-3.10](#)

- (1) Sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) for a candidate in a contested race for the office of mayor;
- (2) Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for a candidate in a contested race for the office of city councilor;
- (3) Fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for a candidate in a contested race for the office of municipal judge; or
- (4) For a candidate in an uncontested race, ten percent (10%) of the amount would be due to a candidate in a contested race for the same office.