

Qualifications:

All candidates must meet the following additional requirements to qualify for office: Qualified elector (registered voter) of the State of Mississippi in the municipality of the office for which the candidate seeks election; Resident of the municipality that he/she seeks to represent for two (2) years immediately preceding the day of the election (Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-300); Never have been convicted of bribery, perjury or other infamous crime, being defined as a crime punishable by confinement in the penitentiary (unless the candidate received a full pardon); Never have been convicted of a felony in federal court after December 8, 1992, nor of a crime in the court of another state which is a felony in this state, after December 8, 1992, as provided in Section 44 of the Mississippi Constitution. A candidate is not required to be a resident of the municipality that he/seeks to represent for two (2) years immediately preceding the election if the municipality has less than one thousand (1,000) residents according to the latest federal decennial census.

Independent candidates do not pay a qualifying fee. To qualify as an independent candidate in a municipal general election, a candidate must file a petition with the Municipal Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the same day that candidates in Primary Elections must qualify, i.e., at least sixty (60) days prior to the first primary election (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 23-15-361 and 23-15-309 (1972)). The petition must be signed by at least fifty (50) qualified voters of a municipality or ward, if the municipality or ward has a population of one thousand (1,000) residents or more. The petition must be signed by at least fifteen (15) qualified voters of a municipality or ward, if the municipality or ward, has a population of fewer than one thousand (1,000) residents (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-361 (1972)). The Municipal Clerk must certify that the signatures are those of registered voters in the municipality. Petitions are available at the Municipal Clerk's Office, the Secretary of State's Office.

Source : www.sos.ms.gov/elections-voting