
Notice of Financial Filing Requirements, Penalties and Refund of Nomination Filing Fee

Municipal Elections Act, 1996, sections 33.1, 34, 88.23(2), 92(1)

As a candidate, you must file a [Financial Statement – Auditor's Report Candidate \(Form 4\)](#) detailing your campaign finances through the initial campaign period, even if you did not raise or spend any money.

Campaign Period

The campaign period is the period during which you can raise and spend money on your campaign.

The **initial campaign period** begins on the day you filed your nomination paper and ends on January 15, 2024.

A **supplementary period** exists for candidates who file a Form 6 to extend their campaign period (see below). The supplementary period begins the day you filed your nomination and ends on July 15, 2024.

Extending Your Campaign Period

If you believe your campaign will have a deficit, you can file a [Notice of Extension of Campaign Period \(Form 6\)](#) to extend your campaign period to July 15, 2024 so you can continue raising money. **Extending your campaign period does not extend your financial filing deadline.**

You must file a Form 6 by 4:30 p.m. on January 15, 2024, either by emailing the signed form to candidateinfo@toronto.ca or filing it in-person at the Toronto Elections office at City Hall.

If you extend your campaign, you must file two financial statements:

1. An **initial filing**, which details all campaign finances from the day you filed your nomination paper until January 15, 2024 (due by 2 p.m., February 13, 2024).
2. A **supplementary filing**, which details all campaign finances from the day you filed your nomination paper until July 15, 2024 (due by 2 p.m., August 14, 2024)

Financial Filing Deadlines and Grace Period

The deadline for filing your financial statement(s) with the City Clerk is as follows:

- **Tuesday, February 13, 2024 by 2 p.m.** for the initial financial statement
- **Wednesday, August 14, 2024 by 2 p.m.** for the supplementary financial statement (only required if you filed a Form 6 to extend your campaign period)

If you miss either filing deadline, there is a **30-day grace period** during which you can file your financial statement provided that you pay a \$500 late filing fee.

Auditor's Report

You must attach an Auditor's Report to your financial statement if either of the following applies:

- You are participating in the City's [Contribution Rebate Program](#) (regardless of how much you raised or spent); **or**
- You raised or spent more than \$10,000 on your campaign.

The Auditor's Report must be completed by an auditor licensed under the Public Accounting Act, 2004.

Campaign Surplus

If your campaign has a surplus after you have refunded contributions made by yourself or your spouse, you must file your financial statement in-person at the City Hall office and pay the surplus to the City Clerk when you file your financial statement.

The surplus can be paid via cash, certified cheque or money order payable to 'Treasurer, City of Toronto'.

Correcting Errors in a Filed Financial Statement

If you submit a financial statement and later identify an error, you can withdraw the statement and submit a new one until 2 p.m. on the financial filing deadline date.

- If the withdrawn financial statement was accompanied by an Auditor's Report, the corrected financial statement must be accompanied by a new Auditor's Report.
- If the corrected financial statement identifies an additional surplus, the difference must be paid to the City Clerk at the time the corrected financial statement is filed. If the surplus is lower, the City Clerk will remit any difference owing with interest.

Extending your Financial Filing Deadline by Court Order

If you require an extension to file your financial statement, you must apply to the [Superior Court of Justice](#) before the last day for filing. The court may grant an extension of up to 90 days.

If the Superior Court of Justice approves your extension, you must provide the court order to Toronto Elections no later than **2 p.m. on the last day for filing**, either by emailing a copy of the document to candidateinfo@toronto.ca or providing it in-person at the office at City Hall.

Refund of Nomination Filing Fee

You will receive a refund of your nomination filing fee if the required financial statement is filed by the deadline (2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2024).

You will not receive a filing fee refund if you file within the 30-day grace period.

Notice of Penalties

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 requires you to file a financial statement with the City Clerk by the deadline of 2 p.m., Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

If you do not file by that date, the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 provides an additional 30 day grace period (ending at 2 p.m., Thursday, March 14, 2024) to file a financial statement if a \$500 late filing fee is paid at the time of filing.

Failure to comply means that you are subject to the penalties outlined below, in addition to any other penalty that may be imposed under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

Penalties for Non-Compliance**88.23 (1) Effect of default by candidate**

A candidate is subject to the penalties listed in subsection (2), in addition to any other penalty that may be imposed under this Act,

- (a) if the candidate fails to file a document as required under section 88.25 or 88.32 by the relevant date;
- (b) if a document filed under section 88.25 shows on its face a surplus, as described in section 88.31, and the candidate fails to pay the amount required by subsection 88.31 (4) to the clerk by the relevant date;
- (c) if a document filed under section 88.25 shows on its face that the candidate has incurred expenses exceeding what is permitted under section 88.20; or
- (d) if a document filed under section 88.32 shows on its face a surplus and the candidate fails to pay the amount required by that section by the relevant date.

88.23 (2) Penalties

Subject to subsection (7), in the case of a default described in subsection (1),

- (a) the candidate forfeits any office to which he or she was elected and the office is deemed to be vacant; and
- (b) until the next regular election has taken place, the candidate is ineligible to be elected or appointed to any office to which this Act applies.

92 (1) Offences by candidate

A candidate is guilty of an offence and, on conviction, in addition to any other penalty that may be imposed under this Act, is subject to the penalties described in subsection 88.23 (2),

- (a) if the candidate incurs expenses that exceed the amount determined for the office under section 88.20; or
- (b) if the candidate files a document under section 88.25 or 88.32 that is incorrect or otherwise does not comply with that section.