



Welcome 2019 Candidates!

Thank you for your interest in Tucker city government. The city council of the City of Tucker consist of six members, plus a mayor. There are three council districts, designated as Council Districts 1 through 3. Two councilmembers shall be elected from each of the three council districts. Councilmembers shall be elected by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the respective council districts voting at the elections of the city. Each candidate for election to the city council shall reside in the district which he or she seeks to represent.

Councilmembers shall serve for terms of four years and until their terms shall expire upon the administration of the oath of office to their respective successors. No person shall be eligible to serve as councilmember unless that person shall have been a resident of the City of Tucker for a continuous period of at least 12 months immediately prior to the date of election for councilmember, shall continue to reside therein during that person's period of service, and shall continue to be registered and qualified to vote in municipal elections of the City of Tucker. In addition to the above requirements, no person shall be eligible to serve as a councilmember representing a council district unless that person continues to reside in such district during that person's period of service.

The number of successive terms an individual may hold a position as a councilmember shall be limited to two terms

The Mayor and City Council determine policies, enact legislation and provide political leadership in the community. Mayor and Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Tucker Annex Building located at 4228 1st Avenue Tucker, GA 30084.

Please review the materials provided for qualifying to run for office in the November 5, 2019 General Election. This November, municipal voters will elect the three (3) City Council seats (Post 2 District 1, Post 2 District 2, and Post 2 District 3,). As City Clerk of Tucker, I am the "Qualifying Officer" for the City and will be the person to receive your Notice of Candidacy and Affidavit. DeKalb County will be conducting this election. Qualifying will be held here at Tucker City Hall beginning, Monday, August 19, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. and closing Friday, August 23, 2019 at 12:00 p.m. The qualifying fee for Council member is \$420.00 (3% of the annual salary).

Certain documents are required to be filed with the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission, or GGTCFC (formerly known as the State Ethics Commission). Their website address is <http://ethics.ga.gov> and candidates should familiarize themselves with all forms, publications and the requirements of candidacy for public office.

All candidates should familiarize themselves with the Constitution of the State of Georgia, the City of Tucker Charter and Code of Ordinances, which can be found at: https://library.municode.com/ga/tucker/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTICH and may find the Rules and Regulations of the State Election Board helpful as well. Another important reference publication is the "Handbook for Georgia Mayors and Councilmembers" published by Betty J. Hudson and Paul T. Hardy in conjunction with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government which can be found by going to www.gmanet.com/handbook.aspx.

Items to complete and return to the City DURING the qualifying period:

- Notice of Candidacy & Affidavit
- Payment of Qualifying Fee

Form: [https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Notice_of_Candidacy_and_Affidavit_\(County\).pdf](https://sos.ga.gov/admin/files/Notice_of_Candidacy_and_Affidavit_(County).pdf)

Note: The Personal Financial Disclosure Statement (PFDS) form is ONLY REQUIRED for incumbents who plan on running again for office. The form is due 15 days of qualifying. For any NEW candidate, who is NOT AN INCUMBENT, the PFDS is not required.

The following online resources and references are invaluable to candidates for public office:

Filing Schedules

http://media.ethics.ga.gov/schedules/ReportFilingScheduleCampaign_Locals_YearSelect.aspx

Georgia Governmental Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission or GGTCFC

(formerly known as the State Ethics Commission)

There are important documents and deadlines pertaining to all candidates for public office. Failure to adhere to the policies and filings as required by the GGTCFC may result in monetary fines. Candidates should familiarize themselves with all forms, publications, and the requirements of candidacy for public office. For detailed information visit <http://ethics.ga.gov>. Some of the most common forms are explained below:

Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Act

This contains information regarding filing, penalties, campaign contributions, financial disclosure statements, public officials conduct and lobbyist disclosure. Any questions regarding this information should be directed to the GGTCFC.

<http://media.ethics.ga.gov/references/ethicsact.aspx>

DOI (Declaration of Intent to Accept Campaign Contributions)

If you are currently not a public officer holding elective office and you plan to run for public office, you must file a DOI BEFORE accepting campaign contributions. The Form DOI is filed with the GGTCFC. This simply means a DOI is filed by a brand new candidate, not by someone already in office because they would have already filed a DOI when they were a new candidate. However, if they are running for a different office then they are a new candidate for that office and a DOI is required.

http://ethics.ga.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Current_FormDOI.pdf

Form RC (Registration of Campaign Committee)

Candidates are not required to have a campaign committee. However, if a candidate forms a campaign committee, the candidate must register the committee with the GGTCFC prior to accepting any contributions. No contribution may be accepted at any time here is a vacancy in either the position of chairman or treasurer. One person may serve as both chairperson and treasurer. No candidate may have more than one committee. The Form RC is filed with the GGTCFC.

http://ethics.ga.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Current_FormRC.pdf

CCDR/FD (Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report/Financial Disclosure Report)

http://ethics.ga.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2014_CCDRV5_writable.pdf

PFD (Personal Financial Disclosure Statement)

A Personal Financial Disclosure Statement must be filed with the GGTCFC within 15 days of a qualifying candidate for office or a significant fine will be imposed.

http://ethics.ga.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2014-PFD-Personal-Financial-Disclosure-Statement_writable.pdf

TBD (Two Business Day) Report of Contributions Received

The Two Business Day Report must be filed if a candidate received contributions of \$1,000.00 or more between the date of the last Campaign Contribution Disclosure Report filing and the date of the election. Contributions of \$1,000.00 or more must be reported within two days of receipt of the contribution. http://ethics.ga.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2014_TBD-Two-Business-Days-Report-of-Contributions-Received_writable.pdf

Newly Elected Officials Training Requirement

State Law Training Requirement for Newly Elected Officials O.C.G.A § 36-45 Article 1 – In General

The General Assembly finds and declares that it is in the best interest of the citizens of this state to require newly elected members of a municipal governing authority to attend a course of training and education matters pertaining to the administration and operation of municipal government during a period prescribed by the board (within one year of election). The purpose of such course shall be to instruct such individuals in the powers, duties, and responsibilities of their positions of public trust. This training is offered through a partnership of the Georgia Municipal Association and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia.

The Newly Elected Officials Institute provides an orientation to municipal government in Georgia. Topics include the role of the mayor and council; the legal, ethical, and financial aspects of city government; and intergovernmental relations and working together within the city council. This course will be offered twice in 2020 and all newly elected officials must make plans through the City Clerk's Office to attend one of these sessions.

- ❖ Athens, Georgia
- ❖ Tifton, Georgia

Registration forms will be mailed to all city halls the first week in November. Elected officials that are presently in office and are running for another term, DO NOT have to take this training. If past elected officials are running again, they do have to retake this course if they were out of office for four years or longer.

Contact Information:

Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission
<http://ethics.ga.gov>

Georgia Secretary of State Elections Office
https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/information_for_candidates

DeKalb County Voter Registration and Elections
<https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/voter-registration-elections/candidate-information>

Campaign Contribution Limits

Based on the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission, the contribution limits as of April 2019 is \$2800 for a primary election and \$1500 for a primary runoff election.

<http://ethics.ga.gov/contribution-limits/>

All other offices – (Candidates for General Assembly, County offices, **Municipal Offices**, District officials and all other elected positions other than statewide)

Primary Election	Primary Runoff Election	General Election	General Runoff Election
\$2,800.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,800.00	\$1,500.00
Two thousand eight hundred dollars	One thousand five hundred dollars	Two thousand eight hundred dollars	One thousand five hundred dollars

Note: the aggregate of monetary and in-kind contributions from the same contributor must also not exceed the maximum contribution limits authorized by the Act.