

How to Run for Lincoln Heights Village Council

Prepared & published by the Lincoln Heights Ohio Historical Society
Preserving our village's history while empowering today's residents to lead its future.
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1. Meet the Eligibility Requirements (Section 2.02 of the Charter)

- You must be a qualified elector (registered voter).
- You must have been a continuous resident of Lincoln Heights for at least one year before the election.
- You must not:
 - Owe back taxes to the Village or be delinquent in filings.
 - Have been convicted of a felony or treason, or be imprisoned for a felony.
 - Have been recalled from Council within the last five years.
- You must not hold another public office or be employed by the Village (exceptions: notary public or military service).
- You must be willing to receive ongoing training related to local, county, state, and federal affairs.

2. Understand the Term

- Council members serve four-year terms (Section 2.03).
- Elections are nonpartisan and held during odd-numbered years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November (Section 5.01).

3. Get on the Ballot (Section 5.03 and 5.04)

- No primary election is required.
- You must submit a nominating petition to the Hamilton County Board of Elections.
- The petition must:
 - Be submitted at least 90 days before the election.
 - Include the signatures of at least 25 qualified voters from Lincoln Heights.
 - Include your signature of acceptance agreeing to run and serve if elected.
 - Include names and addresses of five sponsoring committee members (all must be registered voters).
 - Be verified under oath by the person circulating each petition part.

4. Follow Ballot & Campaign Rules

- Names appear on the ballot without party affiliation (Section 5.05).
- You must file a statement of campaign expenses with both the Hamilton County Board of Elections and the Village Clerk (Section 5.08).
 - This must be done under oath.
 - Failure to file disqualifies you from taking the oath of office.

5. Term Limits

- You may not serve more than three consecutive four-year terms (Section 2.15).
- Resigning early or being appointed to a seat still counts as having served a term.
- Appointments to fill unexpired terms do count toward this limit.
- Resigning early does not reset the term.
- You must sit out one full term to become eligible again.



About the Society

The Lincoln Heights Ohio Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to recording, protecting, and sharing the rich legacy of America's first self-governed Black village in the region. Through digital archives, oral histories, and civic-education projects like this guide, we work to reawaken community pride and inspire the next generation of local leaders. Learn more or get involved at **lhohistory.org**.