



## **VILLAGE OF VIRGINIA GARDENS 2026 MAYORAL AND COUNCIL CANDIDATES CANDIDATE QUALIFYING INFORMATION**

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

1. Qualified elector of Miami-Dade County.
2. Resident of Virginia Gardens at least three (3) years prior to qualifying.

**TYPE OF ELECTION:**

Municipal

**TERM: MAYOR:**

The term for Mayor shall hold office for two (2) years.

**COUNCIL:**

The two (2) receiving the highest number of votes shall receive four-year terms of office and the third shall receive a two-year term of office. The council person receiving the most votes in the general election shall serve as the president of the council for a term of two (2) years.

**SALARY: MAYOR:**

\$21,036 Annual (Based on salary as of October 1, 2025)

**COUNCIL:**

\$6,653 Annual (Based on salary as of October 1, 2025)

**ELECTION DATE & TIME:**

November 3, 2026 from 7:00am – 7:00pm

**QUALIFYING DATES:**

9:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 22, 2026, through Friday, August 21, 2026 5:00 p.m.

**POLL WATCHERS:**

Form to be submitted before noon on Tuesday, October 20, 2026

**QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS:**

The following items must be submitted to the Village Clerk of Virginia Gardens:

**Qualifying Method – Qualifying Fee**

- 1 State of Florida Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates [Form DS-DE 9](#)
- 2 Statement of Candidate [Form DS-DE 84](#) (must be filed within 10 days of filing the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository)
- 3 Loyalty Oath and Oath of Candidate for Non-Partisan Office [Form DS-DE 302NP-E](#)
- 4 Financial Disclosure ([Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests](#)) along with any other forms applicable.
- 5 Voluntary Fair Campaign Practices Waiver – [MD Ethics Commission](#)
- 6 Reporting of Solicitation of Contributions for Political Committees, Electioneering Communications Organizations, 501(c)(4) Organizations and Political Parties – [Form MD-ED 28](#)
- 7 Pay filing fee with a check drawn on Campaign Account as prescribed in Florida Statutes, Chapter 106. No personal checks will be accepted. Only candidates who withdraw prior to the end of the qualifying period will be refunded their qualifying fee. Anyone who withdraws after that time will not have their qualifying fee refunded.
- 8 Resign to run - Must resign from elective or appointive office not less than 10 days prior to the first day of qualifying.

## State of Florida Information and Forms

### State of Florida Information and Forms

- [Election Laws of the State of Florida](#)
- [Guide to the Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees – State of Florida Commission on Ethics](#)
- [Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees – 2015 F.S., Title X, Chapter 112, Part III](#)
- [Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook](#)
- Most Commonly Used Forms\*:
  - Contributions Returned – [Form DS-DE 12](#)
  - Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates – [DS-DE 9](#)
  - Campaign Treasurer's Report – Summary – [DS-DE 12](#)
  - Campaign Treasurer's Report – Itemized Contributions – [DS-DE 13](#)
  - Campaign Treasurer's Report – Itemized Expenditures – [DS-DE 14](#)
  - Candidate Oath - Nonpartisan Office – [Form DS-DE 302NP](#)
  - Office Account Report – [DS-DE 48](#)
  - Office Account Disbursement or Deposit Information – [DS-DE 48A](#)
  - Campaign Loans Report – [DS-DE 73](#)
  - Campaign Loans Report Itemized – [DS-DE 73A](#)
  - Statement of Candidate – [DS-DE 84](#)
  - Request for Return of Contribution – [DS-DE 86](#)
  - Waiver of Report – [DS-DE 87](#)
  - Statement of Solicitation – [DS-DE 102](#)
  - Candidate Petition – [DS-DE 104](#)
  - 2023 Statement of Financial Interests – [Form 1](#) (2023 Tax year)

*\*Visit the State of Florida Division of Elections for a complete list of [State forms](#).*

### Miami-Dade County Information and Forms

- Information:
  - [Absentee Ballot Information and Forms](#)
  - [Municipal Clerks List](#)
  - [Available Data by Request](#)
  - [Poll Watchers Information](#)
  - [Precincts Cross-reference](#)
  - [Precincts within Municipalities](#)
- Forms\*:
  - Oath of Withdrawal – [MD-ED 3](#)
  - Miami-Dade County Paid Campaign Workers Participating in Absentee Ballot Activities Form – [MD-ED 26](#) *(This form may be customized and should be filed directly with the Municipal Clerk at the same time as Campaign Treasurer's Reports are due.)*
  - Declaration and First Amendment Waiver for Candidates who Agree to Comply with the Voluntary Statement of Fair Campaign Practices - [MD Ethics Commission](#)

*\* Visit the Elections Department website for a [compilation of forms](#) used by Miami-Dade County and the [Miami-Dade County Qualifying Handbook](#).*

**Information from the Florida Department of State Division of Election regarding reports:**

Florida Statutes 106.07(1)(b) and 106.0703(1)(c) provide that any candidate, political committee or ECO not filing with the Division must file monthly reports, as well as “reports on the 60<sup>th</sup> day immediately preceding the primary election, and biweekly on each Friday thereafter through and including the 4<sup>th</sup> day immediately preceding the general election, with additional reports due on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> days before the primary and the general election.”

For municipal elections in which no municipal primary is held, the candidate, political committee or ECO is only required to file those reports that are capable of being filed (i.e., monthly reports and those reports due on the 25<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> days preceding the municipal general election).

**Information regarding reporting schedule:**

The municipal clerk is responsible for developing the reporting schedule and providing it to the municipal candidates. Refer to [Fla. Stat. 106.07](#) for information. Also, check your municipal charter and consult your municipal attorney to ensure no additional reports are required.