

## March 18, 2025, Village of Highland Falls Election - Running for Office FAQs

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Please note, although the Village Clerk is the Chief Election Officer, it is NOT the Clerk's responsibility to answer questions from, or give advice to, individuals running for office.

Individuals/Candidates should consult their own attorney & visit the NYS Board of Elections website:

- NYS Board of Elections: <http://www.elections.ny.gov/RunningOffice.html>

To review the NYCOM Annual Village Elections Calendar of Dates, including the March 18, 2025 Village General Election, please visit:

[https://www.nycom.org/images/documents/handbooks/2025\\_Calendar\\_of\\_Dates.pdf](https://www.nycom.org/images/documents/handbooks/2025_Calendar_of_Dates.pdf)

Independent Nominating Petitions, and other required filing documents, are available using the links below or at the Village of Highland Falls Clerk's Office, located at 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY. These forms are also available on the NYS Board of Elections & Orange County Board of Elections websites.

### **Independent Nominating Petition:**

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/11/samplevillageindependentpetition2017.pdf>

### **Cover Page:**

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/11/coversheetdesignatingindependentcombined.pdf>

### **Certificate of Acceptance:**

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/11/sample-certificate-of-acceptance-6-146.pdf>

### **Certificate of Declination:**

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/11/sample-certificate-of-declination.pdf>

### **Filing Campaign Receipts:**

<https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/08/cfo5.pdf>

- An independent nominating petition may be signed by Village Residents, who are registered to vote provided that the signer has not signed a petition for anyone else running for that particular office. The signer may not sign any more petitions designating a greater number of candidates for public office or party position than the number of persons to be elected at that election.
- Independent Party Names:
  - Candidates must choose a name for the independent body making the nomination or circulating the designating petition.

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- **CANNOT Use:**
  - Any existing party name
  - American, United States, New York State, Empire State, Independent or Independence.
  - Cannot create confusion with other names
  
- In accordance with the Orange County Board of Elections, **Independent Party Names cannot be longer than 15 spaces.**
  
- The first to file may use the selected name. Exception: Established Independent Body and would cause confusion among voters.
  
- Emblems are no longer allowed on ballots.
  
- In villages with populations of 5,000 or more, at least 100 registered voters must sign the independent nominating petition.
  
- All filings must be submitted to the Village of Highland Falls Clerk's Office, located at 303 Main Street, Highland Falls, NY 10928.