

2023 Rural Ordinary Election
Points to Note for Submission of Nomination Forms for
Candidates

1. Nomination form is available free of charge at the Home Affairs Enquiry Centres of New Territories District Offices and the Home Affairs Department (“HAD”) at 30/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong. It can also be downloaded from the Rural Representative Election website (www.had.gov.hk/rre).
2. The nomination period will run from 4 November 2022 until 17 November 2022 (both days inclusive), and the Returning Officers (ROs) will receive nominations between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday and between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on Saturday. Candidate must submit his/her nomination form within the nomination period. Late submission will not be accepted.
3. Candidate must submit his/her nomination form in person to the RO for the relevant Rural Area. If a candidate cannot submit the nomination form in person (e.g. because of the candidate’s temporary absence from Hong Kong, incapacity due to illness or under quarantine requirement or medical surveillance of the Government), he/she must obtain the RO’s authorization to submit the nomination form by a designated representative. The application shall clearly state the name of the candidate and the Rural Area concerned, the reason for not being able to submit the nomination form in person (with documentary proof if available), and the full name and Hong Kong Identity Card number of the proposed representative (as shown on the Hong Kong Identity Card). The application should be submitted to the RO via the Rural Election Team by fax (fax no.:2591 6392) or by e-mail (email address: rre@had.gov.hk).
4. Candidate is strongly advised to submit his/her nomination form as early as practicable so that any mistakes found in his/her nomination form can be rectified before the end of the nomination period.
5. Prior appointment is not available for submission of nomination forms. The nomination forms will be handled by the RO’s office on a first-come-first-served basis.
6. Due to limited space in the RO’s office, each candidate shall only be accompanied by **one companion** during submission of the nomination form (that is, not more than two persons with the candidate included).
7. In the course of receiving a nomination form by the RO, all persons present at or entering the RO’s office must **observe the following rules** and follow the instructions of the RO or his/her authorized officers:
 - (a) To ensure public safety at the RO’s office, no person shall bring into, use or display in the RO’s office any article which RO or his/her authorized officers consider(s) that may cause nuisance, inconvenience, disturbance, interference, obstruction or danger to other persons (including but not limited to, luggage, helmet, loudhailers, sound emitting objects) or publicity materials of any kind (including banners, bunting flyers).
 - (b) Shouting, yelling or any activities that would cause nuisance to other parties are prohibited in the RO’s office.
 - (c) Smoking, eating, drinking, photo-taking, sound/video-recording and live/relay broadcast are prohibited in the RO’s office.
 - (d) Persons entering or present at the RO’s office shall not deliberately cause obstruction at points of entry or exit, nor shall they impede, obstruct or detrimentally affect the flow of pedestrians or traffic outside the office.
 - (e) Found property will be handled by security staff, RO or his/her authorized officers or the Police without further notice.
 - (f) Should there be any imminent threat of a breach of the peace and / or any act contrary to the Laws of Hong Kong, enforcement action may be taken by the Police as they see fit.

8. In view of public health considerations, the following prevention and crowd management measures will be implemented:
- (a) All persons entering the RO's office are required to wear a surgical mask all the time, except that the candidate is required to temporarily remove his/her mask for the purpose of verification of identity.
 - (b) All persons entering the RO's office should comply with all the access control arrangements in force imposed by the RO's office and/or the management of the building in which the RO's office is located, including use of the LeaveHomeSafe mobile app upon entry. Otherwise, the relevant person's entry to the RO's office may be denied.
 - (c) Please use hand sanitiser upon entering the RO's office.
 - (d) All persons entering the RO's office are required to have their body temperature taken. No one is allowed to enter the office if he/she shows signs of fever (i.e. temperature higher than 38°C).
 - (e) Necessary queuing and other crowd management measures, as well as security controls to limit the number of persons entering and staying in the RO's office at the same time, will be put in place as appropriate.
 - (f) All persons subject to quarantine requirement or medical surveillance of the Government should not come to the RO's office.

Note: Candidate having fever or respiratory tract infection symptoms or being subject to quarantine requirement or medical surveillance of the Government may apply to the RO for authorization to submit the nomination form by a designated representative. Please refer to item 3 above for details.

9. RO or his/her authorized officers shall ask any person who does not observe the aforesaid rules or follow the instructions of the RO or his/her authorized officers to leave the RO's office immediately.
10. The RO and/or HAD hereby reserve(s) the right to amend these "Points to Note" any time as he/she/it sees appropriate.
11. For enquiries, please call the Rural Representative Election Hotline on 2152 1521.

Home Affairs Department
October 2022