



County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE for PUBLIC SERVICE

May 01, 2025

Restrictions on Candidacy

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615.532.3555 phone
615.532.3699 fax
www.ctas.tennessee.edu

Restrictions on Candidacy	3
--	----------

Restrictions on Candidacy

Reference Number: CTAS-862

Under T.C.A. § 2-5-101, there are certain restrictions on how a candidate may qualify:

1. No one may qualify with more than one political party for the same office;
2. No one may qualify as an independent and a primary candidate for the same office in the same year;
3. No one defeated in the primary or party caucus may qualify or appear on the ballot as the nominee of a different political party or as an independent in the general election;
4. No primary candidate may appear on the ballot for the general election as a nominee of a different political party or as an independent; and
5. No one may qualify for more than one state office or more than one constitutional county office or countywide office in an election. (Note that unless the qualifications for a particular office prevent it, a candidate may run for one county and one state office in the same election.)

Source URL: <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/eli/restrictions-candidacy>