



Town of La Plata - Election 2017

Primary and General Election Information **Mayor and Wards I, II, III and IV Councilmen – 4 –year terms of office**

Primary Election (if required)

Monday, March 20, 2017
12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.

General Election

Tuesday, May 2, 2017
7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Qualifications of Mayor

[Town Charter, Art. IV, §C-4-1]

The Mayor must have resided in the town for at least one (1) year immediately preceding his election and must be a qualified voter of the town.

Qualifications of Councilmen

[Town Charter, Art. III, §C-3-2]

Councilmen shall have resided in the town for at least one (1) year immediately preceding their election and shall be qualified voters of the town. A candidate for Councilman shall reside in the ward from which he seeks to be elected at the times of nomination and election. A Councilman shall reside in the ward from which he is elected continuously during his term of office. Removal of residency from a ward disqualifies a person from seeking or holding the office of Councilman from that ward. A person appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of Councilman shall fulfill the same qualifications as a person elected to that position.

Nominations

[Town Charter, Art. VII, §C-7-8]

Persons may be nominated for elective office in the town by filing a certificate of nomination at the office of the Board of Supervisors of Elections on or before the first Monday in March next preceding the town election. No person shall file for nomination to more than one (1) elective town public office or hold more than one (1) elective town public office at any one (1) time.

Primary Election

If more than two (2) candidates file for any one of the five Town Council offices up for election, a Primary Election will be held on **Monday, March 20, 2017**, at the La Plata Town Hall, 305 Queen Anne Street, La Plata, Maryland, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 p.m. For each office requiring a Primary Election, the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be named and considered as nominees at the General municipal election following. If a Primary Election is necessary, this election will give qualified voters in all Wards the opportunity to vote for Mayor, and give qualified voters in Ward I, Ward II, Ward III and Ward IV the opportunity to vote for Council member candidates from each Ward.

General Election

The Town of La Plata will hold a General Election on **Tuesday, May 2, 2017**, at the La Plata Town Hall, 305 Queen Anne Street, La Plata, Maryland, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. All qualified voters of the Town will be able to vote for candidates for all of the five Council seats, to serve 4-year terms of office.

Filing Requirements

A Certificate of Nomination must be filed with the Town Clerk in the La Plata Town Hall on or **before 4:00 p.m., Monday, March 6, 2017.**

Eligibility to vote and closing of voter registration books

Town Charter Sections C-7-1 and C-7-5 provide information for registering to vote with the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Charles County ("the County Board of Elections") OR with the Board of supervisors of Elections of the Town of La Plata ("the Town Board of Elections") in the Town's supplemental system of registration. **If you are a Town resident and are already registered to vote with the County Board of Elections, you are eligible to vote in Town elections.** Registering to vote with the Town Board of Elections in the Town's supplemental system of registration is for Town residents who wish to vote only in Town elections and are not already registered to vote with the County Board of Elections. Pursuant to Town Charter Section C7-1.B., "A person may not vote in a town election if the person is not registered with the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Charles County or the Town of La Plata on or before the fifth Monday preceding any town election."

Absentee Voting

In accordance with Chapter 17, Article II, of the Code of the Town of La Plata, the Board of Supervisors of Elections of the Town of La Plata shall make available applications for absentee ballots to any qualified voter upon request. Applications must be received not later than seven (7) days before the election. Application forms are available at the La Plata Town Hall, Monday through Friday, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and on the Town's web page at <http://www.townoflaplata.org>.