

# CHECKING IN

*OCPF's monthly newsletter for local election officials*

**OCTOBER 2021**

OCPF

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## ILLUSTRATED GUIDES

OCPF has created illustrated guides for candidates and committees who file locally, such as town candidates, school committee candidates, and city council candidates in cities with fewer than 65,000 residents.

Please share these guides with local candidates and committees.

[COMPLETING THE M102 CAMPAIGN  
FINANCE REPORT](#)

[REPORTING OUT-OF-POCKET  
EXPENDITURES](#)

### USE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY FOR CAMPAIGN PURPOSES

Candidates and committees may campaign in public buildings and on public property, so long as there is no fundraising in public buildings, and equal access is provided to all under the same terms and conditions.

Example 1: A candidate may hold an event in a public park, and receive contributions. However, he or she should follow the rules for events set by the municipal parks department.

Example 2: A candidate may set up a table in the senior center, bring coffee and doughnuts, and invite seniors to talk about issues. However, all candidates must be able to do the same, under the same terms and conditions. Fundraising is prohibited in public buildings.

Example 3: A library has a rule that candidates may not campaign in the building. Such restrictive policies are also consistent with the campaign finance law, so long as all candidates and committees are treated equally.



Do unsuccessful  
preliminary  
election candidates  
file the  
pre-election report  
too?



Yes. If a candidate is  
unsuccessful in a  
preliminary election,  
he or she would still  
file the pre-election  
report, due Oct. 25 for  
the Nov. 2, 2021,  
election.  
(Local filers only)