

## **Filing Fees and Qualifying by the Alternative Method (Petitions)**

**Filing fee:** There is a filing fee to run for office in the City of Orlando. It is calculated based on 3% percent of the salary (at the time of qualifying) of the office being sought.

**Petition method:** You may choose to qualify by the alternative method which requires collecting petitions from 3% of the registered voters in the geographical area as of the last general election.

*Total Registered Voters x 3% = Number of petitions required*

**Verification fee:** Also required at the time of qualifying by petition is a check from the campaign account made payable to the City of Orlando for verification by the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office. The charge is 10 cents per petition collected.

**Prerequisites for collecting petitions:** Please note that signatures may not be collected until you (the candidate) have filed the appointment of campaign treasurer and designation of campaign depository. [Fla. Stat. 99.095 (2)( a)] These forms can be found elsewhere on this website.

**Waiver of filing fee:** Using the alternative method (collecting petitions) allows you to waive the portion of the filing fee which represents 2% of the salary.

You may waive the additional 1% of the salary by filing an affidavit of undue burden pursuant to Fla. Stat. 99.093. That form is also found on this website.

**Requirement to reimburse:** Finally, please note that Fla. Stat. 106.141 (6) states as follows: *Disposition of surplus funds by candidates* – “Prior to disposing of funds pursuant to subsection (4) or transferring funds into an office account pursuant to subsection (5), any candidate who filed an oath stating that he or she was unable to pay the election assessment or fee for verification of petition signatures without imposing an undue burden on his or her personal resources or on resources otherwise available to him or her, or who filed both such oaths, or who qualified by the petition process and was not required to pay an election assessment, shall reimburse the state or local government entity, whichever is applicable, for such waived assessment or fee or both.”