

Required Submission Packet for
Declaration of Candidacy

LRBOI Primary and Regular Election

2027



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Election Board
2608 Government Center Drive
Phone (231) 398-6709
ElectionBoard@lrboi-nsn.gov

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Candidate Submission Instructions

Please carefully read all documents.

All documents, fees, signatures and other information required to file for candidacy in any upcoming Election are explicitly detailed in this Candidate Submission Packet. Please read this packet in its entirety and complete all items listed in the Declaration Submission Checklist. Return the completed packet to the Election Board no later than **5:00 pm on October 5, 2026**. A complete submission requires all documents listed on the checklist except for the campaign finance report which must be submitted no later than five (5) business days before the date of the Regular Election. Any required documents, information or signatures which are missing from a packet will result in ineligibility. It is the Candidate's responsibility to ensure that the packet is complete in its entirety.

All candidates shall have a background check conducted. The fee for the background check is **\$100**. The fee must be paid by **money order** or **cashier's check**, payable to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Background check fee must be submitted by Declaration Packet due date. The Election Board will not accept cash or personal checks. The background fee is non-refundable. The background fee is \$100 unless you have lived in more than one county, or state in the past ten (10) years. If your background check costs more than \$100 the Election Board will contact you to pay the remaining amount due. The payment is due within 14 days.

Candidates for the office of Ogema or Tribal Council must "Disclose to the Membership" information as required by the Tribe's Constitution Article IV Section 3(b) and Article V Section 2(b). Further explanation regarding Disclosure requirements can be found in the Election Board Regulations Chapter 4, Section 6. **All** disclosures will be posted by the Election Board, at a minimum on the Election Board webpages on LRBOI-nsn.gov. **The disclosure acknowledgement must be filled out and turned in with the Declaration of Candidacy Submission.**

The Election Board will review the Declaration of Candidacy Submission to ensure that all documents are included and filled out correctly. The Declaration of Candidacy Packet will be date stamped and a receipt will be sent to the email address included in packet, or provided when personally dropped off the packet, a receipt will be given at that time.

The requirements for the **Candidate Campaign Financial Report** can be found in the Election Board Regulations Chapter 6, Section 4-C. The report must be received by the Election Board Office no later than five (5) business days before the date of the Regular Election. **The Campaign Financial Report must have all receipts and documentation attached when submitted.** Documentation must be legible, including receipts. This report will be date stamped on the day it is received.

Available with this Candidate Packet is a copy of the Election Announcement and Election Board Regulations.

Declaration Submission Check List

(You must mark off each check point below and sign at the end)

Print Last Name First Name Middle Name Tribal ID #

	Candidate	EB
1. Copy of your Tribal ID. Must be current and up to date.	☐	☐
2. Copy of a Valid Driver's License or State ID. Must be current and up to date.	☐	☐
3. Background Check fee payment made payable to <i>Little River Band of Ottawa Indians</i> . This fee is non-refundable.	☐	☐
4. Provide a copy of two (2) utility bills, or credit card/bank statements that show the candidate's name and address.	☐	☐
5. Complete and sign the <i>Declaration of Candidacy Application</i> (pg. 5)	☐	☐
6. Initial and sign the <i>Sworn Statement</i> for the office you are running. (pgs. 6-10)	☐	☐
7. Complete, initial and sign the <i>Background Application</i> . (pgs. 11-12)	☐	☐
8. Complete Acknowledgement (pg. 13)	☐	☐
9. The <i>Campaign Finance Report</i> is due to the Election Board no later than five (5) business days before the date of the Regular Election (pgs. 14-15: only page 14 shall be returned) *	☐	☐
10. A Biography and Photograph may be included with the packet should you choose to be included in any publications, postings and/or mailings done by the Election Board. (pg. 16)	☐	☐

The lack of a signature and/or submission of any part of the Candidate Packet will result in an ineligible candidacy. This includes submission of background investigation fee. Your signature below indicates acknowledgement of this requirement.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the candidate submission instructions and understand the requirements.

Signature

Date

Declaration of Candidacy Application

Addresses must match what is on file with Enrollment. Please Print Legibly.

Print	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID #
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Physical Address (where you live)	Date of Birth
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City	State	Zip
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Mailing Address (where you receive your mail, if same as your physical address, write **same**)

City	State	Zip
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Contact phone number	Email address: Receipt of your candidate application will be sent to this email address.
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Please print your name below as you would like it to appear on the official ballot:



Print Name Legibly

I declare candidacy for the following office:

- _____ Office of Tribal Council - Outlying
- _____ Office of Tribal Council - Nine County
- _____ Office of Tribal Council - At Large
- _____ Office of Tribal Ogema
- _____ Office of Chief Judge
- _____ Office of Associate Judge
- _____ Office of Appellate Judge
- _____ Office of Election Board

Signature

Date

Office of Tribal Council Candidate Sworn Statement & Disclosure

Print	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID #
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Sworn Statement

My signature on this form is my sworn statement that I am a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, I am at least twenty-one (21) years of age, and a resident of the State of Michigan for at least six (6) months prior to the date of the next scheduled Election.

Disclosure Statement

An individual seeking elected office or nomination for Tribal Council shall disclose whether he or she:

Circle the applicable portion of the following statements:

I **do** or **do not** have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution for a crime involving fraud or misrepresentation; and /or

I **do** or **do not** have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest within the past ten (10) years, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution for any crime listed in the Major Crimes as amended (18 U.S.C. §1153), including murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, maiming, a felony under Chapter 109A (sexual abuse), incest, assault with intent to commit murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault resulting in serious bodily injury, assault against an individual under the age of 16 years, felony child abuse or neglect, arson, burglary, robbery, or larceny; and/or

I **do** or **do not** have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution pending or have any conviction within the past ten (10) years for any felony in any jurisdiction including any other tribal nation, or for any other offense, the victim of which was the Tribe or any Tribal business, enterprise, department, or program; and /or

I **do** or **do not** have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution pending or have any conviction for any offense related to sexual crimes or criminal sexual conduct where the perpetrator was convicted as an adult at the time the crime was committed, and/or is registered in any jurisdiction's list of sex offenders.

The duty to disclose required information continues throughout the election cycle, therefore I understand and confirm that this disclosure requirement mandates that any new conviction, charge, indictment, or pending prosecution must be promptly reported to the Election Board.

I, the above-named, swear or affirm that all information provided is true and accurate.

Signature

Date

Office of Ogema Candidate Sworn Statement & Disclosure

Print Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID #
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Sworn Statement

I am a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, am at least twenty-five (25) years of age, and a resident of the State of Michigan for at least six (6) months prior to the date of the next scheduled Election.

Disclosure Statement

An individual seeking elected office or nomination for Tribal Ogema shall disclose whether he or she:

Circle the applicable portion of the following statements:

I do or do not have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution for a crime involving fraud or misrepresentation; and /or

I do or do not have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest within the past ten (10) years, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution for any crime listed in the Major Crimes Act as amended (18 U.S.C. §1153), including murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, maiming, a felony under Chapter 109A (sexual abuse), incest, assault with intent to commit murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault resulting in serious bodily injury, assault against an individual under the age of 16 years, felony child abuse or neglect, arson, burglary, robbery, or larceny; and/or

I do or do not have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution pending or have any conviction within the past ten (10) years for any felony in any jurisdiction including any other tribal nation, or for any other offense, the victim of which was the Tribe or any Tribal business, enterprise, department, or program, and /or

I do or do not have any conviction, plea of guilty, or no contest, or any charge, indictment, or pending prosecution pending or have any conviction for any offense related to sexual crimes or criminal sexual conduct where the perpetrator was convicted as an adult at the time the crime was committed, and/or is registered in any jurisdiction's list of sex offenders.

The duty to disclose required information continues throughout the election cycle, therefore I understand and confirm that this disclosure requirement mandates that any new conviction, charge, indictment, or pending prosecution must be promptly reported to the Election Board.

I, the above-named, swear or affirm that all information provided is true and accurate.

Signature

Date

Office of Tribal Court (Tribal Member) Candidate Sworn Statement & Disclosure

Print	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID #
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Sworn Statement

I am a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, am at least twenty-five (25) years of age, and not currently a member of the Tribal Council or am not the sitting Ogema, nor am I currently a candidate for a seat on the Tribal Council or for the office of the Ogema.

Disclosure Statement

An individual seeking elected office or nomination for Tribal Court Judge shall disclose whether he or she:

Circle the applicable portion of the following statement:

I **have** or **have not** been convicted of any crime or dishonesty, or moral turpitude, nor been convicted of a felony under Tribal, or State law within the ten (10) year period immediately preceding the date of the election or in the event of a vacancy under Constitution Article X, Section 4(a), his or her appointment.

The duty to disclose required information continues throughout the election cycle, therefore I understand and confirm that this disclosure requirement mandates that any new conviction, charge, indictment, or pending prosecution must be promptly reported to the Election Board.

I, the above-named, swear or affirm that all information provided is true and accurate.

Signature

Date

Office of Tribal Court (Attorney Candidate) Candidate Sworn Statement & Disclosure

Print	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID # Not Required
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Sworn Statement

I am seeking election or appointment to serve as a Tribal Court Judge on the basis that I possess a Juris Doctorate Degree from an accredited institution and have practiced in the area of Federal Indian law or as a Tribal Court Judge.

Disclosure Statement

An individual seeking elected office or nomination for Tribal Court Judge shall disclose whether he or she:

Circle the applicable portion of the following statements:

I **have** or **have not** been convicted of any crime or dishonesty, or moral turpitude, nor have I been convicted of a felony under Tribal, or State law within the ten (10) year period immediately preceding the date of the election or in the event of a vacancy under Constitution Article X, Section 4(a), his or her appointment.

The duty to disclose required information continues throughout the election cycle, therefore I understand and confirm that this disclosure requirement mandates that any new conviction, charge, indictment, or pending prosecution must be promptly reported to the Election Board.

I, the above-named, swear or affirm that all information provided is true and accurate.

Signature	Date
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Office of Election Board Candidate Sworn Statement & Disclosure

Print	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID #
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Sworn Statement

I am a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. I do not currently hold any elected office in the Tribe nor am I a candidate for any other elected office, except that it is permissible to be a current Member of the LRBOI Election Board.

Disclosure Statement

An individual seeking elected office or nomination for Election Board shall disclose whether he or she:

Circle the applicable portion of the following statement:

I have or have not been convicted of any crime or dishonesty, or moral turpitude, nor been convicted of a felony under Tribal, or State law within the ten (10) year period immediately preceding the date of the election or in the event of a vacancy under Constitution Article X, Section 4(a), his or her appointment.

The duty to disclose required information continues throughout the election cycle, therefore I understand and confirm that this disclosure requirement mandates that any new conviction, charge, indictment, or pending prosecution must be promptly reported to the Election Board.

I, the above-named, swear or affirm that all information provided is true and accurate.

Signature

Date

Background Application
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
2608 Government Center Dr. Manistee, MI 49660

Personal Information

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Maiden Name
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Alias or prior names used in the last ten (10) years
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Current Physical Street Address	City	State	Zip
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Date of Birth	Social Security Number	Telephone Number
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Driver's License #	State Issued	Exp Date
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List all the addresses where you have lived at within the last ten (10) years:

Street Address	City	State	Zip
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Street Address	City	State	Zip
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Street Address	City	State	Zip
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Arrest or Convictions

Please read carefully and thoroughly. Your answer should include convictions resulting within the past ten (10) years for any crime listed in the Major Crimes Act as amended (18 U.S.C. §1153), including murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, maiming, a felony under chapter 109A (sexual abuse), incest, assault with intent to commit murder, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault resulting in serious bodily injury, assault against an individual under the age of 16 years, felony child abuse or neglect, arson, burglary, robbery, or larceny, any felony, or for any other offense, the victim of which offense was the Tribe, or any Tribal business, enterprise, department or program, any offense related to sexual crimes or criminal sexual conduct where the perpetrator was convicted as an adult at the time the crime was committed.

Have you ever been arrested for or charged with a crime? Circle one: Yes No

If yes what was the charge? _____

Have you ever been arrested for or charged with a crime involving a child? Yes No

Background Application page 2

If yes, what was the charge? _____

Have you ever been found guilty of any offense under Federal, State or Tribal law involving crimes of violence, sexual assault, molestation, exploitation, contract or prostitution, or crimes against any persons? Yes No

If yes, what was the charge? _____

Authorization for Release of Information

In connection with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians tribal election process, I hereby authorize the Election Board of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians to conduct an investigation into my personal background for the purpose of evaluating my qualifications to run as a candidate for the upcoming election. I acknowledge and agree that the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Election Board elected officials, its representatives, and Personnel Security Consultants may obtain information pursuant to such investigation through public records (e.g., convictions, motor vehicle violations, etc.).

_____ (initials)

I hereby release the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Election Board elected officials, its representatives, and any person providing information in connection with this investigation from any and all liability which may arise in connection with this background investigation.

_____ (initials)

I understand that I have the right to make a written request within thirty (30) days after the completion of the investigation to receive information concerning the nature and scope of the background investigation conducted. By initialing this section and signing this Background Check Application, I acknowledge my understanding of, and agreement to this Authorization for Release of Information, and my signature at the end of this application shall constitute my authorization for the release of such information.

_____ (initials)

Background Check Certification

I certify that my responses provided on the Background Application are true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that providing false information or documentation or failing to disclose information shall be grounds for disqualification of my candidacy and may subject me to prosecution for fraud or election fraud, or both.

_____ (initials)

Signature

Date

Acknowledgement for all Candidates

Print	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID #
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The following statements apply to all candidates for Elected Office:

I have received, read, and understand the regulations governing the election process.
_____ (initials)

I understand that I may be disqualified as a candidate if my candidate declaration or any of my required disclosures are found to contain a false statement.
_____ (initials)

I understand that all disclosures will be posted by the Election Board, at a minimum on the Election Board webpages on LRBOI-nsn.gov.
_____ (initials)

I understand that a candidate who fails to submit a complete and accurate campaign finance report shall be disqualified from elected office.
_____ (initials)

I understand that a candidate who submits false information on a campaign finance report shall be disqualified from elected office. The Election Board will refer all credible allegations of election fraud to Tribal law enforcement.
_____ (initials)

I understand that a candidate who exceeds campaign spending limits shall be disqualified from elected office.
_____ (initials)

I understand that a candidate who accepts any type of banned campaign contributions prohibited by Chapter 6 section 3(h) shall be disqualified from elected office.
_____ (initials)

I understand that all Declarations of Candidacy are a matter of Tribal record, which shall be kept on file with the Election Board.
_____ (initials)

I understand that if I wish to withdraw my candidacy in this election I must do so by 5:00 pm on October 23, 2026, for Primary & January 19, 2027 for Regular Election, to the electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov email address.
_____ (initials)

Signature

Date

Campaign Finance Report

Print Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Tribal ID #
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In accordance with Chapter 6 of the Election Board Regulations, and consistent with the candidate's responsibility under Section 3(I), the total of all expenditures and contributions made by a candidate or by any person acting on the candidate's behalf shall not exceed \$5,000.

Complete and return this form to the Election Board no later than five (5) business days prior to the election.

Contributions & Expenditures **Reminder- Please refer to the Election Board Regulations Chapter 6**

Date of Expenditure or Contribution	Person Making Contribution or Expenditure Detail	Amount of Contribution or Expenditure	Type of Contribution or Expenditure Documentation
	*Background Check Fee		

I, the above-named, certify that the amounts for Contributions & Expenditures are correct to the best of my knowledge and if applicable receipts are attached.

Signature	Date
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Failure to file a Campaign Finance Report will result in penalties including disqualification from elected office. If more space is needed, please use additional pages to complete the reporting.

Campaign Finance Report Penalties

Failure to submit by deadline a complete and accurate Campaign Finance Report

- Candidates who fail to submit a complete and accurate campaign finance report shall be disqualified from elected office. This report is due no later than five (5) business days prior to the election.
- Any Candidate who does not file a complete and accurate campaign finance report is out of compliance with the regulations. If report remains unsubmitted the Candidate will be contacted in writing by the Election Board within thirty (30) days of the date of election.
- Any Candidate who does not comply with the reporting requirement will be restricted from filing a Declaration of Candidacy or be certified as a Candidate in any next Election. This restriction will continue until reports are submitted.

Exceeding Campaign Spending Expenditure Limit.

- Candidate who exceeds a campaign spending limit shall be disqualified from elected office.

Accepting Banned Campaign Contributions.

- A Candidate who accepts any type of banned campaign contribution prohibited by Section 3(h) of Chapter 6, shall be disqualified from elected office.

False information or Fraud.

- A Candidate who submits false information on a campaign finance report shall be disqualified from elected office. The Election Board will refer all credible allegations of election fraud to Tribal Law Enforcement.

Receipts

- Receipts must be readable and legible.

Responsibility of Candidates

- Candidate responsibility includes ensuring each person acting on behalf of the candidate in a campaign has met the requirements of the regulation as referenced in Chapter 6 Section 3 (I).

Biography Page

If a candidate wishes to have their photograph and/or biography included in the Tribal Currents, the Election Board website, the Election Board Facebook page and/or any potential mailings by the Election Board, the candidate must include the photograph and/or biography in their “Declaration of Candidate Submission Packet”. There is a 300-word limit for the biography and must be included when submitting the candidate packet.

This must be turned in with the Declaration of Candidate Submission Packet by 5:00 pm on **October 5, 2026**. You can turn in your biography on a separate sheet of paper included in your packet or send it to the Election Board email as a PDF or a Word file. If you have questions, please reach out and we can help you get the best option for your biography and/or picture.

Email:

electionboard@lrboi-nsn.gov

Note: Candidates who do not provide a biography and/or photograph shall be listed with an indication that the biography and photograph were not provided.

Recommended biography submission format. Maximum 300 words to fit in a vertical 8” x 4” space. Times New Roman 11 Font. 1”x 2” PDF or JPEG picture. Example below.

	Candidate Name
	Biography may include any information about yourself that you want to include.
	Examples: clan, family, background, work experience, education, hobbies, goals for the Tribe and how you plan to achieve them, what makes you a good leader, what makes you the best candidate, etc.