

OKMH Election Information

The Karnes County Hospital District is governed by an elected board of directors. Interested and eligible residents of Karnes County may run for a seat on the board.

Hospital District elections are conducted in May of even numbered years in accordance with the Texas Secretary of State Uniform General Election Date. The next election is May 2, 2026. The filing dates for the May 2, 2026 election is Monday, December 16, 2025, through Friday, February 13, 2026. The filing date for the declaration of write-in candidacy is Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

Interested candidates should review all of the information below. Questions about application filing may be directed to Christina Benavides at 830-583-3401.

According to state law (Sec. 286.045 of the Health and Safety Code):

- **(a) To be eligible to be a candidate for or to serve as a director, a person must be:**
 - **A resident of the district and a qualified voter.**
- **(b) In addition to the qualifications required by Subsection (a), if directors are elected from commissioners precincts, a person who is elected from a commissioner precinct or who is appointed to fill a vacancy for a commissioner precinct must be a resident of that commissioner precinct.**
- **(c) An employee of the district may not serve as a director.**

*Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 14, Sec. 121, eff. Sept. 1, 1991.

General requirements for candidacy for hospital district boards can be found at the following link: [Candidacy Filing - Local Political Subdivisions \(state.tx.us\)](https://www.state.tx.us/candidacy-filing-local-political-subdivisions)

An application for a place on the general election ballot for the OKMH board of directors can be found at the following link: [Application For A Place On The General Election Ballot \(state.tx.us\)](https://www.state.tx.us/application-for-a-place-on-the-general-election-ballot)

- Completed applications may be filed in person or by mail with Christina Benavides, Administration, Karnes County Hospital District, 3349 S HWY 181, Kenedy, TX 78119; or via fax (830) 583-4595; or by email: christina.benavides@okmh.org.
- Candidates interested in filing an application for a place on the ballot can file their application the 30th day before the filing deadline. The filing deadline for a general election is 5 p.m. on the 78th day before the election day. The deadline to file a declaration of write-in candidacy is 5 p.m. on the 74th day before the election. Deadlines for the 2024 General Election are:
- The filing dates for the May 2, 2026 election is Monday, December 16, 2025, through Friday, February 13, 2026. The filing date for the declaration of write-in candidacy is Tuesday, February 17, 2026.
- Call Christina Benavides with questions 830-583-3401.

Election dates for 2023-2024 can be found at the following link: [**Important Election Dates 2021-2022 \(state.tx.us\)**](#)

- The next election for the OKMH board of directors is May 4, 2024.

Requirements and deadlines for filing for candidacy can be found at the following link: [**Candidate Information \(state.tx.us\)**](#)

Polling places in Karnes County for election day and for the early voting period can be found at the following link: [**Karnes County, Texas**](#)