



Fact sheet

Triennial election Saturday 12 October 2019

General

Elections for district health boards are held at the same time as local body elections and will be conducted by postal vote on Saturday 12 October 2019.

The elections will be conducted under the provisions of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 and the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000.

There is a legal requirement for DHB elections to be conducted by an electoral officer of a city or district council within the DHB's boundary. Whanganui DHB has appointed the Whanganui District Council's electoral officer to conduct the 2019 WDHB election.

Positions

Elections for Whanganui District Health Board will be required for seven positions, which are elected 'at large' from the board's area. This includes Whanganui District Council, Rangitikei District Council and part of the Ruapehu District Council.

Following the election, the Minister of Health appoints up to four further members to fill any gaps in the expertise needed for the DHB to best achieve its functions and objectives.

All board members (elected and appointed) are directly responsible and accountable to the Minister of Health for their performance in planning, funding and delivery of health services to the community.

Nominations

Nominations open on **Friday 19 July 2019** and close at **noon on Friday 16 August 2019**.

A candidate information handbook and nomination papers will be available during this time from:

- Whanganui District Council, 101 Guyton Street, Whanganui.
- Rangitikei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton.
- Ruapehu District Council, 59-63 Huia Street, Taumarunui.

Candidates can only lodge their nomination and deposit with the WDHB's electoral officer, Noeline Moosman, at the Whanganui District Council.

Term of office

Board members are elected for a three-year term. The term of office for current board members ends on Friday 6 December 2019.

Eligibility

Most people qualify as candidates for a DHB election if they are registered as a New Zealand Parliamentary elector and are a New Zealand citizen (either by birth or naturalisation ceremony). However, there are some exceptions which are set out in the NZ Public Health and Disability Act 2000.

All candidates must be nominated by two people who are on the electoral roll in the WDHB's district.

You do not have to live in the DHB's district to stand for election to its board, but you cannot stand for election in more than one DHB. However, you can stand as both a local government candidate (for example council or community board) and as a candidate for a DHB.

DHB employees who meet the eligibility criteria are also able to stand for election.

Remuneration

The Minister of Health determines levels of remuneration in accordance with the Cabinet Fees Framework. Board members are paid an annual fee for their service on the board. Members can also be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their DHB duties, such as travel costs.

Voting information

The STV (single transferable voting) system is used by all district health boards. STV is a system of proportional representation that enables voters to rank candidates in order of preference.

Key dates for 2019

Friday 19 July	Nominations open
Friday 16 August	Nominations close at noon
20 to 25 September	Voting documents delivered
Saturday 12 October	Election day Voting closes at noon
14 to 23 October	Special votes counted and official final results announced
Monday 9 December	New board members take office

WDHB electoral contact

For queries regarding the role of DHB members and the election process, contact:

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