

Stand in the church election

Church Elections
19 SEP 2021

Do you want to help make a difference? If so, the role of elected representative in the Church of Sweden may be right for you! This information tells you how to put yourself forward as a candidate in the church election.

The election in the Church of Sweden will be held on Sunday 19 September 2021. Last time, in 2017, nearly 30,000 people stood as candidates and 23,000 were elected to at least one post. This information explains how to stand in the 2021 church election.

The church elections are important, because the Church of Sweden is a democratic church that is open to everyone. The Church of Sweden depends on people's involvement, and in the church elections, you and others have an opportunity to influence the Church.

CRITERIA TO BECOME A CANDIDATE

If you want to stand as a candidate in the church election, you must:

- be a member of the Church of Sweden.
- have been baptised in the Church of Sweden or another Christian faith community, or have previously been an elected representative in the Church of Sweden.
- be at least 18 years old on polling day.
- be registered in the church register in the area for which the election is being held (for the General Synod, you can only be elected in the diocese in which you are registered in the church register).

Much more information on how to stand as a candidate in the church election is available at svenskakyrkan.se/kyrkoval/stall-upp



**APPLY TO FORM
AND REGISTER A
NOMINATION GROUP
NO LATER THAN
15 APRIL 2021**

IF YOU ARE ELECTED

As an elected representative in the Church of Sweden, you take part in deciding what the Church should do in the next four years. This above all concerns three areas:

- What the Church should do – its strategic direction.
- What costs are permitted – the budget and allocation of resources.
- How work is carried out during that period – you help to follow up and evaluate the basic task of the parish: holding services of worship, teaching and informing people about the Christian faith, as well as meeting and helping vulnerable people.

If you are elected, you will keep your post for the full term of office, which is four years. This is the period until the next election. If you are not elected on election day, you might be appointed as a member or deputy at a later date, for example, to replace someone who has moved.

JOIN A NOMINATION GROUP

The groups participating in the church election are called nomination groups. They roughly correspond to parties in the general elections. You can join a nomination group that is already active or create a new nomination group together with people who wish to work with the same issues as you do.

Your diocese can help you find out which nomination groups are represented in the parish assembly where you live. Your diocese can also assist if you instead want to get involved at diocesan level or in the General Synod.

If you want to stand in a nomination group, contact them directly. They will be

able to give you more information about how to stand in the election with them. A nomination group must register its candidates no later than 15 April 2021.

FORM A NEW NOMINATION GROUP

To form a new nomination group, a number of supporters are required who are willing to support your registration. You will also need candidates who wish to stand for, and are eligible for, election.

The supporters must be entitled to vote in the election that the registration application concerns.

You need the following numbers of supporters to be able to form a new nomination group:

- The General Synod – at least 300 supporters
- The Diocesan Council – at least 100 supporters
- Local elections – at least 10 supporters

Apply to form a nomination group, register a group name, supporters, head representatives, other representatives and candidates no later than 15 April 2021.

Additional information on how to stand as a candidate in the church election is available at svenskakyrkan.se/kyrkoval/stall-upp