

## 62032 Foreign Nationals Candidate Eligibility

I am requesting disclosure of all information held by the Returning Officer for the City of Edinburgh Council relating to the eligibility of foreign nationals with limited leave to remain to stand as candidates for the Scottish Parliament election. This request covers the period from 30 April 2025 to the present, beginning on the date the Scottish Elections (Representation and Reform) Act 2025 received Royal Assent.

All internal emails, notes, or messages held by the Returning Officer or elections staff that discuss or reference: eligibility of foreign nationals candidates with Student Visas, Graduate Visas, Skilled Worker Visas, or any other temporary leave interpretation of “any form of leave to remain” uncertainty or clarification requests regarding visa based eligibility.

[Nomination forms are taken at face value. It is for the candidate to declare that they are not disqualified.](#)

All emails, letters, or messages sent to or received from the Electoral Commission regarding: candidate eligibility visa categories interpretation of the 2025 Act requests for clarification guidance updates or advice.

[The electoral commission guidance is used.](#)

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/guidance-returning-officers-administering-a-scottish-parliament-election>

Materials and guidance used by Edinburgh RO staff Including: training packs briefing notes internal instructions any updates issued after the 2025 Act any documents referencing visa-based eligibility.

[EC guidance and the EMB seminar](#)  
[- https://www.emb.scot/downloads/file/1181/nominations-and-proofing-semina](https://www.emb.scot/downloads/file/1181/nominations-and-proofing-semina)

Any internal or external requests for legal advice or clarification relating to: candidates with limited leave to remain the eligibility of foreign nationals.

[None](#)

Any anonymised records of enquiries from prospective candidates asking about eligibility where visa status was discussed.

[None](#)