

The Four Principles for Determining Eligibility of Write-in Votes

1. If the number of ballot candidates for a given office is equal to or greater than the number of seats to be filled—

Only votes for registered write-in candidates are eligible for counting.

(A ballot candidate whose name is written in under a different office than the office where the candidate's name is printed cannot be counted in this situation.)

2. If there are fewer ballot candidates for a given office than the number of seats to be filled—

All write-in votes are eligible for counting.

(A ballot candidate whose name is written in under a different office than the office where the candidate's name is printed *is* counted in this situation.)

3. If there are any ballot candidates for a given office and one or more has passed away—

All write-in votes are eligible for counting.

(A ballot candidate whose name is written in under a different office than the office where the candidate's name is printed *is* counted in this situation.)

4. If there are enough write-in votes to fill the number of seats up for election (*regardless of the eligibility of the write-in votes*)—

Votes for ballot candidates may not be considered.

Write-In Scenarios

Example 1

Village Trustee

Vote for not more than 2

Mark Mywords

Shirley Ugest

Rusty Pipe

Ballot instructions

2 ballot candidates for a 2-seat office.
Rusty is a registered write-in candidate.

Question 1: How many votes is the voter entitled to cast? (Refer to the ballot instructions.)

- Two. The instructions are "Vote for not more than 2."
- The voter has cast a vote for 3 candidates, which is one too many.

Question 2: Are all write-in votes eligible for counting or only votes cast for registered write-in candidates? (Refer to Principle 1.)

- There are 2 positions to be filled and 2 ballot candidates.
- Only votes for registered write-in candidates are eligible to be counted.

Question 3: *Is the write-in candidate registered?*

- Rusty Pipe is a registered write-in candidate. The vote for Rusty Pipe is counted.
- The voter is entitled to one more vote.

Question 4: *Are there enough write-in votes to fill the seats up for election? (Refer to Principle 4.)*

- No. There are 2 positions to be filled and only one write-in vote. There are not enough write-in votes to fill the 2 positions. Ballot candidates can be considered.
- There are two marked ballot candidates, and the voter is entitled to only one more vote. It is impossible to determine which ballot candidate the voter intended to vote for. Neither marked ballot candidate may be counted.

Final result

- There are 3 votes marked. The write-in vote for Rusty Pipe is the only vote counted for this office. Record Rusty's vote on the write-in tally sheet.
- The voting equipment has recorded this office as overvoted—no votes were recorded by the voting equipment.
- Adjust the tape to reflect a write-in vote.

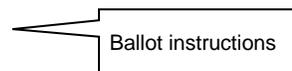
<u>Village Trustee</u>		
Mark Mywords	0	
Shirley Ugest	0	
Write-in	0	+1

- The reason for the adjustment is recorded on the Inspectors' Statement (EL-104).

Example 2

Village Trustee
Vote for not more than 2

- Mark Mywords
- Shirley Ugest
- Joe Smith
- _____



2 ballot candidates for a 2-seat office.
Joe is not a registered write-in candidate.

Question 1: *How many votes is the voter entitled to cast? (Refer to the ballot instructions.)*

- Two. The instructions are "Vote for not more than 2."

- The voter has cast a vote for 3 candidates, which is one too many.

Question 2: *Are all write-in votes eligible for counting or only votes cast for registered write-in candidates? (Refer to Principle 1.)*

- There are 2 positions to be filled and 2 ballot candidates.
- Only votes for registered write-in candidates are eligible to be counted.

Question 3: *Is the write-in candidate registered?*

- Joe Smith is not a registered write-in candidate. The vote for Joe Smith is not counted.
- The voter is entitled to two votes.

Question 4: *Are there enough write-in votes to fill the seats up for election? (Refer to Principle 4.)*

- No. There are 2 positions to be filled and only one write-in vote. There are not enough write-in votes to fill the 2 positions. Ballot candidates can be considered.
- There are two marked ballot candidates, and the voter is entitled to two votes. The votes for Mark Mywords and Shirley Ugest are counted.

Final result

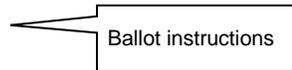
- There are 3 votes marked. Only the votes for Mark Mywords and Shirley Ugest are counted.
- The voting equipment has recorded this office as overvoted—no votes were recorded by the voting equipment.
- Adjust the tape to reflect the two ballot candidate votes.

<u>Village Trustee</u>		
Mark Mywords	0	+1
Shirley Ugest	0	+1
Write-in	0	

- The reason for the adjustment is recorded on the Inspectors' Statement (EL-104).

Example 3

Village Trustee
Vote for not more than 2



- Mark Mywords
- Shirley Ugest
- Rusty Pipe
- Joe Smith

2 ballot candidates for a 2-seat office.
Rusty is a registered write-in candidate.
Joe is not a registered write-in candidate

Question 1: *How many votes is the voter entitled to cast? (Refer to the ballot instructions.)*

- Two. The instructions are “Vote for not more than 2.”
- The voter has cast a vote for 3 candidates, which is one too many.

Question 2: *Are all write-in votes eligible for counting or only votes cast for registered write-in candidates? (Refer to Principle 1.)*

- There are 2 positions to be filled and 2 ballot candidates.
- Only votes for registered write-in candidates are eligible to be counted.

Question 3: *Are the write-in candidates registered?*

- Rusty Pipe is a registered write-in candidate, Joe Smith is not a registered write-in candidate and cannot be counted. The vote for Rusty Pipe is counted.
- The voter is entitled to one more vote.

Question 4: *Are there enough write-in votes to fill the seats up for election? (Refer to Principle 4.)*

- Yes. There are 2 positions to be filled and two write-in votes. There are enough write-in votes to fill the 2 positions. Ballot candidates cannot be considered.
- There is a marked ballot candidate, but ballot candidates may not be considered. The marked ballot candidate may not be counted.

Final result

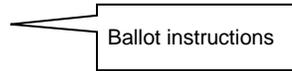
- There are 3 votes marked. The write-in vote for Rusty Pipe is the only vote counted for this office. Record Rusty’s vote on the write-in tally sheet.
- Adjust the tape to subtract Shirley Ugest’s vote . The tape does not have to be adjusted for Rusty Pipe (unfilled oval) because a write-in was recorded for Joe Smith, who was not counted.

<u>Village Trustee</u>		
Mark Mywords	0	
Shirley Ugest	0	-1
Write-in	0	

- The reason for the adjustment is recorded on the Inspectors' Statement (EL-104).

Example 4

Village Trustee
Vote for not more than 2



- Mark Mywords
- Shirley Ugest
- Rusty Pipe
- _____

2 ballot candidates for a 2-seat office.
 Rusty is a registered write-in candidate.

Question 1: How many votes is the voter entitled to cast? (Refer to the ballot instructions.)

- Two. The instructions are "Vote for not more than 2."
- The voter has cast a vote for 2 candidates

Question 2: Are all write-in votes eligible for counting or only votes cast for registered write-in candidates? (Refer to Principle 1.)

- There are 2 positions to be filled and 2 ballot candidates.
- Only votes for registered write-in candidates are eligible to be counted.

Question 3: Is the write-in candidate registered?

- Rusty Pipe is a registered write-in candidate. The vote for Rusty Pipe is counted.
- The voter is entitled to one more vote.

Question 4: Are there enough write-in votes to fill the seats up for election? (Refer to Principle 4.)

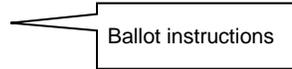
- No. There are 2 positions to be filled and only one write-in vote. There are not enough write-in votes to fill the 2 positions. Ballot candidates can be considered.
- There is one marked ballot candidate, so a vote for Shirley Ugest should be counted.

Final result

- There are 2 votes marked. The vote for Shirley Ugest and the write-in vote for Rusty Pipe are both counted for this office.

Example 5

Village Trustee
Vote for not more than 2



- Mark Mywords
- Shirley Ugest
- Rusty Pipe
- Joe Smith Bob Hope

2 ballot candidates for a 2-seat office.
Rusty and Bob are registered write-in candidates
Joe Smith is not a registered write-in candidate

Question 1: How many votes is the voter entitled to cast? (Refer to the ballot instructions.)

- Two. The instructions are “Vote for not more than 2.”
- The voter has cast a vote for 5 candidates, which is three too many.

Question 2: Are all write-in votes eligible for counting or only votes cast for registered write-in candidates? (Refer to Principle 1.)

- There are 2 positions to be filled and 2 ballot candidates.
- Only votes for registered write-in candidates are eligible to be counted.

Question 3: Is the write-in candidate registered?

- Rusty Pipe and Bob Hope are both registered write-in candidates. Joe Smith is not a registered write-in candidate. The votes for Rusty Pipe and Bob Hope are counted; the vote for Joe Smith is not counted.

Question 4: Are there enough write-in votes to fill the seats up for election? (Refer to Principle 4.)

- Yes. There are 2 positions to be filled and three write-in votes. There are enough write-in votes to fill the 2 positions. Ballot candidates may not be considered.

Final result

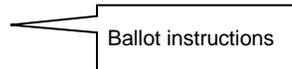
- There are 5 votes marked. The write-in votes for Rusty Pipe and Bob Hope are counted for this office.
- The voting equipment has recorded this office as overvoted—no votes were recorded by the voting equipment.
- Adjust the tape to reflect two write-in votes.

<u>Village Trustee</u>		
Mark Mywords	0	
Shirley Ugest	0	
Write-in	0	+2

- The reason for the adjustment is recorded on the Inspectors’ Statement (EL-104).

Example 6

Village Trustee
Vote for not more than 2



- Mark Mywords
- Shirley Ugest
- Joe Smith
- Mary Williams

2 ballot candidates for a 2-seat office.
Joe and Mary are not registered write-in candidates

Question 1: How many votes is the voter entitled to cast? (Refer to the ballot instructions.)

- Two. The instructions are “Vote for not more than 2.”
- The voter has cast votes for 4 candidates, which is two too many.

Question 2: Are all write-in votes eligible for counting or only votes cast for registered write-in candidates? (Refer to Principle 1.)

- There are 2 positions to be filled and 2 ballot candidates.
- Only votes for registered write-in candidates are eligible to be counted.

Question 3: Is the write-in candidate registered?

- Joe Smith and Mary Williams are not registered write-in candidates. The votes for Joe Smith and Mary Williams are not counted.

Question 4: Are there enough write-in votes to fill the seats up for election? (Refer to Principle 4.)

- Yes. There are 2 positions to be filled and two write-in votes. There are enough write-in votes to fill the 2 positions. Ballot candidates may not be considered.

Final result

- There are 4 votes marked. Votes for no candidates are counted.
- The voting equipment has recorded this office as overvoted—no votes were recorded by the voting equipment.