

How to Triumph Over Political Challenges as a Candidate With a Disability

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It's not easy running for a political office, and even more so when you have a disability. And yet, it can be observed that more and more people with disabilities are starting to get into politics of late, and the timing couldn't be better. In the last few decades, painstaking changes have been made to improve the lives of people from marginalized groups. And while we are yet a long way from the utopian dream of a truly equal world, it's encouraging to note that [more people](#) from various sectors, including those with disabilities, are fighting to give voice to their troubles.

It all boils down to [representation](#). People with disabilities face challenges on a daily basis, but many of these are yet to be fully understood by society at large. So if running for office is something that you'd want to explore as a disabled person, you will find yourself very well-poised to do plenty of good for those who live with disabilities. However, you could also find yourself with real difficulties on your hands, as such an undertaking will test you in more ways than one. So let's go ahead and explore how you can run for office as a candidate with a disability.

Anticipate the challenges.

As a person with a disability, you're no stranger to challenges. In fact, it can even be said that you may be better equipped to face the difficulties of politics than most people. However, it's still very important to understand what [possible challenges](#) you may encounter in your political bid, as doing so will surely give you a better idea of what to expect and how you can handle these challenges.

No doubt, probably the biggest of these hurdles that you're likely to face is the disability stereotype. There are still so many people in this day and age that automatically see disabilities [as a weakness](#), and because of this, disabled candidates could feel the pressure to prove themselves. And it's also because of this stigma that there are still [fewer candidates with disabilities](#) in the political arena today, even though this number is thankfully increasing.

Adequate preparation is the way to go.

Of course, there's nothing better than a very well-prepared candidate to put detractors in their place. How you prepare for your campaign—both for its setbacks and triumphs—is undoubtedly the best way to show your capabilities and power as a public official, while not too far behind is your knowledge on both issues and policy.

It's definitely interesting to note that there are now a number of organizations that are dedicated to helping people with disabilities who have political aspirations become campaign-ready. At the most fundamental level, [campaign training programs](#) will help you elevate your leadership skills by tackling core campaign skills like communications, outreach, and even fundraising, to name a few.

Assistance from the right people really does help.

Finally, know that the lifeblood of your campaign is the people you surround yourself with. In fact, you'll find that [your campaign staff](#) will not only be instrumental in running your campaign smoothly and successfully, but also help you tackle the issues and challenges you will face head-on.

Now, your campaign will certainly stand to benefit from the usual suspects, like your [campaign manager](#), fundraiser, volunteer coordinator, and more. However, people who essentially get things done are just as important, too, such as a web designer who can create a professional website for your campaign that speaks of your competence and integrity. In fact, it can be a good idea to work with a [freelance web designer](#), and you can easily find candidates on Upwork and similar online job boards.

Suffice it to say, you can be sure that you'll have your work cut out for you as a political candidate with a disability. However, you will also get by with a little help from a solid campaign staff, as well as adequate training and preparation. You will have a long, hard battle on your horizon when you run for office, but with so many people with disabilities in need of representation, it's truly a battle worth fighting.



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