The study assesses the influence of mayoral qualifications—education and job-related experience—on school enrollment and expansion of local revenues. After considering other political, economic, and demographic factors, the findings show that mayoral qualifications are associated with both greater school enrollment and local revenues. This positive influence, however, decreases under external constraints, such as the presence of illegal armed groups. The findings should apply in any setting where the provision of social services is decentralized and where the mayor also plays the role of city manager, performing both political and administrative functions. The study has implications for countries struggling to eradicate illiteracy as results show that mayoral human capital enhances educational performance.