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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**Qualifications for Public Office in the District of Columbia**

**Delegate to the U. S. House of Representatives**

To hold the office of D.C. Delegate to the House of Representatives, an individual must meet the following qualifications on the date of the general or special election (D.C. Code §1-401).

1. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia, as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302.
2. Be at least 25 years of age.
3. Hold no other paid political office.
4. Have resided in the District of Columbia continuously since the beginning of the three year period ending on the date of the general or special election.

**Mayor of the District of Columbia**

To hold the office of Mayor of the District of Columbia, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-241):

1. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia, as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302.
2. Hold no other paid public office or other employment.
3. Have resided and been domiciled in the District of Columbia for one year immediately preceding the general or special election.

**Chairman of the D.C. Council**

To hold the office of Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-225 and §1-226):

1. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia, as defined in D.C. Code §1-1302.
2. Hold no other paid public office or other employment.
3. Have resided and been domiciled in the District of Columbia for one year immediately preceding the general or special election.

### **At-Large Member of the D.C. Council**

To hold the office of At-Large Member of the Council of the District of Columbia, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-225):

1. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia, as defined in D.C. Code §1-1302.
2. Hold no other paid public office.
3. Have resided and been domiciled in the District of Columbia for one year immediately preceding the general or special election.

### **Ward Member of the D.C. Council**

To hold the office of Ward Member of the Council of the District of Columbia, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-225).

1. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia, as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302.
2. Hold no other paid public office.
3. Have resided and been domiciled in the District of Columbia for one year immediately preceding the general or special election.
4. Reside in the ward from which nominated.

### **At-Large Member of the Board of Education**

To hold the office of At-Large Member of the Board of Education, an individual must meet qualifications #1 and #2 **at the time the nominating petition is filed** and qualification #3 **upon taking office**--(D.C. Code §31-101):

1. Be a qualified elector in the District of Columbia at the time the nominating petition is filed, as defined by D.C. Code §1-1302.
2. Have resided in the District of Columbia during the 90 day period preceding the day that the nominating petition is filed, and have been during such period an actual resident of the District of Columbia and have claimed residence nowhere else.
3. Upon taking office, hold no other elective office, except delegate or alternate delegate to a political party nominating convention; nor be an officer nor employee of the District of Columbia Government or the Board of Education upon taking office.

### **Ward Member of the Board of Education**

To hold the office of Ward Member of the Board of Education, an individual must meet qualifications #1 and 2 **at the time the nominating petition is filed** and qualification #3 **upon taking office** (D.C. Code §31-101):

1. Be a qualified elector in the District at the time the nominating petition is filed, as defined by D.C. Code, §1-1302.
2. Have resided in the ward for the 90 day period immediately preceding the date the nominating petition is filed, and have been an actual resident of such ward and have claimed residence nowhere else.
3. Upon taking office, hold no other elective office, except delegate or alternate delegate to a political party nominating convention; nor be an officer nor employee of the District of Columbia Government or the Board of Education.

### **Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner from a Single Member District**

To hold the office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner from a Single Member District, an individual must meet the following qualifications (D.C. Code §1-256):

1. Be a registered qualified elector actually residing in the Single Member District from which he or she was elected.
2. Have resided in the Single Member District continuously for the 60 day period immediately preceding the day on which the nominating petition is filed.
3. Hold no other elected public office.

### **United States Senator**

To hold the office of United States Senator, an individual must meet the following qualifications, as defined in the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 3):

1. Be at least 30 years of age.
2. Have been a citizen of the United States for at least nine years.
3. Be a resident of the District of Columbia on the date of the general or special election.

## United States Representative

To hold the office of United States Representative, an individual must meet the following qualifications, as defined in the U.S. Constitution (Article I, Section 2):

1. Be at least 25 years of age.
2. Have been a citizen of the United States for at least seven years.
3. Be a resident of the District of Columbia on the date of the general or special election.

### DEFINITIONS

1. D.C. Code §1-1302 defines "qualified elector" as a United States citizen who:
  - a. Resides or is domiciled in the District and does not claim voting residence or the right vote in any state or territory.
  - b. Is, or will be, 18 years old on the day of the election.
  - c. Is not mentally incompetent as adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction.
  - e. Is not incarcerated for conviction of a felony.
2. Qualifications required in order to "hold public office" must be met at the time the duly elected individual begins his or her term of office. This date generally is January 2nd of the year following the general election, except in cases where a term begins after a fixed number of days following the certification of election results.