

## **ELECTED OFFICES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

### **DELEGATE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (§ 1-401. Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia.)**

The Delegate is a non-voting member of the House of Representatives. While unable to vote in the full House, the Delegate may vote in the Committee of the Whole and other committees of which they are a member. The Delegate is elected to a two year term every election year.

**§ 1-401 (b)(1)** No individual may hold the Office of Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia unless on the date of his election:

(A) He is a qualified elector (as that term is defined in § 1-1001.02(2)) of the District of Columbia;

(B) He is at least 25 years of age;

(C) He holds no other paid public office; and

(D) He has resided in the District of Columbia continuously since the beginning of the 3-year period ending on such date.

(2) He shall forfeit his office upon failure to maintain the qualifications required by this subsection.

**Primary Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 2,000 signatures or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.

**General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 3,000 signatures or 1.5% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters.

*Note: Must be a US Citizen to run for and hold this office (§ 1-1001.02(2)(B), (34)).*

**MAYOR (§ 1-204.21. Election, qualifications, vacancy, and compensation.)**

The Mayor of the District of Columbia is the head of the executive branch of the government of the District of Columbia, in the United States. The mayor has the duty to enforce district laws, and the power to either approve or veto bills passed by the Council of the District of Columbia, in the United States. The Mayor is elected to a four year term every non-presidential election year.

**1-204.21(c)(1)** No person shall hold the Office of Mayor unless he:

(A) Is a qualified elector;

(B) has resided and been domiciled in the District for 1 year immediately preceding the day on which the general or special election for Mayor is to be held;

(C) has not been convicted of a felony while holding the office; and

(D) is not engaged in any employment (whether as an employee or as a self-employed individual) and holds no public office or position (other than his employment in and position as Mayor), for which he is compensated in an amount in excess of his actual expenses in connection therewith, except that nothing in this clause shall be construed as prohibiting such person, while holding the Office of Mayor, from serving as a delegate or alternate delegate to a convention of a political party nominating candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, or from holding an appointment in a reserve component of an armed force of the United States other than a member serving on active duty under a call for more than 30 days.

The Mayor shall forfeit his office upon failure to maintain the qualifications required by this paragraph.

**Primary Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 2,000 signatures or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.

**General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 3,000 signatures or 1.5% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters.

## **MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (§ 1-204.02. Qualifications for holding office.)**

The Council enacts laws, approves the annual operating budget, and establishes and oversees the programs and operations of all District government agencies. The Chairman of the Council is elected to a four-year term every non-presidential election year. There are four at-large members of the Council; two are elected to four year terms every presidential election year, and two are elected to four year terms every non-presidential election year. Councilmembers for Wards 2, 4, 7, and 8 are elected to four year terms every presidential election year, and Councilmembers for Wards 1, 3, 5, and 6 are elected to four year terms every non-presidential election year.

No person shall hold the office of member of the Council, including the Office of Chairman, unless he:

- (1) Is a qualified elector;
- (2) is domiciled in the District and if he is nominated for election from a particular ward, resides in the ward from which he is nominated;
- (3) has resided and been domiciled in the District for 1 year immediately preceding the day on which the general or special election for such office is to be held;
- (4) has not been convicted of a felony while holding the office; and
- (5) holds no public office (other than his employment in and position as a member of the Council), for which he is compensated in an amount in excess of his actual expenses in connection therewith, except that nothing in this clause shall prohibit any such person, while a member of the Council, from serving as a delegate or alternate delegate to a convention of a political party nominating candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, or from holding an appointment in a reserve component of an armed force of the United States other than a member serving on active duty under a call for more than 30 days.

A member of the Council shall forfeit his office upon failure to maintain the qualifications required by this section, and, in the case of the Chairman, § 1-204.03(c).

### **Chairperson and At-large Members of the Council**

- **Primary Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 2,000 signatures or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.
- **General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 3,000 signatures or 1.5% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters.

## **Ward Members of the Council**

- **Primary Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 250 signatures or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party and residing in the same ward as the candidate.
- **General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 500 signatures of duly registered voters who reside in the same ward as the candidate.

**ATTORNEY GENERAL (§ 1-301.83. Minimum qualifications and requirements for Attorney General.)**

The Attorney General for the District of Columbia shall have charge and conduct of all laws business of the District and all suits instituted by and against the government thereof, and shall possess all powers afforded the Attorney General by the common and statutory law of the District and shall be responsibilities for upholding the public interest. The Attorney General is elected to a four-year term every non-presidential election year.

(a) No person shall hold the position of Attorney General for the District of Columbia unless that person:

- (1) Is a registered qualified elector as defined in § 1-1001.02(20);
- (2) Is a bona fide resident of the District of Columbia;
- (3) Is a member in good standing of the bar of the District of Columbia;
- (4) Has been a member in good standing of the bar of the District of Columbia for at least 5 years prior to assuming the position of Attorney General; and
- (5) Has been actively engaged, for at least 5 of the 10 years immediately preceding the assumption of the position of Attorney General, as:
  - (A) An attorney in the practice of law in the District of Columbia;
  - (B) A judge of a court in the District of Columbia;
  - (C) A professor of law in a law school in the District of Columbia; or
  - (D) An attorney employed in the District of Columbia by the United States or the District of Columbia.

(b) The Attorney General shall devote full-time to the duties of the office and shall not engage in the private practice of law and shall not perform any other duties while in office that are inconsistent with the duties and responsibilities of Attorney General.

**Primary Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 2,000 signatures or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.

**General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 3,000 signatures or 1.5% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters.

**United States Senator (§ 1–123. Call of convention; duties of convention; adoption of constitution; rejection of constitution; election of Senator and Representative)**

(d)(2) The qualifications for candidates for the offices of Senator and Representative shall conform with the provisions of Article I of the United States Constitution and the primary and general elections shall follow the same electoral procedures as provided for candidates for nonvoting Delegate of the District of Columbia in the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955[.].

Accordingly, no person shall be a Senator in the District of Columbia unless they:

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

**Primary Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 2,000 signatures or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.

**General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 3,000 signatures or 1.5% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters.

*Note: Must be a US Citizen to run for and hold this office (§ 1-1001.02(2)(B), (34)).*

**United States Representative (§ 1–123. Call of convention; duties of convention; adoption of constitution; rejection of constitution; election of Senator and Representative)**

(d)(2) The qualifications for candidates for the offices of Senator and Representative shall conform with the provisions of Article I of the United States Constitution and the primary and general elections shall follow the same electoral procedures as provided for candidates for nonvoting Delegate of the District of Columbia in the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955[.].

Accordingly, no person shall be a Representative in the District of Columbia unless they:

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

**Primary Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 2,000 signatures or 1% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters in the same party as the candidate.

**General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 3,000 signatures or 1.5% (whichever is less) of duly registered voters.

*Note: Must be a US Citizen to run for and hold this office (§ 1-1001.02(2)(B), (34)).*

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION (§ 38-2651. State Board of Education; establishment; membership.)**

The State Board of Education (SBOE) is responsible for advising the State Superintendent of Education on educational matters, including: state standards; state policies, including those governing special, academic, vocational, charter and other schools; state objectives; and state regulations proposed by the Mayor or the State Superintendent of Education. The At-large Member of the SBOE and Members for Wards 2, 4, 7, and 8 are elected to four year terms every presidential election year, and Members for Wards 1, 3, 5, and 6 are elected to four year terms every non-presidential election year.

(e)(1) Each member of the Board, including the at-large member, shall:

(A) Be a qualified elector, as that term is defined in § 1-1001.02, and, except for the at-large member, reside within the school election ward he or she represents;

(B) Satisfy the residency requirement set forth in § 1-1001.08(b);

(C) Not hold another elective office, other than as an official of a political party, as described in § 1-1001.01(1) through (4); and

(D) Not be an officer or employee of:

(i) The Board; or

(ii) With the exception of employees of the District of Columbia Public Schools, the District of Columbia government.

(2) A member shall forfeit his or her office upon failure to maintain the requirements of this subsection.

**At-large Member of the State Board of Education**

- **General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 1000 signatures of duly registered voters.

**Ward Member of the State Board of Education**

- **General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 200 signatures of duly registered voters in the same ward as the candidate.



**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONER (§ 1-309.05. Advisory Neighborhood Commissions -- Qualifications of members; nomination by petition.)**

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners advise the District government on matters of public policy including decisions regarding planning, streets, recreation, social services programs, health, safety, and sanitation in their respective neighborhood commission areas. Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners are elected to two year terms every election year.

**(a)(1)** No person shall be a member of an Advisory Neighborhood Commission unless the person:

**(A)** Is a registered qualified elector actually residing in the single-member district from which the person was elected;

**(B)** Has been residing in such district continuously for the 60 days immediately preceding the day on which the person files the nominating petitions as a candidate as such a member;

**(C)** Holds no other elected public office; and

**(D)** With the exception of a member representing the single-member district that includes the Central Detention Facility and Correctional Treatment Facility, has not been convicted of a felony committed while serving as a Commissioner.

**(2)** For the purpose of this subsection, the term “elected public office” means the offices of Mayor, Chairman or member of the Council, member of the State Board of Education, and the Delegate to the House of Representatives.

**General Election Minimum Signature Requirements:** 25 signatures of duly registered voters who reside in the same Single Member District as the candidate.