

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the time commitment for serving on the Commission?

The time commitment is unknown. The Commission is charged by law to establish districts for the United States House of Representatives and for the Senate and the House of Delegates of the General Assembly. This is a serious and substantial undertaking. Additionally, the law requires a number of public hearings across the Commonwealth which the members of the Commission would attend. While it is not likely that work would be required all day for weeks on end, it is a time commitment that will last for several months at a minimum. Once the Commission is established, it will determine how it will conduct its business and the role the commissioners will have.

Will meetings of the Commission be virtual or in-person?

The law permits virtual meetings if necessary due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission, once established, will determine its meeting schedule and the format for meetings and public hearings across the Commonwealth. The format is currently unknown.

I am not sure if I am eligible based on the requirements listed. How do I find out?

In determining your eligibility, please closely review the [requirements for eligibility in subsection B of § 30-394](#) and the [defined terms in § 30-391](#). These comprise the full criteria on which decisions on eligibility are based in the selection process.

There are some questions regarding eligibility that are clear cut and there are others that fall into a gray area. If yours falls into a gray area, please answer the corresponding question on the application as it feels right to you and include with your application your reasoning for why you should not be considered ineligible. This explanation will become part of your application packet that is provided to the legislative leaders for consideration and, should you advance to the final stage of consideration, to the Selection Committee. It will be for those entities to make a final determination as to your eligibility. Please note that if you advance to the final stage of consideration by the Selection Committee, your application and this explanation will become a public record.

Gray area questions may include, among others, certain questions of residency and questions as to whether previous activities are considered partisan or political in nature.

Do I need specific expertise, education, or work experience to serve on the Commission?

There are no specific requirements for service on the Commission other than those outlined in subsection B of § 30-394. Specific expertise, education, and work experience are not required, but you may highlight on your application or in additional documentation any experience you feel is relevant.

Will my application be public?

Your application and accompanying documents will be subject to public disclosure if you are one of the candidates chosen by the legislative leaders for final review by the Selection Committee.

Can I choose not to disclose my household income, age, gender, race, ethnicity, or other information required on the application?

Section 30-394 requires applicants to provide this information, and applications that do not include this information will be considered incomplete and will not be advanced in the selection process. The Selection Committee requires this information to ensure that the makeup of the Commission is representative of the demographics of the Commonwealth.

What should be included in the three required letters of recommendation?

The Selection Committee has not specified any requirements beyond the requirement that applicants submit "three letters of recommendation from individuals or organizations."

Where can I find the text of the law creating the Virginia Redistricting Commission?

The Virginia Redistricting Commission was created by an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia that was approved by Virginia voters in the 2020 general election. The full text of the amendment is available on the [Legislative Information System](#) and the text in the Constitution as amended can be found in [Section 6-A of Article II of the Constitution of Virginia](#).

Following passage of the amendment, enabling legislation was passed amending the Code of Virginia. This legislation, which includes the specific criteria for eligibility to serve on the Commission that is referenced in the application, was included as an amendment to the Appropriation Act, which was passed by the General Assembly on November 9, 2020. Because this legislation is recent, it does not appear yet in the Code of Virginia, but the text is available here: [Chapter 62 of Title 30 of the Code of Virginia](#).