



NOTE: THIS SET OF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO APPLY FOR THE COMMISSION.

Question 1: What’s the process for applying? What do I need to do?

The California State Auditor is responsible for overseeing how the commissioners are selected. The State Auditor has established a multi-step process for applying to be on the commission. There are five things that applicants must do in this process.

The first thing that an applicant must do is to fill out and submit an “initial application.” This is basically the first part of the application form. The initial application asks for information that will help the State Auditor determine whether applicants are eligible to serve on the commission. The majority of questions in the initial application form are answered by ‘yes’ or ‘no.’

The State Auditor will review all of the initial applications and screen out individuals who do not meet Proposition 11’s requirements for eligibility.

Applicants who are deemed eligible for the commission will then be asked to fill out a “supplemental application.” This is basically the second part of the application form. The supplemental application asks for information about the applicant’s qualifications to serve on the commission. The majority of questions in the supplemental application are answered by essays limited to 500 words.

Applicants must also submit three letters of recommendation.

After the deadline for submitting the supplemental applications has passed, the applications will be reviewed by a panel of three of the State Auditor’s auditors. The panel will select 120 applicants to interview. The panel will ask applicants who it deems to be likely candidates to make it onto the list of 120 to fill out a Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests.

Applicants who are selected for interviews will travel to Sacramento for their interview.

The table below lists the five things that applicants need to do along with the corresponding deadlines.



Task	Deadline
1. Fill out the first part of the application form, called the "initial form"	Between December 15, 2009 and February 12, 2010
2. Fill out the second part of the application form, called the "supplemental form" (if eligible)	Between February 16 and April 2, 2010
3. Have three people send in recommendation letters (if eligible)	Between February 16 and April 2, 2010
4. Submit Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests (if invited)	Within 30 days after applicant is requested to complete Form 700, sometime between April 7 and July 19, 2010
5. Participate in an interview in Sacramento (if invited); applicants' travel expenses will be reimbursed	Between July 20 and September 13, 2010

Question 2: Where can I get an application?

You can view both the initial application and the supplemental application at the State Auditor's website at www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov/application.html.

Question 3: How do I send in my application to the State Auditor?

Applicants must submit both the initial application and the supplemental application online at www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov. Applicants may print out the application form to refer to, but they must submit the form using the www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov website.

Individuals with disabilities may be eligible to submit their application form on paper instead of online; for more information, please call the State Auditor toll-free at 1-866-356-5217 or send an email to votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov.

Letters of recommendation can be submitted either online or by fax, U.S. mail, or other common carrier (see Question 5 below for the State Auditor's fax number and mailing address).

Question 4: What is the deadline for submitting an application to be a commissioner?

The initial application, the supplemental application, and the letters of recommendation are each due by 11:59 pm on the deadline date.



The initial application (i.e. the first part of the application) is due by 11:59 pm on February 12, 2010. The supplemental application (i.e. the second part of the application) and the letters of recommendation are due by 11:59 pm on April 2, 2010.

Question 5: Whom should I ask to write a letter of recommendation on my behalf?

Three letters of recommendation are due between February 14, 2010 and 11:59 pm on April 2, 2010. This is the same deadline as for the supplemental application.

Your references should be able to detail the qualifications that you believe would make you a good commissioner. Because Proposition 11 requires the commissioners to be impartial, have analytical skills, and appreciate the state's demography and geography, it is important for your references to be able to discuss these characteristics about you. Your reference should also be able to discuss your strengths and weaknesses as well as your character, integrity, and motivation for applying to serve on the commission.

Each letter of recommendation may be no longer than two pages in length. A typical letter will contain three sections. The first section will explain who the reference is, in what capacity he or she is writing the letter, and how long the reference has known you. The second section explains your qualities and accomplishments using specific examples. The last section summarizes your qualities and reinforces your positive attributes.

The letters may be submitted electronically at votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov; by fax (916-322-7801); or U.S. mail or other common carrier such as FedEx or UPS. The mailing address is Voters First Act, c/o Bureau of State Audits, 555 Capitol Mall, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814. If all three recommendation letters are not received by the deadline, the applicant will be disqualified from the selection process.

Question 6: What happens after I send in my application?

After you send in your initial application, the State Auditor will review it and determine whether you meet the minimum requirements to serve on the commission. The State Auditor is responsible for collecting the applications and screening out individuals who are not eligible to serve on the commission. To learn more about these eligibility requirements, go to our FAQs about who is eligible for the commission.

After the State Auditor reviews all of the initial applications, it will post on its website at www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov a list of applicants who are eligible for the commission. The State Auditor will then ask these applicants to complete the supplemental application.

After the deadline for submitting the supplemental application passes, a panel of three of the State Auditor's auditors will review all of the supplemental applications. The panel will select 120 applicants



to interview. These 120 applicants will consist of 40 registered Democrats, 40 registered Republicans, and 40 applicants registered with neither the Democratic Party nor the Republican Party.

Question 7: If I am selected for an interview, do I have to pay for my trip to Sacramento?

No. Applicants who are selected for an interview will have to travel to Sacramento to be interviewed. If you are selected for an interview, the State Auditor will either pay for your travel costs directly or reimburse you for them.

Question 8: What happens after my interview?

After the panel of three auditors finishes its interviews, the panel will select 60 applicants to make it onto a final list. The list of 60 applicants will consist of 20 registered Democrats, 20 registered Republicans, and 20 applicants registered with neither the Democratic Party nor the Republican Party.

Once the final list of 60 applicants is established, up to 24 applicants may be removed from the list by the four legislative leaders. These leaders include the Speaker of the Assembly, the Minority Floor Leader of the Assembly, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Minority Floor Leader of the Senate. Each leader can “strike” up to six members from the final list of 60 applicants, consisting of two strikes from the 20 Democrats, two strikes from the 20 Republicans, and two strikes from the 20 applicants registered with neither party.

Assuming that the four legislative leaders exercise all of their strikes, there will be 36 applicants remaining, consisting of 12 Democrats, 12 Republicans, and 12 applicants registered with neither party.

After the strikes, eight applicants will be randomly selected from the 36 applicants. These eight applicants become commissioners, and they will select the last six commissioners from the remaining 28 applicants.

You can find a visual illustration of this process at the State Auditor’s website at <http://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/application.html>.