



NOTE: THIS SET OF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS PROVIDES MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMMISSION.

**Question 1: I don't want to apply, but are there other ways for me to participate in the process of selecting commissioners?**

Even if you do not want to apply, you can spread the word to individuals who you think would make a good commissioner. In addition to talking to them about the commission and the application process, you can refer them to the California State Auditor's webpage at [www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov) and the Redistricting California Alliance's webpage at [www.commoncause.org/redistrictingCA](http://www.commoncause.org/redistrictingCA).

**Question 2: What can I do to help make sure that there is a diverse pool of applicants for the commission?**

It is important that the commission reflects the diversity of California's population and understands the needs of diverse communities across the state. You can help make sure that a diverse group of individuals applies for the commission by spreading the word about the application process.

During the application period, which ends on February 12, 2010, the State Auditor's website at [www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov](http://www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov) will indicate the number of applicants who have applied for the commission. You can visit the website to find out a breakdown of the type of applicants who have applied, including by geography, gender and racial/ethnic group.

**Question 3: How does the commission vote on a map?**

In order for the commission to approve a map, at least nine of the 14 commissioners have to agree. As part of this agreement, at least three of the five Democrats, three of the five Republicans, and three of the four "other" commissioners have to approve the map. Here's an illustration of this requirement:

<b>Commission Make-Up</b>	<b>Vote Threshold Required to Pass a Map</b>
<u>14 commissioners:</u>	→ <u>At least 9 commissioners must vote to approve:</u>
5 Democrats	→ At least 3 Democrats must approve
5 Republicans	→ At least 3 Republicans must approve
4 other commissioners	→ At least 3 other commissioners must approve



**Question 4: What happens if the commission can't agree on a map?**

If the commission can't agree on a map by September 15, 2011, then the map will be drawn by a group of "special masters" appointed by the California Supreme Court.

**Question 5: Are commissioners supposed to act as representatives of the political party they're registered with? What's the purpose of the party registration requirement?**

No, the commissioners are not supposed to act as representatives of their political parties. Proposition 11 specifically requires that the commissioners be able to make impartial decisions and set aside support for social and political interests such as political parties.

**Question 6: I've heard that the commission might also be responsible for drawing Congressional districts – is that right?**

No, the commission is responsible for drawing the district maps for the California Assembly, Senate, and Board of Equalization. The responsibility for drawing the Congressional districts continues to rest with the state legislature. To the extent feasible, the legislature and the commission will hold joint meetings to get input on community concerns and their proposed maps.

**Question 7: Who are the three auditors that will review all of the applications?**

The State Auditor has randomly selected three auditors to review all of the applications. These auditors are certified public accountants with at least ten years of independent auditing experience, as required by Proposition 11. You can see who the auditors are by visiting the State Auditor's website at [http://www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov/downloads/arp\\_staff.pdf](http://www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov/downloads/arp_staff.pdf).