



NOTE: THIS SET OF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE ON THE COMMISSION.

Question 1: Who is eligible to serve on the commission?

There are three sets of rules governing who is allowed to serve on the commission. If you have questions about these rules, you can obtain assistance by calling the California State Auditor toll-free at 1-866-356-5217 or by sending an email to votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov.

The first set of rules concerns your voter registration status and your history of voting. To be eligible, all of the following must be true:

- You must have been continuously registered to vote in California since November 18, 2005.
- You must have been registered to vote with the same political party since November 18, 2005 (or you must have been registered as a decline-to-state voter since November 18, 2005).
- You must have voted in at least two of the past three statewide general elections; these are the November 2004 presidential election, November 2006 gubernatorial election, and the November 2008 presidential election.

The second set of rules consists of types of activities that will make you ineligible to serve on the commission if you have conducted these activities within the past ten years. If you have done any of the following things at any time during the 10 years prior to the date that you submit your application for the commission, then you are not eligible for the commission:

- You were elected to Congress, or you ran for Congress (if the Congressional seat you were elected to or ran for is within California).
- You were elected to state office in California, or ran for state office (but you are not disqualified if you were elected to, or ran for, local office).
- You were appointed to any state office in California (such as a commission or board) by the Governor, a state legislator or a member of the Board of Equalization (but you are not disqualified if you were appointed to a state office by anyone else, or if you were appointed to a local office). This includes someone who served in an appointed state office position at the pleasure of the Governor, a state legislator or a member of the Board of Equalization.
- You were employed as paid staff for the California legislature, the Board of Equalization, or a member of Congress elected from California (but you are not disqualified if you were a staffer for a local public official). Paid staff includes anyone who is employed by and receiving compensation from the relevant entity.



- You worked for a political party in California as an officer, employee or paid consultant (but you are not disqualified if you volunteered for a political party). A paid consultant means someone who is paid to provide expert advice or personal services relating to conducting campaign activities or holding office, pursuant to a contract.
- You worked for the campaign committee of a candidate running for federal or state office in California as an officer, employee or paid consultant (but you are not disqualified if you volunteered for a campaign committee).
- You served as an elected or appointed member of a political party central committee in California (such as a state central committee or a county central committee).
- You contributed at least \$2,000 in any one year to a candidate running for Congress, state elected office, or local elected office (but contributions to presidential candidates do not disqualify you).
- You were registered as a lobbyist with the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, the California Secretary of State, or any local government within California.

Note: You are also disqualified if a member of your immediate family has done any of the things listed above within the past ten years AND you have a “bona fide” relationship with the immediate family member. See Question 5 below to find out which individuals are included as immediate family members. If your immediate family member has done one of the things listed above, you are disqualified only if you have a “bona fide” relationship with the family member. See Question 6 below to find out what it means to have a bona fide relationship with a family member.

The third set of rules concerns the types of relationships with elected officials that will make you ineligible. You are not eligible for the commission if you have any of the following relationships with the Governor, a California state legislator, a member of Congress elected from California, or a member of the Board of Equalization:

- You are staff or a consultant for the official.
- You are under a contract with the official.
- You are an immediate family member of the official.

Question 2: I have been continuously registered to vote in California during the past five years, but I lived outside California for part of this time – am I still eligible to serve on the commission?

Under California law, you may register and vote only at your “domicile.” You can have only one domicile, even if you have more than one house or residence. Your domicile can include the place you



intend to return to whenever you are gone from it. Accordingly, if you lived outside of California but maintained your domicile in California, you are eligible for the commission if you continuously maintained your voter registration at your California domicile during the past five years. However, if you re-registered to vote at your non-California residence during the past five years, then you are not eligible.

Question 3: How can I find out if I've been registered with the same party (or registered as a decline-to-state voter) for the past five years?

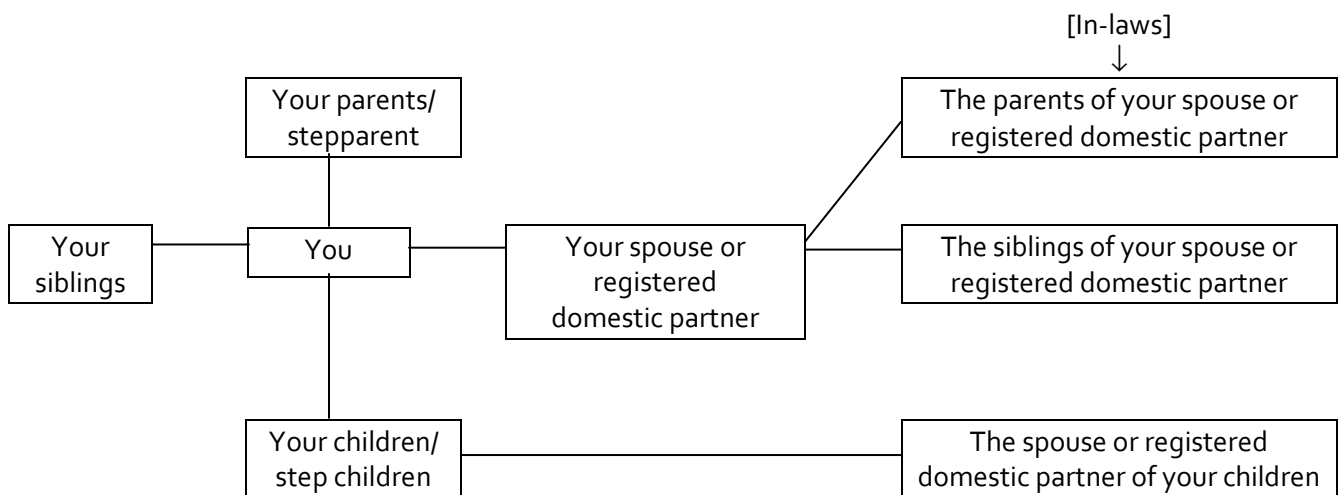
You can call your county's elections office (known as the Registrar of Voters) to find out your voter registration history. The California Secretary of State's website has a list of county election offices at http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm.

Question 4: How can I find out if I voted in the November 2004, November 2006 and November 2008 elections?

You can call your county's elections office to find out your past history of voting. The California Secretary of State's website has a list of county election offices at http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm.

Question 5: Who is considered my immediate family member?

For purposes of the application process, the following persons are considered your immediate family members:





Question 6: What does it mean to have a “bona fide” relationship with an immediate family member?

For purposes of the application process, you have a bona fide relationship with an immediate family member if:

1. The family member is alive, AND
2. Your relationship with the family member has not been dissolved, AND
3. Any of the following is true:
 - Within the past year, you lived with the family member in the same household for 30 days or more, OR
 - Within the past year, you and the family member shared ownership of any real or personal property worth \$1,000 or more, OR
 - Within the past year, you provided the family member, or the family member provided you, with a payment, gift, services or discount worth \$1,000 or more.

Question 7: How can I find out if I’ve given \$2,000 or more to a candidate in a given year?

To find out whether you’ve made contributions to candidates running for state office, you can go to the California Secretary of State’s website at <http://dbsearch.ss.ca.gov/contributorsearch.aspx> or to the National Institute on Money in State Politics’ website at <http://www.followthemoney.org/database/advancedsearch.phtml>.

To find out whether you’ve made contributions to a specific candidate running for federal office, one website you can use is Open Secrets at <http://www.opensecrets.org/indivs/index.php>.

To find out whether you’ve made contributions to local candidates, you have to contact the appropriate local government office in the jurisdiction where you made the contribution. You can obtain assistance with this by calling the State Auditor toll-free at 1-866-356-5217 or by sending an email to votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov.

Question 8: I gave at least \$2,000 to a candidate for U.S. President – am I disqualified?

No. Contributions to a candidate for U.S. President do not disqualify someone from serving on the commission.



Question 9: I was a candidate for local office, and I contributed at least \$2,000 to my own campaign – does this disqualify me?

No. Contributions to your own campaign for office do not disqualify you. (However, if you were a candidate for federal or state office within the past ten years, you are disqualified; running for or being elected to local office does not disqualify you.)

Question 10: I was appointed to a board or commission –how can I find out whether my appointment disqualifies me?

You are disqualified if you were appointed to any state board or commission within the past ten years by the Governor, a California state legislator, or a member of the Board of Equalization. Here are two questions you can ask yourself:

First, were you appointed by the Governor, a California state legislator, or a member of the Board of Equalization? If not, your appointment does not disqualify you.

Second, if your appointment was in fact made by one of these officials, were you appointed to a state office, such as a board or commission? If not, your appointment does not disqualify you.

If you are unsure whether you were appointed by the Governor, a California state legislator, or a member of the Board of Equalization, you can obtain assistance by calling the State Auditor toll-free at 1-866-356-5217 or by sending an email to votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov. Or if you are unsure whether you were appointed to a state board or commission, you can obtain assistance by calling or sending an email to the State Auditor.

Question 11: I was appointed to a state board or commission, but my appointment was not confirmed – am I eligible to serve on the redistricting commission?

No, you are not eligible to serve. You are disqualified if you were appointed to any state board or commission within the past ten years by the Governor, a California state legislator or a member of the Board of Equalization, even if your appointment was not confirmed by the California Senate.

Question 12: I was appointed to a local board or commission – am I eligible to serve on the redistricting commission?

Yes, being appointed to a local board or commission does not disqualify you. If you are unsure whether the board or commission you were appointed to is a local board or commission, you can obtain assistance by calling the State Auditor toll-free at 1-866-356-5217 or by sending an email to votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov.