

R 1-3-2 Eligibility and Qualification Standards for Board Members

The eligibility and qualification standards for membership on a school board are set forth in §18-5-1a. A person who is a member of a county board:

- ❖ Shall be a citizen and resident in the county in which s/he serves on the county board. Also, a person who is a candidate for membership on a county board or who is a member-elect of a county board shall be a citizen and resident in the county in which he or she seeks to serve on the county board;
- ❖ May not be employed by the county board on which s/he serves, including employment as a teacher or service person;
- ❖ May not engage in the following political activities:
 - Become a candidate for or hold any other public office, other than to succeed him or herself as a member of a county board subject to the following:
 - A candidate for a county board, who is not currently serving on a county board, may hold another public office while a candidate if s/he resigns from the other public office prior to taking the oath of office as a county board member.
 - The term "public office" as used in this section does not include service on any other board, elected or appointed, profit or nonprofit, under the following conditions: The person does not receive compensation and the primary scope of the board is not related to public schools.
 - Become a candidate for, or serve as, an elected member of any political party executive committee;
 - Become a candidate for, or serve as, a delegate, alternate or proxy to a national political party convention;
 - Solicit or receive political contributions to support the election of, or to retire the campaign debt of, any candidate for partisan office;
- ❖ May engage in any or all of the following political activities:
 - Make campaign contributions to partisan or bipartisan candidates;
 - Attend political fund raisers for partisan or bipartisan candidates;
 - Serve as an unpaid volunteer on a partisan campaign;
 - Politically endorse any candidate in a partisan or bipartisan election; or
 - Attend a county, state or national political party convention.

To be eligible for election or appointment as a member of a county board a person shall possess at least a high school diploma or a general educational development (GED) diploma. This provision does not apply to members or members-elect who have taken office prior to May 5, 1992, and who serve continuously from that date forward.

Every Board member shall take the oath prescribed by Article IV, Section 5, of the Constitution, before performing any of the duties of his office. The oath shall be filed with the Secretary of the Board.

No more than two members may be elected from the same magisterial district. If any magisterial district has one holdover member, only one member may be elected from that district. In Board elections,

those persons receiving the highest number of votes district-wide shall be elected. However, if the candidates receiving the most votes would result in a magisterial district being represented by more than two board members, only the person having the highest vote total, who does not make the aggregate number of board members from that magisterial district more than two, shall be declared elected. **(WVC §3-5-6; §18-5-1; §18-5-1a and §18-5-1b)**