

# GOVERNORS

**Table 4.2**  
**THE GOVERNORS: QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE**

State or other jurisdiction	Minimum age	State citizen (years)	U.S. citizen (years) (a)	State resident (years) (b)	Qualified voter (years)
Alabama.....	30	7	10	7	★
Alaska.....	30	★	7	7	★
Arizona.....	25	5	10	...	...
Arkansas.....	30	★	★	7	★
California.....	18	...	5	5	★
Colorado.....	30	...	★	2	...
Connecticut.....	30	6 months	★	★	★
Delaware.....	30	...	12	6	...
Florida.....	30	★	...	7	★
Georgia.....	30	...	15	6	...
Hawaii.....	30	...	5	5	★
Idaho.....	30	2	★	2	★
Illinois.....	25	★	★	3	★
Indiana.....	30	...	5	5	★
Iowa.....	30	2	2	2	★
Kansas.....	...	...	...	...	...
Kentucky.....	30	6	...	6	...
Louisiana.....	25	5	5	5	★
Maine.....	30	...	15	5	...
Maryland.....	30	...	(c)	5	5
Massachusetts.....	...	...	...	7	...
Michigan.....	30	...	★	★	4
Minnesota.....	25	...	★	1	★
Mississippi.....	30	★	20	5	★
Missouri.....	30	...	15	10	...
Montana.....	25	★	★	2	★
Nebraska.....	30	5	5	5	...
Nevada.....	25	2	...	2	★
New Hampshire.....	30	...	...	7	...
New Jersey.....	30	...	20	7	...
New Mexico.....	30	...	★	5	★
New York.....	30	...	★	5	...
North Carolina.....	30	...	5	2	★
North Dakota.....	30	...	★	5	★
Ohio.....	18	...	★	★	★
Oklahoma.....	31	...	10	10	(d)
Oregon.....	30	...	★	3	...
Pennsylvania.....	30	★	★	7	★
Rhode Island.....	18	30 days	30 days	30 days	30 days
South Carolina.....	30	5	5	5	...
South Dakota.....	18	★	★	★	★
Tennessee.....	30	7	★	...	...
Texas.....	30	...	★	5	...
Utah.....	30	5	3	5	★
Vermont.....	...	...	...	4	...
Virginia.....	30	★	★	★	5
Washington.....	18	...	★	★	★
West Virginia.....	30	5	★	★	★
Wisconsin.....	18	★	★	★	★
Wyoming.....	30	★	★	5	★
American Samoa.....	35	...	★	5	...
Guam.....	30	...	5	5	★
No. Mariana Islands.....	35	...	★	10	★
Puerto Rico.....	35	5	5	5	...
U.S. Virgin Islands.....	30	...	5	5	★

Source: The Council of State Governments' survey of governors' offices, August 2016.

Key:

★ — Formal provision; number of years not specified.

... — No formal provision.

(a) In some states you must be a U.S. citizen to be an elector, and must be an elector to run.

(b) In some states you must be a state resident to be an elector, and must be an elector to run.

(c) *Crosse v. Board of Supervisors of Elections* 243 Md.555, 221A.2d431 (1966) — opinion rendered indicated that U.S. citizenship was, by necessity, a requirement for office.

(d) In order to file as a candidate for nomination by a political party to any state or county office, a person must have been a registered voter of that party for the six-month period preceding the first day the filing period (26 O.S. §.5 - 105A - A).