

Navajo Election Administration

Qualifications for Delegate to the Navajo Nation Council

11 N.N.C. §§ 8(B); (D)(4)(a); (E); (F)(1)

1. Must be at least twenty-five (25) years of age on or before the date of the general election.
2. Must be an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation on the Agency census roll of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
3. Must not have been convicted of a felony within the last five (5) years.
4. Must not have been convicted of any misdemeanor involving crimes of deceit, untruthfulness and dishonesty, including but not limited to extortion, embezzlement, bribery, perjury, forgery, fraud, misrepresentation, false pretense, theft, conversion, or misuse of Navajo Nation funds and property, and crimes involving the welfare of children, child abuse, child neglect, aggravated assault and aggravated battery within the last five (5) years. Must not have been found in violation by a trial court or the Ethics and Rules Committee of the Navajo Nation Council of the Navajo Ethics in Government or Election Laws.
5. Must maintain unswerving loyalty to the Navajo Nation and must be competent and capable of upholding the oath of office.
6. Must be a registered voter in the chapter or precinct from which elected.
7. Candidates elected, who are employed by the Navajo Nation, must resign from such employment before taking the Oath of Office and shall not be employed by the Navajo Nation during their term of office.
8. Must be able to speak and understand Navajo and/or English.
9. Must not, if elected, serve in any other elected Navajo Nation Office with the exception of the office(s) of the school board(s).
Note: Candidates for Council Delegate position cannot be a School Board member.
10. Must have permanent residence and been continually physically present within the Navajo Nation as defined in 7 N.N.C. § 254 at least three (3) years prior to the time of election.
Note: Residency requirements for Navajo Nation elective offices have been declared inapplicable by the Navajo Nation Supreme Court. Lee v. Nelson-Charley, SC-CV-32-06 (2006).
11. Must not be in the permanent employment of the United States or any state or subdivision thereof, or be an elected official of the United States or any state or subdivision thereof, with the exception of service on a school board or elective county office.
12. If elected, shall maintain qualifications stated herein throughout their term of office.
13. Shall not be certified as qualified for any public elective office of the Navajo Nation if he or she has not completely satisfied or otherwise has failed to fully comply with any order of any entity, including administrative hearing bodies and courts of the Navajo Nation, authorized to impose sanctions or penalties for violations of the Navajo Nation Ethics in Government Law.