

Navajo Election Administration

Qualifications for Navajo Nation President and Vice-President

11 N.N.C. §§ 8(A); (E); (F)(1); 2 N.N.C. §§1002(D); 1003(C)

1. Must have permanent residence and have been continually physically present within the Navajo Nation as defined in 7 N.N.C. §254 for at least (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).
2. Must be a registered voter, a member of the Navajo Nation, and be on the agency census roll of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
3. Must be at least thirty (30) years of age at the time of general election.
4. Must be able to speak and understand the Navajo and English language; and this ability shall be determined by the Navajo voter when he/she casts a ballot.
5. Must have served in an elected Navajo Nation office, other than the office of school board member, or must have been employed within the Navajo Nation organization.
Note: Prior service as an elected official of the Navajo Nation or any prior Navajo Nation employment is no longer applicable. Bennett v. Navajo Board of Election Supervisors, A-CV-26-90 (1990).
6. Must not have been convicted of a felony within the last five (5) years.
7. 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.
8. Must have unswerving loyalty to the Navajo Nation and must be competent and capable of upholding the oath of office.
9. 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.
10. Must not have been indicted by a federal grand jury at the time of filing of the candidate application. Any candidate for the Office of the President or Vice-President who is indicted by a federal grand jury subsequent to the filing of the candidate application shall be disqualified.
11. Must not, if elected, be in the permanent employment of the United States or any state or subdivision thereof; nor be an elected official of the United States or any state or subdivision thereof.
12. The Navajo Nation President shall serve no more than two consecutive terms.
13. The Navajo Nation Vice-President shall serve no more than two terms.
14. If elected, shall maintain qualifications stated herein throughout their term of office.
15. 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.