

Board of Elections of Montgomery County¹

(see also Candidate Vacancies; and Election Judges)

1. Filling Seats on the Board

(g) (1) The Governor shall request the county central committee representing the majority party or the principal minority party, as appropriate, to submit a list of at least four eligible individuals from which the Governor may make an appointment of a regular member or a substitute member of the local board.

(2) The Governor may reject all of the nominees if the Governor determines them to be unfit or incompetent, in which case the Governor shall notify the State Board in writing and request an additional list of at least four eligible nominees from the county central committee. A third list may be requested in the same manner.

(3) If a list containing the names of four eligible nominees is not submitted within 20 days of a request or if all the nominees on three lists are rejected, the Governor may appoint any eligible person who is a member of the appropriate political party.

(4) (i) . . . each appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate of Maryland.

(ii) . . .

(iii) If an appointee is rejected, the Governor shall make another appointment from the list or lists submitted under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection. If a list is not provided, or the nominees on three lists are rejected, the Governor may appoint an eligible individual as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection.

Maryland Elections Code, § 2-201(g) (2002 ed.)

4. ² After the executive session (if any), and after any further discussion in public session, the Central Committee will proceed to vote on the candidates [to be nominated for seats on the Board of Elections]. Voting will be by secret ballot. Each candidate may designate one observer to watch the counting of the ballots. Proxies are to be presented to the Secretary before any ballots are put into the ballot box.
5. Each member of the Central Committee may vote for up to three candidates and must indicate the candidates in priority order (i.e., first choice, second choice, and third choice). When the votes are tallied, each “first choice” vote will count as three votes,

¹ See, generally, the Maryland Elections Code.

² Sections 1 to 3 were not adopted.

each “second choice” vote will count as two votes, and each “third choice” vote will count as one vote.³

6. The candidates who receive the first and second highest vote tallies will be declared the Central Committee’s recommended nominees for the two majority party voting seats on the Board of Elections. The candidate who receives the third highest vote tally will be declared the Central Committee’s recommended nominee for the majority party substitute member seat on the Board of Elections.⁴ Only one ballot will be conducted. An absolute majority is not needed to be a recommended nominee.
7. Once the recommended nominees have been chosen, the Chair will recognize any motions concerning transmittal of the names of the nominees to the Governor.
Procedure for Selecting Nominees to the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors of Elections, adopted by the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee, December 8, 1998

2. Communications with the Board

Who May Vote – Only those persons whose names appear as registered Democrats on the registration list, or persons whose names are verified as registered Democrats in that precinct by the Office of the Board of Supervisors of Elections⁵, shall be entitled to vote [in precinct chair and vice chair elections]. The Democratic Central Committee shall request that the Office of the Board of Supervisors of Elections be open on the night of the general precinct elections in order that a name may be verified, should it not appear on the list.

Rules Governing Qualifications, Elections and Meetings of
Democratic Precinct Officials of Montgomery County Maryland, section D(2)(d)

The Assistant Secretary shall:

1. . . .
2. promptly after the election of any of the officers of the Central Committee (as defined by article IV, § 1 of the Central Committee's By-Laws), notify the State Board of Elections of the name, position, and address of that officer, as required by § 13-202(a) of the Maryland Election Code, and provide the same information to the Maryland State Democratic Central Committee and to the Montgomery County Board of Elections;

³ In 2002, a Republican was elected Governor, which resulted in there only being two Democrat seats (instead of three) on the new Montgomery County Board of Elections. Each member of the Central Committee, therefore, voted for up two candidates at the December 12, 2002 meeting, not three.

⁴ In 2002, a Republican was elected Governor, which resulted in there only being two Democratic seats (instead of three) on the new Montgomery County Board of Elections. The highest vote recipient at the Central Committee’s December 12, 2002, meeting was declared the nominee for the voting seat and the second highest vote recipient was declared the nominee for the alternate seat.

⁵ Renamed the “Board of Elections” effective January 1, 1999; see 1998 Laws of Maryland, chapter 585.

3. promptly after the election of any voting or non-voting member to the Central Committee (other than in the gubernatorial primary), notify the Maryland State Democratic Central Committee, the State Board of Elections and the Montgomery County Board of Elections of the name, seat, and address of that member;
4. . . .
5. . . .
6. . . .
7. . . .
8. . . .
9. Notify the Montgomery County Board of Elections of the names and addresses of the district liaisons and the Chair of the Elections Procedures Committee, each time any of those positions are newly filled, and request that the Board of Elections notify the Chair of the Elections Procedures Committee and the appropriate district liaison each time that the Board or its staff is studying a change of precinct boundaries, voting locations, permissible campaigning locations at a polling site, or any similar issues.
10. Provide the Montgomery County Board of Elections with a copy of the precinct directory produced annually for the Precinct Organization in accordance with § 1 of the Policy Regarding Release of Data, adopted by the Central Committee May 12, 1998; and also notify the Montgomery County Board of Elections when a vacancy is filled or created in the Precinct Organization.

Adopted by the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee, April 13, 1999