

# The Executive Branch: Governor

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State & Local Ch.8

# Qualifications

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- US Citizenship & state residency
- Citizenship requirement; anywhere from no requirement to 20 years.
- Age too ranges from no requirement to 35 years of age
- Resident requirements: 0-7 years

# Residency & Age Requirements: varies among states

- At least 35 states require candidates to be minimum of 30 years old
- Some states require candidates to be at least 18 years old
- Eg., California, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, & Wisconsin
- 28 states require candidates to have resident status in the state for at least 5 years

# Gubernatorial Requirements & Powers

- ~~Governors are the leaders of state government & can make huge changes in our states~~
- Very Influential office/person
- Governors serve as chief executives in all 50 states

# Chief spokesperson of the state

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- Recruits candidates for state office
- Supports and campaigns for candidates for state office
- Commander-in-chief of the National Guard

# States grant varying powers to governors: Primary roles

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- Governors as chief legislator & chief executive
- Chief of state
- Crisis manager
- Chief judge
- Chief of party, intergovernmental liaison
- Military chief

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- Power to veto
  - State of the state address
  - Prepare & administer the budget
  - Sets the agenda

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- Executive orders
  - Makes appointment
  - Emergency powers.



# Faithfully Executes laws

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- Least politically rewarding for Governor
- Governors spend much time in this function

- Call special legislative sessions
- Agenda Setting
- Work with the state legislature to approve state budgets
- Enact state legislation
- Confirm executive & judicial appointments

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- Nominates officials to be a part of the state executive branch & cabinet
  - Cabinet is mostly made up of state departments heads & agencies
  - Main role is to advise & guide the governor in policy making

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- Legislative oversight
  - Legislative reviews & approves all of the governors state budgets

# Veto Powers

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- Full Veto
- Line item veto

# Executive Orders

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- Many constitutions grant executive orders
- Emergency powers in times of crisis
  - , hurricanes, floods, power outages, fires

# Term Limits

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- Serves a term of 4 years
- Vermont & New Hampshire re exceptions- only 2 years
- States grant varying powers to governors

# Informal powers

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- Popular support (Bully pulpit)
- Party support
- Ability to communicate



# Pol Aspirations

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- Incumbency
- Impeachment
- Recall election
- Resignation
- Term limits

# Executive Offices

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- Lieutenant governor
- State attorney general
- Secretary of state

## Other executive offices

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- Education superintendent
- Secretary of Agriculture
- Insurance Commissioner
  
- Pros and cons of electing dep't heads

# The Bureaucracy

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- Bureaucracies consist thousands of people who have their own opinion

# Public agencies that implement policy

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- Enforce rules & regulations
- Manage public programs
- Challenges: Complex environment
  - Conflicting & competing demands of citizens
  - Unclear demands by government & its policies

## Need for bureaucracy

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- Birth certificate
- Social Security Number
- Driver's license
- Death certificate
- Tree cutting pre/post hurricane

## What does bureaucracy look like?

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- Hierarchical
- Division of labor
- Formal rules & procedures
- Maintenance of files & records
- Professional staff

# Old politics vs New style politics

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- Patronage
  - Political corruption
  - Influencing pedaling
- vs.
- Performance competence
  - Equity and fairness
  - Affirmative action