

Governor – Bev Perdue

**A governor is a leader who is elected by residents of a state. Each U.S. state has its own governor**. Governors have bigger jobs than [mayors](http://whyzz.com/answer/detail/category/3/subcategory/51/qid/2238) because they are responsible for looking after states instead of cities.

Each governor has a lot of responsibility. He or she **picks other state leaders, chooses how to spend money for the state, helps the state follow new**[**laws**](http://whyzz.com/answer/detail/search/law/qid/190/category/3/subcategory/27)**and programs, and searches for ways to make the state better**. It’s important for governors to understand problems that the people in their state are facing so that they can choose programs and actions that can help fix those problems.

Citizens and reporters also look to governors to act as representatives of their states. That means that they can be **a “face for the state”** and talk about both the good and bad things about that state.

In the United States, a governor is the head of an individual state's government, and is in charge of the state's executive branch. Governors have a wide range of responsibilities, and are the head of their state both politically and ceremonially.

Time Frame

* + A governor's official term length depends on the state in which that governor serves.

New Hampshire and Vermont are the only two states whose gubernatorial terms are only two years. In the other 48 states, governors serve for four years.

The individual states also have different term limits for their governors. In some states, governors can only serve one or two terms, and in others, they can serve unlimited terms. Many states have laws on ruling for several consecutive terms.

Job Description

* + A governor's role is multifaceted and varied. Officially, governors are charged with overseeing the executive branch of their state's government.

Governors, along with their staff and colleagues, create and submit [budgets](http://www.ehow.com/about_5436694_job-description-governor.html) to the legislature: sign or veto bills as necessary: call on the state's military in times of crisis: appoint officials to the state government: and assist in court cases.

Annually, governors give a "State of the State" address to inform citizens of the current political and social climate within the state.

Qualifications

* + No US states require governors to have a particular [degree](http://www.ehow.com/about_5436694_job-description-governor.html) or level of education. However, candidates for governor must hold U.S. citizenship as well as be a valid resident of the state. Individual states have different qualifications for the minimum number of citizenship years necessary.

Most states also have a minimum age requirement for becoming a governor.

Most successful governors have strong leadership and communication skills, as well as an excellent education and a history of serving successfully in local governments.

Facts and Figures

* + The United States has 50 governors---one for each state. State governors are most commonly male, though several states do have female governors.

Considerations

* + Governors have high-pressure jobs that are often in the spotlight. During political campaigns, past life events can be dug up by opponents, and campaigning governors can be subject to rigorous hours and harsh criticism from the opposing political party. Being a governor is a high-stress job, though many find it rewarding, exciting and [challenging](http://www.ehow.com/about_5436694_job-description-governor.html).



Council

City council members are public officials elected or appointed to represent a ward or district of a city as the municipal governing body typically known as a city council.

Responsibilities

* + The responsibilities of a city council member generally involve determining city government and administration policies, as well as adopting [budgets](http://www.ehow.com/facts_5903401_city-council-job-description.html) and legislation.

Other Names

* + A city council member might also be referred to as an "alderman," "councilman/councilwoman," "supervisor" or a number of other names depending on the jurisdiction.

Daily Tasks

* + City council members spend much of their day at committee and subcommittee meetings where city business is discussed. City council members also spend time meeting with citizens and representatives of groups affected by city government..

Compensation

* + Compensation for members of a city council varies by size of city and scope of responsibility. According to the Bureau of [Labor](http://www.ehow.com/facts_5903401_city-council-job-description.html) Statistics, July 2008 average median salary for elected local officials was $44,928.



# The President’s Job - Obama

# ****Qualifications****

The president must be at least 35 years old, a natural-born citizen, and have lived in the United States at least 14 years.

**How Elected**

Americans vote for president every four years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. That popular vote chooses delegates to the Electoral College, which actually elects the president in December.

**Term**

Four years. The president cannot serve more than two terms.

**Income**

Yearly salary: $400,000.

**Succession**

If a president dies, resigns, is disabled, or is removed from office, the Vice president assumes the office. This has occurred nine times.

**Job Description**

The Constitution assigns the president two roles: chief executive of the federal government and Commander in Chief of the armed forces. As Commander in Chief, the president has the authority to send troops into combat, and is the only one who can decide whether to use nuclear weapons.

As chief executive, he enforces laws, treaties, and court rulings; develops federal policies; prepares the national budget; and appoints federal officials. He also approves or vetoes acts of Congress and grants pardons.

It has been called the most difficult [job](http://www.ehow.com/facts_5007756_job-description-president-usa.html) on Earth. The president of the United States is on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for four consecutive years. The job is extremely stressful. Visible signs of aging usually appear within the first year of a president's term. The president has many responsibilities, both domestic and foreign.

Executive

* + The president enforces the laws created by Congress. He is in charge of 15 departments, each headed by a member of his [Cabinet](http://www.ehow.com/facts_5007756_job-description-president-usa.html). He also leads other federal agencies, such as the CIA.

Legislative

* + The president cannot make laws by himself. He must create a plan that he believes in and find someone in Congress to introduce legislation. He can lobby members of Congress, usually from his own political party, to vote in favor of his ideas. The president does have the power to approve or veto laws passed by Congress, but Congress can vote to override a veto.

Judicial

* + The president has the power to appoint judges as well as grant pardons. By carefully selecting replacements for retiring Supreme Court judges, he can shape the way laws are interpreted.

Commander-in-Chief

* + The president is in charge of the military and must make important decisions regarding national security. He has a team of advisers to guide him, but ultimately the president is in charge of a war.

Global Leader

* + Many countries look to the United States for leadership regarding important global issues, such as climate change, the economy and [health](http://www.ehow.com/facts_5007756_job-description-president-usa.html) care. The president is expected to attend international summits to work on these issues.



Judges

Judges ensure that hearings and trials are conducted in a fair manner. They try to safeguard the legal rights of everyone involved within the courtroom. They ensure that proper rules and procedures are followed.

1. Description
	* According to the Occupational Information [Network](http://www.ehow.com/facts_5479005_description-judges-job.html), judges arbitrate, adjudicate, advise and administer justice in the court of law. Their responsibilities are as follows: sentencing a defendant in criminal cases, determining the liability of a defendant in a civil case and issue licenses for marriage.

Education and Training

* + Most judges were first lawyers, according to the U.S. Bureau of [Labor](http://www.ehow.com/facts_5479005_description-judges-job.html) Statistics. Federal administrative judges must first be lawyers and pass an exam by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. State administrative judges do not have to be lawyers. All states require orientation for judges.

Hours and Environment

* + Judges work at least 40 hour work weeks and many exceed that and work 50 hours or more per week, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Judges work in courtrooms, offices and law libraries.

Salary

* + According to a May 2008 report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the mean hourly wage of a judge was $48.29, and the mean annual wage was $100,450. Annual wages ranged from $32,290 to $162,140.



**Mayor – Charles Meeker**

**A mayor is an elected person who serves as the head of a city’s government**. He or she has many responsibilities and follows **a goal of making that city a great place for its residents to live**.

Mayors decide how to spend money on local programs, construction projects, parks, city streets, and other things. At city council meetings, where local officers discuss current and upcoming plans for their areas, the mayor listens to everything and has the power to vote on which plans should be put into practice.

A mayor is also responsible for making sure that city services, such as the [fire department](http://whyzz.com/what-does-a-firefighter-do) and [police department](http://whyzz.com/answer/detail/search/police/qid/2070/subcategory/108/category/3), work well and are helping everyone who needs assistance.

The Mayor runs the city government and is elected by the people for a four year term.  He is the head duck at city council meetings. He only votes in case of a tie, and he has veto power. Veto power means he can say "no" if he doesn't like a law that the city council has passed. He buys stuff for the city that the city council authorizes him to buy. He also hires people to do city jobs with the approval of the city council. He also can fire city employees if they do not do their job correctly.