

**Policy ABCB: Board Members Qualifications**

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**BOARD MEMBERS QUALIFICATIONS**

**GENERAL ELIGIBILITY**

In order for a person to be eligible to hold the office of trustee of any school district, such person must be a bona fide resident and a qualified elector of such school district, and, in the case of a school district lying in two or more counties, but not including municipal separate school districts, such person must be a bona fide resident and a qualified elector of the territory entitled to such representation on the board. ' 37-7-201

No person who is a member of the appointing body, or who is an employee of the municipality, or who is a member of the county board of education, or who is a trustee of any public, private, or sectarian school or college located in the county, inclusive of the municipal separate school district, or who is a teacher in or a trustee of said school district shall be eligible for appointment to a municipal separate school district board of trustees. ' 37-7-203

No person who is a resident of the territory embraced within a municipal separate school district or a special municipal separate school district shall be eligible to be a member of the county board of education. Qualified electors residing within a municipal separate school district or special municipal separate school district shall not be eligible to vote or participate in the election of members of the county board of education. The provisions of this section shall be applicable in the case of a special municipal separate school district and a line consolidated school district of which another county is the home county which together occupy all of the territory of a supervisors district of the county. ' 37-5-3

School board members should consult Title 37, Chapters 5 and 7 of the Mississippi Code for all qualifications and procedures.

**BASIC AND CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Every school board member selected after July 1, 2002, shall have a high school diploma or its equivalent.
  2. Every school board member selected after July 1, 1993, shall be required to complete a basic course of training and education for local school board members, in order for board members to carry out their duties more effectively and be exposed to new ideas involving school restructuring. Such basic course of training shall be conducted by the Mississippi School Boards Association. Upon completion of the basic course of training, the Mississippi School Boards Association shall file a certificate of completion for the school board member with the office of the local school board. In the event that a board member fails to complete such training within six (6) months of his selection, such board member shall no longer be qualified to serve and shall be removed from office.
  3. In addition to meeting the requirements of subsection (2) of this section, after taking office, each school board member shall be required to file annually in the office of the school board a certificate of completion of a course of continuing education conducted by the Mississippi School Boards Association.
  4. Every school board member selected after July 1, 2002, shall spend at least one (1) full day in a school in the district they represent, without compensation.
  5. Upon the failure of any local school board member to file with the school board the certificate of completion of the basic or continuing course of training as provided in subsection (2) or (3) of this section, the school board member shall be removed from office by the Attorney General. In the event of a medical or other catastrophic hardship that prevents such school board member from obtaining the required training or filing such certificate, as may be defined by the Board of Directors of the Mississippi School Boards Association by rule and regulation, an additional period of three (3) months may be allowed to satisfy the requirements of subsection (2) or (3). ' 37-7-306 (2006)
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