



HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF YOUR LOCAL PARTY COMMITTEE



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Democrats

The smallest unit of the Democratic Party in Virginia is the **County Democratic Committee**. Members of these committees are called **County Committee Members**. Some members are elected as representatives of their precinct, some as representatives of their magisterial districts and some as representatives of the county at-large. They serve 2-year terms, and are elected during caucuses, also called “reorganization meetings”, which are held starting in **December of odd-numbered years**.

The next filing deadline for all Virginia locations is: **December 2, 2005**.

The caucuses will take place **between December 3, 2005 and January 11, 2006**.

The exact date differs from one county to another and from one district to another within some counties. Contact your county chair for the exact date in your community.

To become a member of your county committee through the regular election process:

1. You must be:
 - a. At least 18 years of age;
 - b. A registered member of the Democratic Party;
 - c. A resident of the locality in which you are running.
2. You must file a membership form, available from your county chair, or in some cases, on the county party website (see below) along with a filing fee of \$30-\$50 (or a statement of inability to pay) by the date noted above.
3. You must attend your local reorganization meeting and receive enough votes to be elected.

It is often possible to join the committee between regular elections:

- Mid-term vacancies are frequent and openings are filled through appointment by the County Chair. Contact your county chair to see if there is an opening in your area.
- There are often other opportunities to get involved without yet being a formal member of the committee – volunteer to help, people will come to know you, and you will increase your chances of becoming a member through the next regular election.

For more information, visit the **Virginia Democratic Party** website at: www.vademocrats.org

County Committee contact info:

Arlington County: www.arlingtondemocrats.org

Fairfax County: www.fairfaxdemocrats.org

City of Alexandria: www.alexdemocrats.org