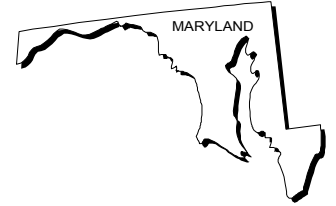




How to become a member of Your Local Party Committee

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The smallest unit of **both the Democratic and Republican Parties** in Maryland is the **County Central Committee**. County Central Committee members are elected **every four years** during the primary election for governor. Everyone is allowed to come to central committee meetings and if a committee member does not have an alternative.

Members of this committee are called **county central committeeperson**, and are elected to **4-year terms** during **November of congressional years**.

The next election will be: **September 12, 2006**.

The filing deadline to run for this position during that election is: **July 3, 2006**

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

1. You must be eligible based on the following criteria:
18 years old, registered to vote as a member of the party whose committee you wish to join, resident in the appropriate county, and in the precinct which you will be representing.
2. You should make your interest known by speaking to your County Chair, who can tell you who your current Precinct Committeepersons are, and possibly whether they are likely to run for re-election. You should also ‘campaign’ by speaking with other registered members of your party who live in your precinct, encouraging them to attend the caucus, to vote for you if for no other reason.
3. You must appear at the precinct caucus and receive sufficient votes. At this meeting you should be prepared to speak briefly about why you are interested in representing your precinct on the County Central Committee, and what you have to offer to the committee.

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

- For both parties, **mid-term** appointments are filled at a once monthly meeting where the county nominates new candidates, and they are elected in an internal election the next monthly meeting.
- **Alternate** or honorary delegate selection varies by county so contact your county chair.
- 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:

www.mddems.org

or

www.mdgop.org

Some county parties have websites with additional information, for example:

Montgomery County

www.mcdcc.org

www.mcgop.net

Prince George’s County

www.pgdems.com

<http://www.pggop.com/index.html>

Baltimore County

www.baltcodems.org

<http://www.baltimorecountyrepublicans.org>

Howard County

www.howardcountydems.org

<http://www.hocogop.com>