

<b>Title</b>	: District Governing Board Membership	
<b>Number</b>	:	9120.00
<b>Approved</b>	:	10/09/25
<b>Last Reviewed:</b>		10/09/25
<b>Reference</b>	: A.R.S. § 14-1441, § 15-1442	

The following statutes define District Governing Board membership:

**ARS §15-1441 - Selection of Precincts, District Board Members, Terms, Qualifications, Vacancies**

- A. The board of supervisors shall establish in the same manner as provided in ARS §16-411 five precincts in a community college district for the election of a district governing board member from each precinct. A precinct in a community college district shall be composed of the number of election precincts as determined by the board of supervisors and shall have the same boundaries as are defined for the election precincts under ARS §16-411. If the board of supervisors redefines the boundaries of election precincts under ARS §16-411 which are included within a precinct in a community college district, the board of supervisors shall redefine the boundaries of the precinct in the community college district to conform with the election precinct changes. The precincts shall be established in a newly organized district subsequent to the organizational vote and the county school superintendent shall appoint five members, one from each precinct, who are qualified electors.
- B. Where two or more counties constitute a district, as many precincts shall be set up by the board of supervisors in each county as the county is entitled to membership. In no case shall a county which is part of a district have more than four precincts, and where a district consists of two or more counties at least one member shall reside in each county.
- C. At the first general election held for a district, the candidate having the most votes in each precinct shall be declared elected, provided the candidate meets the requirements provided in subsection A of this section. The two elected members having the highest number of votes receive six-year terms, the two elected members receiving the next highest number of votes receive four-year terms and the one elected member receiving the lowest number of votes receives a two-year term. Thereafter each member's term is six years.
- D. The next general election of district board members following the first general election shall be for the precinct where the elected candidate received the lowest number of votes and the second general election for the two precincts where the elected candidates received the next highest number of votes and the third general election for the two precincts where the elected candidates received the highest number of votes. The order of elections as established through this procedure shall thereafter be the order of precinct elections.
- E. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the county school superintendent for the unexpired term for the precinct where the vacancy occurs, except that if the unexpired term is two years or longer, the county school superintendent may do one of the following:
  - 1. Make an appointment for a term which shall be until the next regular election for governing board members, at which time a successor shall be elected to serve the unexpired portion of the term.
  - 2. With the approval of the governing board, leave the vacancy until the next regular election for governing board members, at which time a successor shall be elected to serve the unexpired portion of the term.
- F. When a vacancy occurs in a district with more than one county, the county school superintendent of the county where the previous incumbent resided shall fill the appointment for the unexpired term.
- G. A county officer as provided in ARS §11-401 is not eligible to serve as a member of a community college district governing board during his term of office.
- H. Employees of a community college district or their spouses are not eligible to hold membership on the community college district governing board in the district in which the employee is employed.

**ARS §15-1442 – Nominating petitions, Election, Returns, Results, Certificate of Election, State of Contributions and Expenditures**

- A. Candidates for the district board must file nominating petitions, conforming to section 16-314, with the appropriate county officer.



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- B. Members of the district board shall be elected at the time and place, and in the manner, of general elections as provided in Title 16.
- C. If only one person files a nominating petition or nomination paper for a write-in candidate for an election to fill a community college board office, the county school superintendent not earlier than one hundred five days before the election may cancel the election for the position and appoint the person who filed the nominating petition or nomination paper to fill the position. If no person files a nominating petition or nomination paper for a candidate or for a write-in candidate for an election to fill a community college board office, the county board of supervisors not earlier than one hundred five days before the election may cancel the election for that office and that office is deemed vacant and shall be filled as provided in section 15-1441. A person who is appointed pursuant to this subsection is fully vested with the powers and duties of the office as if elected to that office.
- D. The county school superintendent and the chairman of the board of supervisors shall meet not later than on the fourteenth day following the election to canvass the returns in accordance with procedures for the canvass of returns in a general election. For any canvass conducted by the county school superintendent in November of an even-numbered year, the county school superintendent and the chairman of the board of supervisors shall conduct the canvass as part of the county's general election canvass. The county school superintendent shall declare the results of the election, declare elected the person receiving the highest number of votes for each office to be filled and issue to that person a certificate of election.
- E. All candidates for the office of community college district governing board member shall file with the clerk of the board of supervisors a statement of contributions and expenditures as provided in section 16-926.

