

SUGGESTED QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- The nominee's legal education, including academic performance, professional activities, publications, and honors.
- The nominee's history taking bar examinations in Texas and other states.
- The nominee's employment history after graduation from law school, including judicial clerkships, law firms, or other entities.
- The nominee's years of employment with each employer and the nominee's reasons for leaving the employment of that employer.
- The nominee's years of legal practice and the type and extent of each area of practice in which the nominee has engaged, including whether the nominee has significant experience with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of the court to which the person is nominated or has practiced in that court or a court with similar jurisdiction.
- The federal or state courts to which the nominee has been admitted.
- Whether the nominee is certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and whether such certification is relevant to matters within the jurisdiction of the court to which the person is nominated.
- Whether the nominee regularly participates in continuing legal education as a speaker or produces instructional material for continuing legal education programs or conferences.
- Whether the nominee has any prior judicial service inside or outside of this state.
- Whether the nominee has demonstrated knowledge of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure, as appropriate to the court to which the person is nominated.
- Whether and to what extent the nominee performs or participates in pro bono or other activities or programs for the purpose of providing legal services to underserved people and communities.
- Whether the nominee has been subject to a complaint or proceeding under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct, the Texas Code of Judicial Conduct, or similar codes in any other state.
- Whether the nominee has been sanctioned by a court in any jurisdiction.
- Whether the nominee has been disbarred, censured, sanctioned, or otherwise reprimanded by the entity charged with reviewing attorney conduct in any jurisdiction.
- Whether the nominee has been involved in a dispute with a client that resulted in litigation or alternative dispute resolution, the nature of the dispute, and the outcome of the dispute.
- The nominee's reputation in the community for integrity, honesty, professional competence, and ethical conduct in the practice of law.

CHANGES TO CONSTITUTIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Court	Current Qualifications	TLR/TCJL Proposal
Supreme Court ¹	U.S. Citizen Texas Citizen Licensed in Texas 35 years old Practicing 10 years	U.S. Citizen Texas Citizen Licensed in Texas 45 years old Practicing 15 years <i>Resident of Texas 2 years</i> <i>Served as a judge 4 years</i>
Court of Criminal Appeals ²	Same as Supreme Court	Same as Supreme Court
Courts of Appeals ³	U.S. Citizen Texas Citizen Licensed in Texas 35 years old Practicing 10 years	U.S. Citizen Texas Citizen Licensed in Texas 40 years old Practicing 12 years <i>Resident of district 2 years</i>
District Courts ⁴	U.S. Citizen Licensed in Texas Practicing <i>in Texas</i> 4 years Resident of district 2 years	U.S. Citizen Licensed in Texas Practicing 10 years Resident of district 2 years <i>Texas Citizen</i> <i>35 years old</i>

¹ TEX. CONST. Art. V. § 2(b).

² TEX. CONST. Art. V. § 4(a).

³ TEX. CONST. Art. V. § 6(a).

⁴ TEX. CONST. Art. V. § 7.