

Application to Serve on the County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission

This is your application to serve as a Commissioner on the County of San Diego's 2020-2021 Independent Redistricting Commission.

Read the tips below to
make sure your
application is complete.

Carmen-Rosette

First Name

Garcia

Last Name

Make sure you have all the pages.

There are nine (9) total pages that make up this application, including this page. The pages are numbered in the bottom right corners.

Initial the top right corner of pages 2-9 in the "Initial Here" box. This will make sure your application stays together.

Print clearly and legibly or type your application. Doing so will speed up processing time. Unclear handwriting may cause delays.

Don't know if you're eligible to serve on the County's Redistricting Commission? Among other requirements, you must be a registered voter in San Diego County to serve on the Commission. See page 3 for more details.

Questions? Learn more at www.sandiegocounty.gov/redistricting or redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov.

This application must be received no later than Friday, July 31, 2020, at 5 p.m. See page 9 for submittal instructions.



Application Timeline

July 31, 2020	Applications must be received by the San Diego County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors no later than 5 p.m.
August 26, 2020	From the pool of qualified applicants, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors will post the names of the 60 most qualified applicants. The names will be posted online for at least 30 days.
October 13, 2020	The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors will conduct a random drawing of the qualified applicants at the Board of Supervisors meeting to select eight Commissioners.
October 22 and November 5, 2020	The selected eight Commissioners will meet to choose the remaining six Commissioners from the remaining pool of qualified applicants.

Important Things to Know

- The questions in this application ensure you are eligible to serve on the Commission.
- Answer the questions to the best of your ability.

A. Tell us About Yourself

First Name: Carmen-Rosette

Last Name: Garcia

Address (where you are registered to vote)

Street Address: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED]

State: [REDACTED]

Zip Code: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address (if different than the address listed above)

Street Address: SAME

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Contact Information

Phone 1: [REDACTED]

Type: home

Phone 2: [REDACTED]

Type: mobile

E-mail:

B. How This Application Will Be Used

I understand the contents of this application may be made available to the public.

☒ Yes, I
understand

I understand that while this application is a public document, my personal e-mail address, street address, and phone number(s) will be kept confidential to the extent authorized by law.

☒ Yes, I
understand

C. Questions to Determine Eligibility

Government Code section 21550 sets forth certain qualifications to serve on this Commission. Please check the appropriate box for each question. Applicants may be asked to verify and update information at various points in the process.

1. Are you a resident of the County of San Diego?
☒ Yes ☐ No
2. Which supervisorial district do you live in?
If you're not sure, visit www.sandiegocounty.gov, click on "Find My District" under the Board of Supervisors, and enter your address in the top right of the web page.
☐ 1
☐ 2
☐ 3
☐ 4
☒ 5
3. Which political party are you currently registered?
☐ Democratic ☐ Republican ☐ American Independent ☐ Green ☐ Libertarian
☐ Peace and Freedom ☐ Other: _____
☒ I am not registered with a political party (non-partisan)
4. Have you been continuously registered to vote in the County of San Diego with the same political party preference or with no political party preference and have not changed your political party preference for at least five years?
If you're not sure, you can check your voter registration at www.sdvote.com.
☒ Yes ☐ No
5. Have you voted in at least one of the last three statewide elections immediately preceding your application to be a member of the Commission?
☒ Yes ☐ No

Explanatory Notes: If necessary, you may further explain answers to the questions above.

Application to Serve on the
County of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission

INITIAL
HERE: →

crg

6. Within the 10 years immediately preceding the date of this application to the Commission, have either you, or an immediate family member, done any of the following? For purposes of these questions, immediate family members means a spouse, child, in-law, parent, or sibling.

You are not eligible to serve on the Commission if you answer "Yes" to any of the following:

- a. Been appointed to, elected to, or have been a candidate for office at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of San Diego, including as a member of the Board of Supervisors. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- b. Served as an employee of, or paid consultant for, an elected representative at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of San Diego. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- c. Served as an employee of, or paid consultant for, a candidate for office at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of San Diego. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a political party or as an appointed member of a political party central committee. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Been a registered federal, state, or local lobbyist ☐ Yes ☒ No

Explanatory Notes: If necessary, you may further explain answers to the questions above.

D. Experience Qualifications

State law requires candidates demonstrate experience in areas related to redistricting. Please provide responses to the following questions.

- 1. What experience do you possess that demonstrates analytical skills relevant to the redistricting process and voting rights, and demonstrates your ability to comprehend and apply the applicable state and federal legal requirements?**

I have both an educational background and work and volunteer experience that has provided me with deep and varied opportunities to practice and hone my analytical skills, beginning with an undergraduate degree in Biology (B.S.). This undergraduate training gave me a foundation in critical thinking, where I learned the scientific method, which means one employs a process of developing and evaluating hypotheses through analyzing data and evidence. Working for a cancer research organization as a research study coordinator, I was exposed to the science of clinical trials and the statistical analysis of data that these trials produce. Much later I returned to graduate school and earned a Master's degree in Literature and Writing, where my focus was on critical analysis and literary theory. I then taught critical analysis and analytical writing to undergraduate students. As a teacher of literature and writing, I continued to draw on the long-ago learned lessons of the scientific method to teach my students how to analyze a piece of writing: by examining the text, or data, to guide you toward a thesis, or understanding, about that piece of writing.

In addition, in nearly 30 years living primarily in San Diego County, I have served in various volunteer roles where I have continued to use my critical analytical skills, including:

Cardiff School Board Trustee where I also served a one-year term as President, with oversight and governance of a K-12 school district, including reviewing and adopting budgets and assuring that the district complied with local, state and federal regulations;

San Diego Women's Foundation, member of several committees including the grants committee, which performs an annual study of developing issues and needs in San Diego County to determine where the SDWF might consider directing grant funding;

Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest Board Director, with oversight and governance responsibility, along with strategic leadership, of a 3-county health care provider, member of several committees, including the Budget & Finance Committee, reviewing annual budgets and other financial and technical information to guide decisionmaking;

San Diego Foundation Community Scholarship Program, which awards hundreds of scholarships on behalf of SDF donor-advised scholarship funds, where I read, evaluate and interview applicants, and determine awards in collaboration with others, every Spring;

Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California Board Director, a statewide advocacy group consisting of members from each of the PP affiliates in California, providing governance and oversight as well as strategic leadership;

Various other volunteer activities including at my children's schools throughout their k-12 years.

I have no doubt that my background and experience demonstrate that I am capable of comprehending and interpreting dense and technical information; discerning fact from opinion; weighing and evaluating data and information from myriad sources and determining what is pertinent from what is irrelevant; applying legal standards and other guiding principles to make decisions; and synthesizing all these considerations while working in collaboration with others to reach consensus.

You are encouraged to limit your response to one page, however if more space is needed, you may attach an additional page.

2. What experience do you possess that demonstrates an ability to be impartial?

The regulations governing redistricting commissions describe impartiality as having "the capacity and willingness, while serving as a member of the commission, to set aside his or her personal views . . . in order to evaluate information with an open mind and make decisions that are fair to everyone affected. . . that are in compliance with the United States Constitution, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 . . . and the criteria set forth in subdivision (d) of section 2 of Article XXI of the California Constitution."

I believe deeply in our democratic system of government and in protecting the power of the people to elect a representative government. This new redistricting process for creating districts is one I completely support, especially because it is intended to remove the inherent bias and politicization that previous districting methods allowed and to provide for fairer, more representative outcomes in the electoral process. Its imperative for a commissioner to be fully committed to producing a fairly drawn map that accurately reflects the electorate, a commitment I will hold myself to unequivocally.

In all of my professional and volunteer experiences, from coordinating cancer research studies to teaching literature and writing, to evaluating scholarship applicants or non-profits for grant awards, it has been important that I reach sound, defensible decisions, which necessarily requires using logic and reason, and relying on facts and evidence to inform and support the decisions. In many cases, I have also been responsible for developing the objective criteria on which to assess a project, a student, an organization, or a budget proposal, and then employ that rubric in the evaluation process.

It takes a kind of discipline, one that I believe I possess, to set aside one's predilections, and instead focus on the broad objective of the task at hand. In many cases, I have done this kind of work in a group, whether as a member of a board of directors, a member of a steering committee, or an appointed advisory group. In this setting, I have seen how critical it is to remain impartial and open, not only to all the information presented, but also to the various perspectives, ensuring that all voices are listened to, as this is necessary for a productive process that will result in achieving sound consensus decisions.

You are encouraged to limit your response to one page, however if more space is needed, you may attach an additional page.

3. What experience do you possess that demonstrates an appreciation for the diverse demographics and geography of the County of San Diego?

I am the Mexican-American daughter of parents who were from the border region of South Texas. I moved to San Diego County with my husband and two young children in 1991, never expecting that nearly 30 years later I would still be here, happily calling San Diego home.

With the exception of two years in the Bay area where we relocated temporarily for my husband's job, I have lived in coastal North County San Diego, in Carlsbad, Cardiff, Del Mar and now unincorporated Rancho Santa Fe. Despite the fact that I've lived within a small radius of San Diego County, I know the county beyond my neighborhood, and appreciate the stark contrasts between the coastal, mountain, desert, agricultural, urban, and suburban areas. I've camped in Heise County Park, hiked many trails in Laguna Mountain, taken classes at CSUSM, walked precincts in Vista and Oceanside, volunteered at Juvenile Court and Community Schools with a non-profit (one in Vista and one in downtown San Diego), attended events at the Jacobs Center, toured health centers (City Heights, Chula Vista, Kearny Mesa, to name a few) and read scholarship applications of students from every cultural background, most of them the first in their family to attend college.

I have become knowledgeable about the many diverse cultural and ethnic communities that call San Diego home. As a member of a philanthropic foundation, I have read grant applications from nonprofits serving these communities around the county on issues as varied as workforce preparation, mental health support, immigration and refugee needs, and human and sex trafficking. As a director of a nonprofit whose mission is to provide health care to marginalized communities throughout the county, I've learned about and seen where some of our most vulnerable population live and seek essential care. A driving focus in that organization has been to improve diversity of leadership, and to that end, I have completed some diversity, equity and inclusion training, both general and specific to SD County. In short, I am well informed about not only the how DE&I operates, but I understand the specific geographic and demographic diversity of our county as well as the economic class diversity that is present in San Diego County.

As a Latinx woman, I'm all too aware of the ways in which marginalized voices are either silenced or ignored. I cannot claim to know exactly what other marginalized groups have experienced, but I believe I have a keen understanding of how it feels to be part of a group whose perspectives and lived experiences have not been considered--deliberately or not, due to bias or not--when laws and policies are enacted that affect us nonetheless. I am committed to ensuring that diverse perspectives are listened to and incorporated in the decisionmaking, as well as to questioning the assumptions that frequently erase minority voices so that a fair and inclusive outcome is achieved in the redistricting process.

You are encouraged to limit your response to one page, however if more space is needed, you may attach an additional page.

E. Demographic Information

Providing this information is optional. You may select "decline to state" for each answer. Elections Code section 21550(g)(2) requires six of the 14 appointees, in addition to meeting minimum requirements, be chosen in a way that ensures the Commission reflects the County's diversity, including racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity. However, formulas or specific ratios shall not be applied for this purpose.

1. Please describe your ethnic origin. Mark one or more boxes.

- ☐ BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN: All persons having origins in any of the original Black racial groups of Africa.
- ☒ HISPANIC/LATINO: All persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- ☐ ASIAN: All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- ☐ NATIVE HAWAIIAN/OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER: All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- ☐ AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE: All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintain cultural affiliation or community recognition.
- ☐ WHITE (not of Hispanic Origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.
- ☐ Prefer to Self-Describe: _____
- ☐ Decline to state

2. What is your date of birth? [REDACTED]

☐ Decline to state

3. Select the gender you identify as:

- ☒ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Decline to state

F. Signature

By signing below, I declare under penalty of perjury that the answers provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

First Name: **Carmen-Rosette**

Last Name: **Garcia**

Signature:



Date: **07/31/2020**

G. Submittal

Completed applications must be received by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors no later than Friday, July 31, 2020 at 5 p.m. Double check your answers in the application; once submitted, applications cannot be amended. Remember that you must answer all questions on this application to be considered for the Commission. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Option 1: Mail or drop off the signed paper copy of your completed application to:

County of San Diego
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Redistricting Commission
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402
San Diego, CA 92101-2471
(619) 531-5434

Postmarks are not accepted. Applications must be received by the Clerk of the Board by the due date.

Option 2: E-mail your completed application.

Ensure the application is signed, then e-mail the application to:
redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Applications must be received by Friday, July 31, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.