

# 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.

Andrew

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First Name

Simmerman

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Last Name

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**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](http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/redistricting) or [redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto: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

<b>July 31, 2020</b>	Applications must be received by the San Diego County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors no later than 5 p.m.
<b>August 26, 2020</b>	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.
<b>October 13, 2020</b>	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.
<b>October 22 and November 5, 2020</b>	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: Andrew Last Name: Simmerman

#### 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 as above  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Contact Information

Phone 1: [REDACTED] Type: Cell  
Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
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?  1  
*If you're not sure, visit [www.sandiegocounty.gov](http://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.*  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?  Yes  No  
*If you're not sure, you can check your voter registration at [www.sdvote.com](http://www.sdvote.com).*
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.

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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?**

My entire career has been in the pursuit of and practice in leadership, at all levels: leading in the classroom, leading a team of teachers at a school, being on the leadership teams at organizations large and small such as Teach For America, the University of San Diego, and RISE San Diego as three examples. In every position, I have had to apply analytical skills that are relevant to the redistricting process and voting rights: holding a complexity of factors in mind when making decisions, applying consistent standards to form sound policy and application of that policy, and a sense of fairness for the greater good of our community. My successful demonstration of these abilities has meant promotions at each institution, added responsibilities, and being brought into boardrooms and C-suites to help inform decision-making. In addition, I'm known to be a "political junkie" of sorts where I spent much of my spare time informing myself on the law, policy and politics of the day. I then use this information to have conversations with elected officials, party leaders, and community members to inform their decision making. I am currently in a boards and commissions fellowship through Leadership for Educational Equity and am quickly gaining knowledge around commissions leadership, including applicable state and federal legal requirements around the redistricting process and voting rights.

By the way, I believe voting rights is one of the most critical aspects of a just and democratic society – redistricting is a topic and process that I am passionate about, making sure that the process and fair is of utmost importance to the very fabric of the democracy we hold so dear in this country. Serving in this capacity would be one of the highest honors in my pursuit of voting rights.

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?**

I believe there are three critical components to my experience that demonstrate an ability to be impartial. First, my entire career has been grounded in teaching and educational leadership. This means that I have worked with hundreds of students, grading thousands of papers/essays, and holding the highest standards for impartial assessment. I have always been respected by my students, peers and managers for my ability to remain impartial and fair in the pursuit of a culture of excellence. Second, along with RISE San Diego I was selected to be an impartial facilitator for five town halls on the topic of school board reform by the San Diego Unified School District. We were tasked with facilitating and capturing impartial data and comments from the community (parents, educators, students and citizens) to present to the school board and ultimately the city council with recommendations based on overall community assessment. We received commendation from the community members, school board members, and councilmembers for our impartiality and the fidelity in data we presented. Third, one of my top StrengthsFinder strengths is Consistency. This means that I have an ability to be consistent in how I approach my work and my interactions with others. Because of this strength, I have been invited to serve on task forces, data inquiry leadership teams, panels and councils.

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?**

In 2008, I was a graduating senior with a bachelor's degree in advertising and I made the tough decision to not enter the field of advertising, but rather in service of educational justice for our lowest-income communities. From that point my career became predicated on my appreciation for diverse demographics. I grew up in East County San Diego (Rancho San Diego), attended school in Malibu, taught in the South Bronx and East LA, and returned to San Diego where I have served students and communities in San Ysidro, Chula Vista, National City, El Cajon, La Mesa, Southeast San Diego, Barrio Logan, Oceanside, and built relationships throughout our entire county. As a straight, white, English-speaking, able-bodied male from Rancho San Diego, I believe my personal and professional relationships and networks demonstrate a deep appreciation for the diverse demographics and geography of the County of San Diego. I even lived in Tijuana for two years to further appreciate the many residents of San Diego who lived a cross-border life in their upbringing, albeit from a different perspective.

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?**



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: Andrew

Last Name: Simmerman

Signature: 

Date: 7/28/2020

### 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](mailto:redistricting@sdcounty.ca.gov).

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