

Request for Board of Commissioners' Action

From: Faye Hughes, County Administrator **Date:** December 3, 2021
Subject: 2021 Qualifying Fees **Item Number:** VIII-H

County Commissioners are required to set qualifying fees for the 2022 election and publish fees prior to February 1, 2022.

Fees are calculated per OCGA § 21-2-131.

Chief Magistrate Judge	\$1693.55
County Commissioner, District 1	\$180.00
County Commissioner, District 5	\$180.00
Board of Education, District 3	\$81.00
Board of Education, District 5	\$100.50

The county governing authority is required to set and publish the qualifying fees for county offices (i.e., commissioners, sheriffs, tax commissioners, superior court clerks, magistrates, probate judges, state court judges, solicitors general, coroners and surveyors) by February 1, 2020. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131. This should be done through the adoption of a resolution by the board of commissioners setting the qualifying fee for each office.

County Officers and Magistrates. Qualifying fees to run for the office of superior court clerk probate judge, magistrate, sheriff, and tax commissioner must be set at 3 percent of the minimum base salary specified in state law for each county based on the county's 2010 population. See O.C.G.A. §§ 15-6-88(a) for superior court clerks, 15-9-63(a)(1) for probate judges, 15-10-23(a) for magistrates, 15-16-20(a)(1) for sheriffs, and 48-5-183(b)(1) for tax commissioners.

Note that in calculating the qualifying fee for the county officers and magistrates, the minimum base salary is not to be adjusted to reflect supplements, cost-of-living increases, or longevity increases.

County Commissioners and Chairs. Qualifying fees to run for the office of members of the county governing authority other than sole commissioners must be set at 3 percent of the base salary established by local legislation unless the commissioners have set a higher salary using their home rule authority (see below).

Qualifying fees to run for sole commissioner is 3 percent of the salary set by local legislation or by the state minimum salary law for sole commissioners (O.C.G.A. § 36-5-25), whichever is applicable.

All Other Elected County Offices. Qualifying fees to run for the office of coroner, surveyor or school board member is 3% of the total gross salary of the office paid in 2021, including all supplements authorized by law. If the elected official is not paid a salary, the commissioner must set a fee that is not more than 3 percent of the income that the elected official earned from the office in 2021.

Chairman will need: **A motion to set qualifying fees as printed above.**

Motion made by _____ Second made by _____

Any discussion: _____

Call for the vote _____ yes _____ no

Motion carries _____ Motion fails _____

STATE OF GEORGIA
COOK COUNTY

QUALIFYING FEE NOTICE

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 21-2-131(a)(1), the following qualifying fees were adopted by the Cook County Commissioners in the December 6, 2021 meeting:

Chief Magistrate Judge	\$1693.55
County Commissioner, District 1	\$180.00
County Commissioner, District 5	\$180.00
Board of Education, District 3	\$81.00
Board of Education, District 5	\$100.50

Qualifying for the offices listed above will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 7, 2022 and will end at 12:00 noon on Friday, March 11, 2022. All candidates that will run as Nonpartisan, Independent or with a Political Party are required to qualify at this time. The General Primary and Nonpartisan Elections will be held on May 24, 2022, and the General Election will be held on November 8, 2022.

Dawn Davis
Cook County Election Supervisor