



City of Dallas

Boards & Commissions

Residency Requirements

Ad Hoc Committee on Administrative Affairs

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Purpose

- Review the residency requirements applicable to City of Dallas boards and commissions;
- Distinguish requirements established by the City Charter, Dallas City Code, and other governing authorities; and
- Identify an opportunity to standardize and simplify an appointment qualification for the Youth Commission.

City of Dallas Boards & Commissions — Residency Requirements

Board / Commission Category	Residency Requirement	District Residency?	Authority / Notes
Most Council-appointed boards & commissions	Dallas resident for at least 6 months before appointment	NO	General rule — Dallas City Code §8-1.4(a)(1)
Youth Commission	Dallas resident for at least 6 months	YES	Must reside in district for which appointed — §2-159.1(c)(3), (d)(1)
College Advisory Commission	Dallas resident for at least 6 months	NO	Residency expressly retained despite exemptions from other Chapter 8 qualifications
Community Police Oversight Board	General Chapter 8 Dallas residency requirement	NO	Chapter 8 qualifications incorporated by §37-31
TIF / Reinvestment Zone Boards	Special zone / statutory qualifications may apply	SPECIAL	May include Dallas County residency or property-owner/agent qualifications
Certain City Auditor Nominating Commission positions	Express exemption from Dallas residency requirement	NO	Dallas City Code §2-17.2(b)

Key distinction: Most boards require City of Dallas residency, not residency in the nominating council district; the Youth Commission has an express district-residency requirement.

Charter-Created Boards — Residency Requirements

The Dallas Charter expressly establishes or requires these four boards/commissions.

Board / Commission	Charter Authority	Residency Requirement	Council-District Residency?	Key Qualification Note
Redistricting Commission	Ch. IV, §5(b)(2)	Must meet qualifications for service on a City commission; general Code rule requires 6 months' City of Dallas residency	NO	2024 amendment removed registered-voter requirement; additional redistricting eligibility restrictions apply.
City Plan Commission	Ch. XV, §3	Must be a resident of the City of Dallas	NO	Charter expressly requires 15 Dallas residents; qualified-voter requirement was removed in 2024.
Civil Service Board	Ch. XVI, §1	Must be a resident of the City of Dallas	NO	Charter expressly requires seven Dallas residents; qualified taxpaying-citizen requirement was removed in 2024.
Park & Recreation Board	Ch. XVII, §2	Must be a resident of the City of Dallas	NO	Charter expressly requires Dallas residents; qualified-voter requirement was removed in 2024.

Key point: Proposition H removed voter/citizenship-based qualifications for these Charter boards; it did not eliminate Dallas residency requirements.

RECOMMENDATION: Proposed Ordinance Change

Current §2-159.1(c)(3):

“reside within the district for which the member is appointed.”

Recommendation:

Delete §2-159.1(c)(3) and make any necessary conforming amendments to §2-159.1 so that City of Dallas residency, rather than council-district residency, is the applicable qualification for Youth Commission membership.

Policy Objective: Align with other boards & commissions, expand youth participation, reduce unnecessary barriers to service, and provide greater appointment flexibility while maintaining the requirement that Youth Commission members represent Dallas youth.

Questions...



Appendix

Appendix

City of Dallas Boards & Commissions Governed by Chapter 8

#	Board / Commission	#	Board / Commission
1	Animal Advisory Commission	12	Housing Finance Corporation Board
2	Arts and Culture Advisory Commission	13	Judicial Nominating Commission
3	Board of Adjustment	14	Landmark Commission
4	Building Inspection Advisory, Examining & Appeals Board	15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center Board
5	Citizen Homelessness Commission	16	Municipal Library Board
6	City Plan Commission	17	Park and Recreation Board
7	Civil Service Board	18	Permit and License Appeal Board
8	Community Development Commission	19	Reinvestment Zone Boards (all TIF zones)
9	Community Police Oversight Board	20	Senior Affairs Commission
10	Ethics Advisory Commission	21	South Dallas/Fair Park Opportunity Fund Board
11	Fire Code Advisory & Appeals Board	22	Youth Commission

Note: Chapter 8 generally governs City boards and commissions; the individual bodies are established by the Charter, ordinance, or other applicable law.

Appendix — Other City-Appointed, Interagency & Regional Boards

Separate entities and special-purpose bodies that should not automatically be treated as ordinary Chapter 8 municipal boards.

Board / Entity	Classification	Primary Governing Framework
Dallas Area Rapid Transit Board (DART)	Regional / transit authority	State law / DART governance
Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport Board	Regional / joint-city board	Dallas–Fort Worth joint governance
Dallas Central Appraisal District Board	Countywide / state-law entity	Texas Tax Code
Dallas Housing Authority	Local housing authority / separate entity	Texas housing-authority law
Dallas Public Facility Corporation (DPFC)	City-created public corporation	Tex. Local Gov’t Code Ch. 303; Res. 20-1035
Dallas Housing Finance Corporation (DHFC)	City-created housing finance corporation	State housing-finance corporation law
Environmental Commission (EVC)	City advisory commission	City ordinance / City board framework
Employees’ Retirement Fund Board	City retirement / special-purpose board	Charter / plan governing provisions
Police & Fire Pension System Board	Pension / special-purpose board	State law / pension plan
North Texas Education Finance Corporation	Regional / public finance corporation	State law / corporation documents
North Oak Cliff Municipal Management District	Special district	State enabling law / district requirements
Cypress Waters Municipal Management District	Special district	State enabling law / district requirements
Reinvestment Zone (TIF) Boards	Special-purpose / tax increment boards	Texas Tax Code Ch. 311 + creating ordinances
North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)	Regional council of governments	Interlocal / regional governance
Regional Transportation Council (RTC)	Regional transportation policy body	NCTCOG / MPO governance

Screening note: appointment and residency qualifications for these bodies should be checked under the entity’s specific statute, charter, ordinance, bylaws, or interlocal governing document.