

The Office of the President

Qualifications

- Article II, Section 1, Clause 4
- President must be:
 - Natural born citizen
 - 35 years old
 - A resident of the country for 7 years

Roles of the President

Chief of State

- Ceremonial Leader
- As the American Chief of State, the president is a living symbol of the nation.
- Celebrates national holidays, and stands for the highest values and ideals of the country.
- Ceremonial Duties

Chief Executive

- Leader of Executive branch
- The president is “boss” for millions of government workers in the Executive Branch
- Decides how the laws of the United States are to be enforced and selects officials and advisers to help run the Executive Branch

Chief Diplomat

- In charge of foreign affairs
- Decides what diplomats and ambassadors shall say to foreign governments
- Sets United States foreign policy
- Receives foreign dignitaries
- Represent the United States overseas
- Negotiates Treaties

Commander-In-Chief

- In charge of all military
- The president is in charge of the U.S. armed forces: the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines.
- The president decides where troops are to be stationed and where ships are sent.
- All military generals and admirals take orders from the President.

Chief Legislator

- Chief lawmaker
- Constitution gives the president power to influence Congress in its lawmaking
- Presidents may urge Congress to pass new laws or veto bills that they do not favor
- Can use Executive Orders in the place of laws

Party Chief

- In charge of their political party
- Helps members of his political party get elected or appointed to office
- Campaigns for those who have supported his policies
- Reelection campaigns for 2nd term

Chief Guardian of the Economy

- In charge of guiding the economy
- Concerned with unemployment, high prices, taxes, business profits, and the general prosperity of the country.
- The president does not control the economy, but is expected to help it run smoothly.
- Meets with economic advisers to discuss ways to reduce unemployment.
- Meets with business and labor leaders to discuss their needs and problems.