

Thank you for applying!

For detailed information on Michigan's redistricting process, visit RedistrictingMichigan.org.

What happens next?

- **Application Period**
Now - June 1, 2020
- Applications submitted
- June 1, 2020 deadline for submitting applications
- **Selection Period**
June - August 2020
- Secretary of State eliminates incomplete and ineligible applications
- Secretary of State randomly draws 200 semi-finalists
- Legislative leaders review semi-finalists and exercise limited strikes
- Secretary of State randomly draws final 13 commissioners
- **Commission in Operation**
Fall 2020 - Fall 2021



Be a part of Michigan's future.

You've been selected to apply to serve on the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission! Through a random selection process, your name was chosen to receive this application.

In November 2018, Michigan voters amended the state Constitution to create a citizen-led redistricting process. A commission of 13 randomly-selected citizens will be responsible for drawing district lines for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives, and U.S. Congress.

You now have a unique opportunity to get involved in this process and, in doing so, help draw fair, representative districts for the entire state.

Questions? Learn more at www.RedistrictingMichigan.gov or Redistricting@Michigan.gov.



Designed and printed in Michigan

Notarize, sign and mail by June 1, 2020.



This application must be notarized, then mailed or dropped off at your local Secretary of State branch.

Visit Michigan.gov/FreeNotary to find a notary offering the service for free near you. You can mail your completed application to Michigan Department of State, PO Box 30318, Lansing, MI 48909.

Option 1: send in this paper application.

1. Double check your work in this paper application. **Remember that you must answer all required questions on this application to be an applicant for the commission.**
2. Take your application to a notary and sign it in the presence of the notary.
3. Mail the application using the envelope you received in this package. Or, mail it to: Michigan Department of State, PO Box 30318, Lansing, MI 48909. You can also drop it off at your local Secretary of State branch office. **Applications due June 1, 2020.**

Option 2: complete the application online and print.

1. Visit RedistrictingMichigan.org to complete the application.
2. Print your application.
3. Take your application to a notary and sign it in the presence of the notary.
4. Mail the application using the envelope you received in this package. Or, mail it to: Michigan Department of State, PO Box 30318, Lansing, MI 48909. You can also drop it off at your local Secretary of State branch office. **Applications due June 1, 2020.**

What's a commissioner?

As a commissioner, you'll collaborate with other Michigan citizens to create fair, representative districts. You do not need any specific skills or expertise to serve on the Commission. The constitution simply requires that each commissioner "perform his or her duties in a manner that is impartial and reinforces public confidence in the integrity of the redistricting process."

Here are some things you need to know about what it's like to serve in this special role. More details are available at RedistrictingMichigan.org, but general responsibilities of commissioners include:

Draw the district lines for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives, and U.S. Congress.

Gather input from the public through public meetings.

Utilize 2020 census data and to public input to inform decisions about where to draw district lines.

Work collaboratively with 12 other commissioners to draw and finalize the districts.

Return this paper copy after you fill it out, or complete and submit it online at RedistrictingMichigan.org



Optional: Why do you care about this?

If you would like to further elaborate on your political party affiliation or your desire to serve as a commissioner, you may use the space to the right to do so.

You don't need to provide any further information in order to serve on the Commission. Any additional information you provide won't impact your eligibility or selection as one of the 200 semi-finalists.

If you're randomly selected, any additional information you provide will be made public and submitted to the legislative leaders reviewing your application. Specifically, the Speaker of the House, House Minority Leader, Senate Majority Leader, and Senate Minority leader may each remove up to five (5) applicants before the final random draw.



Are you a registered voter in the state of Michigan? *If you are not sure, you can check your voter registration at Michigan.gov/Vote.*

Yes No

If you're not currently registered, will you be registered by August 15, 2020?

Yes No
 N/A

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

1. I am now, or have been at any time since August 15, 2014:

A. A declared candidate for partisan federal, state, or local office.

Yes No

B. An elected official to partisan federal, state, or local office.

Yes No

C. An officer or member of the governing body of a national, state, or local political party.

Yes No

D. A paid consultant or employee of a federal, state, or local elected official or political candidate, of a federal, state, or local political candidate's campaign, or of a political action committee.

Yes No

E. An employee of the legislature.

Yes No

F. A lobbyist agent registered with the Michigan Bureau of Elections.

Yes No

Tell us about yourself.

The Secretary of State invites wide public participation in this Commission from communities across Michigan. Potential commissioners should “mirror the geographic and demographic makeup of the state.”

The demographic information you provide will help achieve that goal. We will use this data in our outreach efforts and in the next phase of the selection process, as mandated by the state Constitution.

If you have any questions about the next step of the process, please visit RedistrictingMichigan.org or contact Redistricting@Michigan.gov



What to expect if you're selected.

Being part of this Commission is an exciting and historic opportunity. It will also require a significant commitment of time and energy.

These questions on the following pages help set expectations.



Indicate whether you agree to the following conditions if you're appointed to the Commission:

If selected to serve the Commission, you will not be eligible to hold a partisan elective office at the state, county, city, village, or township level in Michigan for five (5) years. Do you understand that by serving on the Commission you are ineligible to hold these elected offices for five (5) years after you are selected to the Commission?

Yes No

Serving on the Commission will require a time commitment of more than one year, including periods of both part-time and full-time work (approximately 10 - 40+ hours per week). The Commission must conduct open meetings. Most commissioners (at least 9 of 13) must be present at each meeting. Are you able to dedicate the necessary time to fulfill your duties as commissioner in addition to your other personal and work obligations?
Note: like jury duty, your employer cannot fire you for serving on this commission.

Yes No

Each commissioner will receive compensation. The amount is set by law at approximately \$40,000. With this financial expectation in mind, will you be able to serve on the Commission?

Yes No

Being a commissioner also requires travel to at least 15 public hearings across Michigan. With travel expectations in mind, will you be able to serve on the Commission?

Yes No

The Michigan Constitution states, "each commissioner shall perform his or her duties in a manner that is impartial and reinforces public confidence in the integrity of the redistricting process." If selected, are you able to conduct yourself accordingly?

Yes No

The Constitution specifies redistricting maps adopted by the Commission must receive a majority vote, and support from at least two commissioners of each political party affiliation (Democratic, Republican, and unaffiliated). If selected, do you believe you will be able to collaborate with fellow commissioners to reach consensus?

Yes No

Indicate your political affiliation:

The Commission will be made up of 13 commissioners: 4 commissioners who affiliate with the Republican Party, 4 commissioners who affiliate with the Democratic Party, and 5 commissioners who do not affiliate with either major party.

To meet this requirement, we need to know your political affiliation (**please select one**).

I do not affiliate with either the Republican or Democratic Party.

I affiliate with the Democratic Party.

I affiliate with the Republican Party.

G. An employee of a lobbyist agent registered with the Michigan Bureau of Elections.

Yes No

H. An unclassified state employee pursuant to Article XI, Section 5 of the Michigan Constitution. *Note: If you are an employee of courts of record, employee of the state institutions of higher education, or person in the armed forces of the state, you are still eligible to serve on the commission. You should answer "No" to this question.*

Yes No

2. I am a parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, or spouse of a person to whom sections A through H (above and on the previous page) would apply.

Yes No

3. I am disqualified for appointed or elected office in Michigan.

Yes No

How this application will be used

I understand that if randomly selected as one of 200 semi-finalists, the contents of this application (except my street address, email, and phone number) will be made available to the public.

Yes, I understand

I understand that while this application is a public document, my email and phone number will be kept confidential to the extent authorized by law.

Yes, I understand

Name

Last Name Vargas, JR.

First Name Epifanio

Address

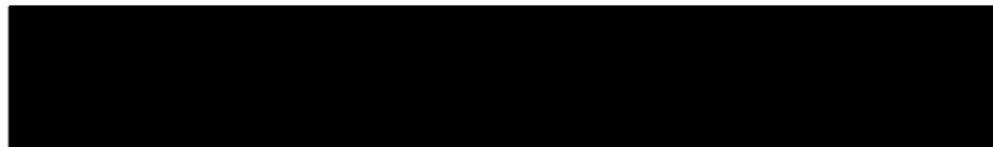
(where you are registered to vote)



City/Town KENTWOOD Michigan Zip 4, 9, 5, 0, 8

Temporary Mailing Address

(if different than the address listed above)



Contact Information

The Secretary of State may need to contact you regarding your application. What is the best way to reach you?



Demographic Information

Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

Yes
 No

Gender

Male
 Female

Race (please select all that apply)

White
 Black or African American
 American Indian or Alaska Native
 Asian
 Other MEXICAN AMERICAN

Birth year

1, 9, 4, 9

Here are some important things to know before you start.

The law includes some criteria for who can serve on this commission.

The questions in this section of the application make sure you're eligible and don't have any conflicts that might keep you from serving on the Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Answer these questions to the best of your ability. If you have any concerns or feel you're unable to answer a given prompt, please contact Redistricting@Michigan.gov



Why do you want to serve on the Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission?
Suggested length approximately 0 - 500 words.

TO HAVE FAIR REPRESENTATION, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE PROPORTIONATE AND BALANCED GROUPS WHEN DEFINING MICHIGAN'S DISTRICT LINES.

I WOULD BE HONORED TO BE A PART OF MICHIGAN'S HISTORY BY BEING INVOLVED AND SERVING ON THE MICHIGAN INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.

Describe why or how you affiliate with either the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, or why you don't affiliate with either. Suggested length approximately 0 - 500 words.

I BELIEVE IN WORKING TOWARD THE COMMON GOOD. EQUALITY FOR ALL.

What's redistricting?

Every 10 years when we complete the U.S. Census, we gain new data about where people live. We use this data and other information to redraw the lines that define districts out of which we elect political leaders. This process of determining district lines is known as "redistricting."

In Michigan, a randomly selected group of citizens (a "commission") is responsible for drawing these lines. These lines are important because they determine how voters will be grouped together to elect representatives to the U.S. Congress and Michigan's House and Senate.

The Michigan Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission will be composed of 13 Michigan registered voters: four who affiliate with the Democratic Party, four who affiliate with the Republican Party and five who do not affiliate with either of those political parties.

Step 1: Ask the notary to complete this section:

Sign and sworn before me in Kent
County, Michigan.

Print name exactly as it appears on notary application:

Melissa Wise

Sign exactly as it appears on notary application:

<u>Melissa Wise</u>	MELISSA WISE Notary Public, State of Michigan County of Kent My Commission Expires Jun. 23, 2023 Acting in the County of <u>Kent</u>
Today's date 0 6 / 1 7 / 2 0 2 0	

Notary Public, State of Michigan (print county commission)

Kent

Commission expiration date: 06/23/23 Acting in the county of: Kent

Step 2: You complete the section below. *This must be done in the presence of the notary.*

Print name below:
ERIDANIO VALDES, JR.

Sign and date below. *This must be done in the presence of the notary.*

By signing below, I swear or affirm that the answers provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge, and in particular attest that my political party affiliation as represented in this application is accurate.

X	[Redacted Signature]
Today's date	0 7 / 1 7 / 2 0 2 0