

# Running for Office in Talbot County

## 2018-2019



Published by

The League of Women Voters of the Mid-Shore





## **About this Guide**

The League of Women Voters has a long tradition of promoting citizen participation in our democracy. The information contained in this guide includes the majority of offices for which legal residents of Talbot County may run, the duties of the offices, how the elections are conducted, the office term, and the base salary for the position. Similar information regarding the offices of Governor, Lt. Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General, and Circuit Court Judge may be acquired from the Maryland State Board of Elections. The League encourages all who are qualified to consider running for office.

The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan and does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

### **PRIMARY FILING DEADLINE FOR ALL OFFICES (excepting municipalities):**

**Feb 27, 2018, at 9 p.m.**

Deadline for non-principal political party candidates and unaffiliated candidates is July 1, 2018.

### **PRIMARY ELECTION:**

**Early Voting: June 14 - 21, 2018**

**Election Day: June 26, 2018**

### **GENERAL ELECTION:**

**Early Voting: Oct. 25 – Nov. 1, 2018**

**Election Day: Nov. 6, 2018**

## U.S. Senator

**Duties:** U.S. Senators make laws along with the House of Representatives, ratify treaties, and conduct investigations on issues of national importance. The Senate confirms Presidential appointments.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** One-third of the 100 members of the Senate are elected every two years. In 2018, Maryland voters will elect one Senator. Senators must be at least 30 years old, have been citizens of the United States at least 9 years, and be residents of Maryland. All registered voters in Maryland may vote for one candidate running for this office.

**Filing Fee:** \$290

**Term:** 6 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$174,000

## U.S. Representative MD District 1

**Duties:** Representatives make laws along with the members of the Senate and may conduct investigations on issues of national importance. Laws that impose taxes always begin in the House of Representatives. Representatives determine whether a public official should be tried, if accused of a crime.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** District 1 is comprised of all counties on the Eastern Shore and parts of Harford and Baltimore Counties. Voters elect one U.S. Congressperson as the representative for an area with more than 300,000 residents. Representatives must be at least 25 years old, have been citizens of the United States for at least 7 years, and be residents of U.S. District 1 in Maryland.

**Filing Fee:** \$100

**Term:** 2 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$174,000

## Maryland State Senator District 37

**Duties:** State Senators share responsibility with Delegates for enactment of the state's laws as provided for in the Constitution of the State of Maryland.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** District 37B includes all of Talbot, Dorchester, and Caroline counties and part of Wicomico county. One Senator is elected by all qualified voters in the areas cited. State Senators must be at least 25 years old, a resident of Maryland for 1 year, and a resident of District 37 for the 6 months prior to the election.

**Filing Fee:** \$50

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$45,207

## Maryland State House Delegate District 37B

**Duties:** Delegates share the responsibilities with State Senators for enactment of the State's laws as provided for in the Constitution of the State of Maryland.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** District 37B includes all of Talbot county and parts of Caroline, Dorchester, and Wicomico counties. Qualified voters in District 37B cast votes for 2 candidates. The 2 candidates who receive the largest number of votes are elected EXCEPT that each person elected must live in a different county. Delegates must be at least 21 years of age, a resident of Maryland for 1 year, and a resident of District 37B for the 6 months prior to the election.

**Filing Fee:** \$50

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits.

**Salary:** \$45,207 annual base

## Talbot County State's Attorney

**Duties:** Serves as chief prosecutor of anyone charged with committing a crime in Talbot County. The State's Attorney's office also investigates charges of police and public official misconduct and misuse of funds.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** All qualified voters in Talbot County vote for one State's Attorney. The State's Attorney must be a member of the Maryland bar, a resident of Talbot County for 2 years, and a registered voter.

**Filing Fee:** \$25

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$109,200

## Talbot County Clerk of the Circuit Court

**Duties:** The Clerk of the Circuit Court oversees the office that performs administrative duties for the Circuit Court. Duties include maintenance of court records, recording of deeds, collecting taxes and fees based on property transactions, and issuing licenses for fishing, hunting, sales of liquor, and marriage. The Clerk also performs civil wedding ceremonies and processes passport applications.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** All qualified voters in Talbot County may vote for one Clerk of Court. The Clerk must be a registered voter.

**Filing Fee:** \$25

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$109,000

## Register of Wills

**Duties:** Assists and advises the general public with administrative processes and preparation of forms concerning estates of deceased persons. The Register collects Maryland inheritance tax on estates and probate fees, maintains all records of wills and estates of deceased persons, acts as clerk to the Orphans' Court, safeguards wills of living persons, and guards the property of minors.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** All qualified voters in Talbot County may vote for one Registrar of Wills. The Register must be a registered voter.

**Filing Fee:** \$25

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$100,000

## Judge of Orphans' Court

**Duties:** The Maryland Orphans' Court is the probate court. It also has jurisdiction over guardianship of minors. The Orphans' Court supervises the handling of estates of people who have died – with or without a will – while owning property in their sole name.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** All qualified voters in Talbot County may vote for 3 Judges of Orphans' Court in 2018. Judges must be residents of Talbot County for 1 year and be registered voters.

**Filing Fee:** \$25

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$5,500, plus an additional \$500 for the Chief Judge

## Talbot County Sheriff

**Duties:** The sheriff is responsible for maintaining public order according to law in Talbot County, carries out court orders, delivers summons, deals with protective orders and other injunctions, and executes bench warrants.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** All qualified voters in Talbot County may vote for the Sheriff. Candidates must be 25 years old, be a resident of Maryland for 5 years, live in Talbot County, and be a registered voter.

**Filing Fee:** \$25

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$75,000

## Talbot County Board of Education

**Duties:** The 7 members of the board establish and oversee the educational policies for the public school system of the county, decide when and where schools should be built or consolidated, establish annual budgets for the school system, and hire the Chief Executive Officer (superintendent) to implement public school policies and programs.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** In 2018, 5 board positions are up for election: Districts 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7. Qualified voters in Talbot County may vote for 1 candidate for their district of residence. Candidates must be registered voters in Talbot County.

**Filing Fee:** \$ 25

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$3,200, plus an additional \$400 for the Board President

## **Principal Political Party Central Committees**

**Duties:** The party central committees make and guide policies of the party, finance state campaigns, and recommend candidates for state-sponsored positions. Should a vacancy occur between the primary and general elections in the party's nominations for statewide office or the U.S. Congress, that party's central committee is empowered to fill the vacancy. When a vacancy occurs in the General Assembly, the departing official's central committee recommends replacements for appointment by the Governor.

### **Talbot County Republican Party Central Committee**

**How Elected/Qualifications:** Committee members must be residents of Talbot County and be registered on the voting rolls as Republicans. Members will be elected in the June 2018 Primary Election by registered Republicans. The number of seats to be filled is determined by the County Republican Central Committee.

**Filing Fee:** \$10

**Term:** 4 years

**Salary:** None

### **Talbot County Democratic Party Central Committee**

**How Elected/Qualifications:** Committee members must be residents of Talbot County and be registered on the voting rolls as Democrats. Members will be elected in the June 2018 Primary Election by registered Democrats. The number of seats to be filled is determined by the County Democratic Central Committee.

**Filing Fee:** \$10

**Term:** 4 years

**Salary:** None

# Talbot County Council

**Duties:** There are 5 at-large members of the Talbot County Council. They are responsible for county-specific legislation, enforcement of the county charter and its laws, and the direction of all public operations for the county.

**How Elected/Qualifications:** In 2018, qualified voters in Talbot County may vote for 5 candidates. Candidates must be registered voters in Talbot County for at least two years immediately preceding election or appointment.

**Filing Fee:** \$25

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$14,400, plus an additional \$1000 for President of the Council

## MUNICIPALITIES IN TALBOT COUNTY

All municipal elections are nonpartisan, so there are no primaries except in Trappe. All council seats are at large except in Easton where only the President of the council is an at large seat; the other four council members are elected by ward. Only Easton has a Mayor elected by the town voters.

### Easton: Mayor

**How Elected/Qualifications:** All qualified voters who reside in the town limits of Easton may vote for the Mayor. The mayor must be a resident of Easton for the 30 days prior to the election, a registered voter, and must reside within the town limits throughout his/her term.

**Election Date:** May 7, 2019  
(1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday after the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in May in odd-numbered years)

**Filing Deadline:** April 1, 2019  
(1<sup>st</sup> Monday in May in odd-numbered years)

**Filing Fee:** none

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$8,500

## MUNICIPALITIES IN TALBOT COUNTY (cont.)

### Easton: Council Members

**How Elected/Qualifications:** In 2019, 2 council seats will be on the ballot: wards 1 and 3. Qualified voters may cast one vote for a candidate from the ward in which the voter is registered. Council members must be a resident of the ward for the 30 days prior to the election, a registered voter, and must reside within their ward throughout their term.

**Election Date:** May 7, 2019

(1<sup>ST</sup> Tuesday after the first Monday in May in odd-numbered years)

**Filing Deadline:** April 1, 2019

(1<sup>ST</sup> Monday in April in odd-numbered years)

**Filing Fee:** none

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$5,000, plus an additional \$1,000 for President of the Council

### Oxford: Council Members

**How Elected/Qualifications:** Every year qualified voters residing in the town limits may vote for 1 candidate. Council members must be a resident of Oxford for at least the 2 years prior to the election and a registered voter.

**Election Date:** June 19, 2018

(3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in June)

**Filing Deadline:** May 21, 2018

(3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May)

**Filing Fee:** None

**Term:** 3 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$2,000

## MUNICIPALITIES IN TALBOT COUNTY (cont.)

### Queen Anne: Council Members

**How Elected/Qualifications:** Every year qualified voters residing in the town limits may vote for 1 candidate. Council members must be a resident of Queen Anne for at least the year prior to the election and a registered voter.

**Election Date:** April 2, 2018  
(1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in April)

**Filing Deadline:** March 12, 2018  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in March)

**Filing Fee:** None

**Term:** 3 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$90 every other month

### St Michaels: Council Members

**How Elected/Qualifications:** In 2018, qualified voters residing in the town limits may vote for 2 candidates. Council members must reside in St Michaels for 2 consecutive years immediately prior to their election, be a registered voter, and must reside within the town during their term.

**Election Date:** May 7, 2018  
(1<sup>st</sup> Monday in May in even-numbered years)

**Filing Deadline:** April 6, 2018  
(5<sup>th</sup> Friday preceding the election)

**Filing Fee:** None

**Term:** 4 years; no term limits

**Salary:** \$2,000

## MUNICIPALITIES IN TALBOT COUNTY (cont.)

### Trappe: Council Members

**How Elected/Qualifications:** In 2019, qualified voters residing in the town limits of Trappe may vote for 2 candidates. Council members must reside in town for at least the 30 days prior to the election and be a registered voter.

**Primary Date:** April 9, 2019  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years)

**Election Date:** May 14, 2019  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in May in odd-numbered years)

**Filing Deadline:** March 19, 2019  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in March in odd-numbered years)

**Filing Fee:** None

**Term:** 4 years, limited to 2 consecutive elected terms

**Salary:** \$2,000

Additional information about these available positions may be obtained from several sources. A number of these are listed below. General information including requirements for filing and financial disclosure is available directly from the Maryland Board of Elections. More partisan information including campaigning and financial assistance is available from the State or County Central Committees.

**Maryland Board of Elections:**

(800) 222-8683; [info.sbe@maryland.gov](mailto:info.sbe@maryland.gov)

**Talbot County Board of Elections:**

(410) 770-8099; [webmaster@talbotcountymd.gov](mailto:webmaster@talbotcountymd.gov)

**Talbot County Republican Central Committee:**

(410) 745-6732, [nick.panuzio@talbotgop.org](mailto:nick.panuzio@talbotgop.org)

**Talbot County Democratic Central Committee:**

(240) 478-7672, [scottkane9@gmail.com](mailto:scottkane9@gmail.com)

**Libertarian Party of Maryland:**

(800) MLP-1776; [chair@lpmaryland.org](mailto:chair@lpmaryland.org)

P.O. Box. Abingdon, MD, 21009

**Green Party of Maryland**

(410) 691-3204; [info@marylandgreenparty.org](mailto:info@marylandgreenparty.org)

**Easton Town Office:**

(410) 822-2525; [town@EastonMD.gov](mailto:town@EastonMD.gov)

**Oxford Town Office:**

(410) 226-5122; [oxfordclerk@goeaston.net](mailto:oxfordclerk@goeaston.net)

**Queen Anne Town Office:**

(410) 364-9229; [townqa@comcast.net](mailto:townqa@comcast.net)

**St Michaels Town Office:**

(410) 745-9535; [info@townofstmichaels.com](mailto:info@townofstmichaels.com)

**Trappe Town Office:**

(410) 443-0087; [clerk@trappemd.net](mailto:clerk@trappemd.net)

**Talbot County Offices:**

(410) 778-8001, [smoran@talbotcountymd.gov](mailto:smoran@talbotcountymd.gov)



Caroline County



Dorchester County



Talbot County

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