



Virginia Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet

As of August 26, 2016 updated

History of Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Virginia was created with the Constitution of 1851.¹

Origins of the Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Virginia was established with the abolishment of the Governor's Council of State in the Constitution of 1851.

Qualifications for Office

The Council of State Governments (CSG) publishes the Book of the States (BOS) 2015. In chapter 4, Table 4.13 lists the Qualifications and Terms of Office for lieutenant governors: [The Book of the States 2015 \(CSG\) at www.csg.org](#).

Method of Election

The National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) maintains a list of the methods of electing gubernatorial successors at: <http://www.nlga.us/lt-governors/office-of-lieutenant-governor/methods-of-election/>.

Duties and Powers

A lieutenant governor may derive responsibilities one of four ways: from the Constitution, from the Legislature through statute, from the governor (thru gubernatorial appointment or executive order), thru personal initiative in office, and/or a combination of these. The principal and shared constitutional responsibility of every gubernatorial successor is to be the first official in the line of succession to the governor's office.

Succession to Office of Governor

None after the Constitution of 1851. Virginia uniquely has a one-term limit on service as governor.

¹ Virginia Constitution of 1851