

The Executive Branch

The Presidency and the Executive Office

the 8 Roles of the President

1. The Chief of State
2. The Chief Executive
3. The Chief Administrator
4. The Chief Diplomat
5. The Commander in Chief
6. The Chief Legislator
7. The Chief of Party
8. The Chief Citizen

Formal Qualifications

The President Must:

1. Be “a natural born citizen...of the United States.”
2. Be at least 35 years of age.
3. “[H]ave been 14 years a resident within the United States.”

The President's Term

1. "He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years"
- *Article II, Section 1*
2. Until 1951, the Constitution placed no limit on the number of the terms a President might serve.
3. "No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice"
- *22nd Amendment*

Pay and Benefit

1. in 1999 Congress set the Presidential Salary at \$400,000 in a year.
2. Congress has also provided the President \$50,000 a year expense
- 3: The White House, *Air Force One*, a large staff, Camp David resort, medical, dental and other health care.

Presidential Succession

Presidential Succession is the Scheme by which the presidential vacancy is filled.

- 1) Vice President
- 2) Speaker of the House
- 3) President *pro tempore*
- 4) Secretary of State
- 5) Secretary of the Treasury

- 6) Secretary of Defense
- 7) Attorney General
- 8) Secretary of the Interior
- 9) Secretary of Agriculture
- 10) Secretary of Commerce
- 11) Secretary of Labor
- 12) Secretary of Health

and

Presidential Disability Act

25th Amendment, Section 2 and 3

The V.P. becomes acting President if:

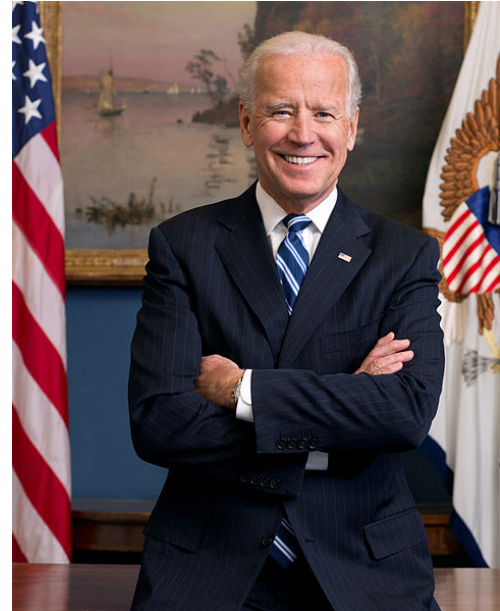
- 1) the President informs Congress “that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office”
- 2) the V.P. and the majority of members of the Cabinet inform Congress that the president is incapacitated.

Vice Presidency

Constitution give two duties:

- 1) to preside over the Senate
- 2) to help decide the question of the presidential disability

**Incumbent Vice President
Joe Biden**



Presidential Cabinet

Secretary of State

John Kerry

Secretary of the Treasury

Jack Lew

Secretary of Defense

Chuck Hagel

Secretary of Justice

Attorney General Eric Holder

Secretary of the Interior

Sally Jewell

Secretary of Agriculture

Thomas J. Vilsack

Secretary of Commerce

Penny Pritzker

Secretary of Labor

Thomas Perez

Secretary of Health and H.S.

Kathleen Sebelius

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Shaun L.S. Donovan

Presidential Cabinet

Secretary of Transportation

Anthony Foxx

Secretary of Energy

Ernest Moniz

Secretary of Education

Arne Duncan

Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Eric K. Shinseki

Secretary of Homeland Security

Rand Beers



Presidential Cabinet

Cabinet Members have two major jobs.

- 1) Individually: each is the administrative head of the executive departments
- 2) Together: they advise the president

the Cabinet



Presidential Cabinet

The President appoints the head of each of the 15 executive departments.

Each of these appointments is subject to confirmation by the Senate

Choices are based on party preference, professional qualification, geography, management abilities, etc.

General Election

Election of the President and Vice President

Voter Qualifications

The Constitution does not give the Federal Government the power to set voting qualifications. That is reserved for the states.

No state can deny anyone the right to vote based on:

- “race, color, or previous condition of servitude” - 15th Amendment
- sex (gender) - 19th Amendment
- at least 18 years old - 26th Amendment

Voter Qualifications

Universal Voting Requirements:

1. Citizenship
2. Residence
3. Age (never more than 18 years old)
4. Registration
5. Literacy (historical qualification)
6. Tax Payment

Presidential Nominations

- 1) Delegates for each Presidential candidate are selected in the presidential primary election.
- 2) Prior to the National Convention the Presidential candidate usually chooses a running mate (Vice President)
- 3) The Party Delegates vote on a Presidential Candidate at the National Party Convention

Elections

The First Tuesday after the First Monday in November

1. On Election Day voters cast ballots for a Presidential Candidate. (They think).
2. In Fact, they are actually voting for a slate of electors who are pledged to a particular presidential candidate.

The Electoral College

The President is not chosen directly by the people. The President is chosen indirectly by electors from each state.

- 1 Elector for every member of Congress
(535+3 from D.C. = 538 electoral votes)
- Electors are chosen on a Winner Take all basis.

If a candidate wins in a state, he or she gets all the electoral votes for his or her party from that state, regardless of how many people voted for that candidate

CAMPAIGN
2012

C-SPAN'S 2012 Electoral College Map



Numbers represent how many electoral votes each state will have in **2012**

Colors represent how Electors voted in **2008** presidential election:

Red: Republican **Blue:** Democratic **Purple:** Vote was split

Electoral College

The electoral college representatives meet in their respective state capitals in December.

They cast their vote for the President and V.P. which are sent by mail to Congress

On January 6th, the formal election of the President takes place. The President of the Senate counts the votes before Congress. *(If no majority, the vote is sent to the House)*

Innaguration Day

January 20th (or 21st if the 20th falls on a Sunday)
marking the commencement of a new presidential term



Flaws in the Electoral College

#1: There is a possibility that the winner of the popular vote will not win the election.

#2: Nothing in the Constitution forces electors to vote for their candidate

#3: It is possible that the contest will be decided in the House of Representatives.

(but the vote is according to each state, not each individual)

Presidential Power

The Office and the Growth thereof

Article II

“The Executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America”

Although the president is given specific powers in the Constitution, the power of the office has grown substantially over the past 200 years. Why?

Executive Powers

- 1) As Chief Executive the President executes the provisions of Federal law.
- 2) The President can issue an [Executive order](#), or a direct rule or regulation that has the force of law.
- 3) The President has the power to appoint ambassadors, diplomats, cabinet members, all federal judges, all officers in the Armed Forces, head of Government Agencies.

Diplomatic and Military Power

- 1) The President has the power to make treaties
(senate must approve by $\frac{2}{3}$ vote)
- 2) Executive Agreement, or an agreement between the President and the head of a foreign state.
(no consent of the Senate necessary)
- 3) The President has the power of recognition, or recognizing the legal existence of a country, or the opposite...

Diplomatic and Military Power

... *persona non grata* is a form of non-recognition and distaste with a country by asking to recall its ambassadors.

4. Commander in Chief of the nations armed forces

War Powers Resolution: 1973

- a. President must report to Congress 48 hrs after sending troops
- b. a commitment of U.S. forces must end 60 days unless Congress extends the deadline.
- c. Congress may end the combat commitment at any time

Legislative and Judicial Powers

“...[he] shall from time to time give to the Congress Information on the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measure as he shall judge necessary and expedient...”

- Article II, Section 3

President Obama's 2013 State of the Union Address



Legislative and Judicial Powers

The President sends 3 major messages to Capitol Hill each year.



1. The State of the Union
2. President's budget
3. the Annual Economic Report

In each of the Presidents messages he calls on congress to enact those laws he thinks are in the best interest of the people and the country.

Legislative and Judicial Powers

- The President has VETO power

“...Grant reprieves and Pardons for Offense against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment...”

- Article II, Section 2, Clause I

- Reprieve: postponement of a criminal sentence
 - Pardon: legal forgiveness
- (these only apply to the violation of Federal Laws)

Legislative and Judicial Powers

The President is also given the power of **amnesty**, or a blanket pardon to cover a group of lawbreakers.



Some men called to serve in the Vietnam War burned their draft cards. Others went into hiding. In 1977 President Carter pardoned these young men by granting them amnesty.

Staying Connected to the People



The Federal Bureaucracy

the large complex administrative structure that handles the business of our Government

3 Features of a Bureaucracy

1. Hierarchical Authority: an organization with a clear chain of command
2. Job Specialization: each bureaucrat (person) who works for the organization has a specific duty
3. Formalized Rules: The bureaucracy does its work according to a set of regulations

In theory...

A large government bureaucracy will:

- speed up decision making
- promote efficiency within each department
- formalized rules allow for work to be done with speed and precision

[Bureaucrats are NOT elected]

Division of the Federal Bureaucracy

Executive Office of the President

White House Office
Office of Management and Budget
Council of Economic Advisers
National Security Council
Office of National Drug Control Policy
Office of the United States Trade Representatives
Council on Environmental Quality

Executive Departments

Department of State
Department of the Treasury
Department of Defense
Department of Justice
Department of the Interior
Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce
Department of Labor
Department of Health and Human Services

Independent Agencies

Central Intelligence Agency
National Archives and Records
U.S. Postal Service
Environmental Protection Agency
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Elections Commission
Peace Corp
NASA

Executive Office of the President

The EOP is an umbrella agency. It is a complex organization of several separate agencies staffed by most of the President's closest advisors and assistants.

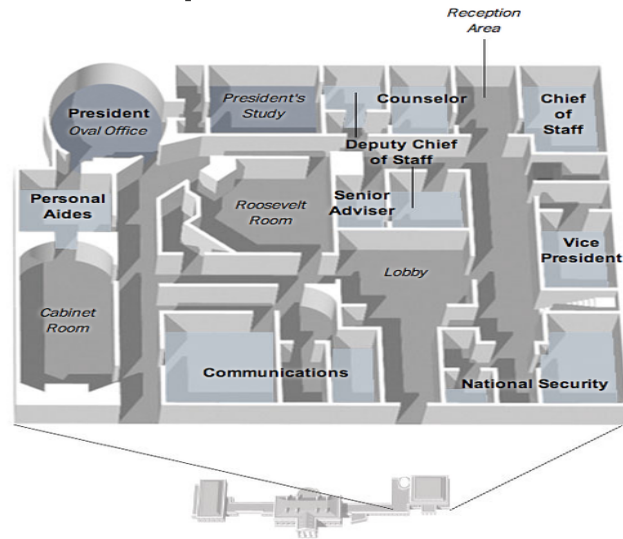
It was established by Congress in 1939

The Executive Office of the President

The White House Office

The West Wing: key personal and political staff of the President

- the Oval Office
- Cabinet Rooms
- V.P Office





The Executive Office of the President

EXAMPLE: the National Security Council

- the President, the V.P., the CIA director and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- this council advises the president on all domestic, foreign, and military matters that relate to national security

the Executive Office of the President

Other Offices:

1. Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
2. Office of National Drug Control Policy
3. Council of Economic Advisers
4. Office of Science and Technology Policy
5. Council of Environmental Quality
6. etc.....

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The Executive Departments

Much of the work of the Federal Government is done by the 15 Executive Offices

These are called the “**Cabinet Departments**”

Their job is to advise the President and head their respective governmental agencies.

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Independent Agencies

Independent Agencies are those agencies that have been established outside of the Executive Departments

- (approx 150 today)

CATEGORIZES AS:

1) Independent Executive Agencies (*NSA, EPA, FEC*)

2) Independent Regulatory Commissions (*SEC, FTC, the Fed*)

3) the Government Corporations

(Amtrak, U.S. Postal Service, Federal Deposit Insurance Company)

American Foreign Policy

a Historical Overview

The Policy of Isolationism

Since our infant years as a country the founding fathers warned against “entangling alliances”.

- we were a weak nation
- we had many problems
- we had a huge continent to explore
- we didn't need to get tangled in foreign

The Monroe Doctrine

James Monroe gave clear shape to the policy of isolationism in 1823:

- revolution in Latin America broke the colonial strongholds of Spain and Portugal
- Monroe warned all European nations to stay out of the affairs of North and South America

“Manifest Destiny”

This policy of expanding the country from sea to sea, exponentially increased the power and prestige of the country.

In 1898 the U.S. got involved in the Spanish-American war. After which the U.S.A acquired the Philippines, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

“Good Neighbor Policy”

Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine established the U.S role as the police of Latin America

But in the 1930's F.D.R replaced the Monroe Doctrine and the Roosevelt Corollary with the “Good Neighbor Policy”. This new policy attempted to win back friends in Latin America

Open Door Policy in China

In 1899, Secretary of State John Hay announced that the U.S. would seek equal access to trade for all European and Western nations in Asia.

He demanded China's independence and Sovereignty over its own territory be preserved.

After Communists won control of China in 1970s all US diplomatic ties were severed until years later

World Wars I & II

WW I: The US entered the war to make the world safe for Democracy. After which we retreated to a policy of isolationism again while Hitler, and Mussolini rose to power.

WW II: The U.S. was drawn out of Isolation with the bombing of Pearl Harbor. 61 nations were involved in the war and 75 million people were dead. Germany and Japan surrendered

Internationalism

The U.S. and the rest of the world looked to the principle of Collective Security to keep international peace.

UNITED NATIONS was created in 1945.

But peace would be soon decided by the two super-powers: Russia and the United States

Deterrence

Thus we entered an age of Deterrence, where the U.S. sought to maintain military might at such a great level that it would deter an attack.

President G.W. Bush expanded this policy to include the strategy of Preemptive War.

The Cold War

40 years of tension between the USA and Russia.

- During this time Russia was devouring Eastern Europe, Iran and other nations in hopes of finding a “window to the sea”

TRUMAN DOCTRINE: a massive program of economic and military aid in order to “support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation” by Russia.

Containment

A belief that Communism could be kept within its existing boundaries. And due to its internal weaknesses it would eventually collapse.

- Berlin Blockade
- The Cuban Missile Crisis
- The Korean War
- Vietnam

(as such, proxy wars were fought in lieu of a conflict between the powers themselves.)

Detente

Detente means “a relaxation of tensions”.

- Nixon began the SALT talks which set a five year agreement that limited nuclear weapons
- in 1991 the USSR collapsed and Mikhail Gorbachev helped to restore a level of diplomacy, however fragile it may be.

US foreign Policy Today

Where do we stand?

- Iraq
- Iranian Nuclear Capabilities
- North Korea
- Afghanistan
- Libya
- Syria
- India and Pakistan
- Egypt
- China
- Russia
- Turkey
- etc.