

**OHIO REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
RULES**

Rule 01 | Establishing authority.

(A) Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution creates the Ohio Redistricting Commission, which is comprised of seven persons who are responsible for the redistricting of the State of Ohio for the general assembly, and, if necessary, for congress. Such persons, collectively, shall be referred to in these rules as “Members” and, individually, as “Member.”

(B) These rules are adopted in compliance with, and under the authority of, Article XI, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution.

(C) The rules stated herein, as supplemented by Robert’s Rules of Order, shall be the procedural rules for the operation of the Ohio Redistricting Commission.

Rule 02 | Notices of meetings and hearings.

(A) Any person may ascertain the time and place of all regularly scheduled meetings, the time, place, and purpose of all specially scheduled meetings, and the time and place of public hearings of the Ohio Redistricting Commission through one of the following methods:

(1) Consulting the website of the Ohio Redistricting Commission at:

www.redistricting.ohio.gov

(2) Consulting the public bulletin boards located outside of the chambers of the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate on the second floor of the Ohio Statehouse, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

(3) By calling a toll-free phone number with a pre-recorded message stating the date, time, and location of upcoming meetings of the Commission.

(4) Requesting electronic notice of all meetings of the Ohio Redistricting Commission. The Co-Chairs’ designated staff shall jointly maintain a list of all persons who have requested such notification. A request for such notification shall:

(a) Contain the name of the person making the request and an email address to which electronic notice should be sent;

(b) Be sent in writing by electronic mail to: meetings@redistricting.ohio.gov

(c) Be received by start of business the day of any regularly scheduled meeting, specially scheduled meeting, or public hearing.

(B) In the event of a regularly scheduled meeting, specially scheduled meeting not of an emergency nature, or public hearing, the Co-Chairs' designated staff shall provide notice of such meeting or hearing by providing the notice described in paragraph (A)(1), (A)(2), (A)(3), or (A)(4) of this rule not later than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting or hearing. In the event of a special meeting of an emergency nature, the Co-Chairs' designated staff shall provide notice of such meeting by providing the notice described in paragraph (A)(1), (A)(2), (A)(3), or (A)(4) of this rule. In such event, however, the notice need not be given twenty-four hours prior to the meeting, but shall be given immediately upon the scheduling of such meeting.

Rule 03 | Open meetings.

All meetings and public hearings of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall be held in accordance with the Sunshine Law, section 121.22 of the Revised Code, as amended. All meetings and public hearings of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall be broadcast by electronic means of transmission using a medium readily accessible by the general public.

Rule 04 | Officers; participation of members; minutes.

(A) The Ohio Redistricting Commission shall have two Co-Chairs selected by the legislative leaders in the Senate and the House of Representatives of each of the two largest political parties represented in the general assembly, acting jointly by political party to serve.

(B) Each member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall be entitled to participate in all voting and debates, regardless of position held on the Commission.

(C) Minutes of each meeting of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall be maintained by the Co-Chairs' designated staff. Such minutes shall be circulated among the members and adopted by majority vote at a subsequent meeting of the Ohio Redistricting Commission. Transcripts and archived video of meetings of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall be provided upon request and completion and verification through the Ohio Government Telecommunications Service.

Rule 05 | Calling of meetings.

After the initial meeting of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, at which the Commission is convened, a meeting of the Commission may be called upon twenty-four-hours notice. Such call and notice to each member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall be issued jointly by the Co-Chairs, or may be dispensed with if a motion to recess a meeting designates a time certain for continuation of that meeting. However, a meeting may be jointly called by the Co-Chairs, upon proper notice, prior to a previously designated meeting, should the Co-Chairs deem it necessary.

Rule 06 | Quorum.

A majority of the seven members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission constitutes a quorum. A majority of the Ohio Redistricting Commission is required for any official actions of the Commission, including but not limited to the adoption of a plan of redistricting. All motions before the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall be determined by majority vote and in accordance with Article XI of the Ohio Constitution, and, if necessary, Article XIX of the Ohio Constitution. Members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission or their designees may, from time to time, conduct public hearings referred to in Rule 08, absent a quorum of members.

Rule 07 | Records retention and public records policies.

(A) Pursuant to section 149.34 of the Revised Code, the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall adopt the Ohio department of administrative services general records retention schedules for general administration records, personnel records, fiscal records, and information technology records.

(B) Pursuant to division (E) of section of 149.43 of the Revised Code, the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall adopt a public records policy.

Rule 08 | Public hearings on the process.

The Co-Chairs' designated staff shall organize a series of public hearings in locations around the State of Ohio for the Ohio Redistricting Commission's members or their designees to receive public comment and input on the redistricting process. The Co-Chairs' designated staff shall notify the members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission or their designees of the time, date, and location of each public hearing in the manner prescribed in paragraph (A)(1), (A)(2), or (A)(3) of Rule 02 and in no event less than twenty-four hours prior to each public hearing.

The Co-Chairs of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, or their designees, shall preside over these public hearings. Each member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission may designate an individual(s) to represent the member at any or all of these public hearings. Any individual so designated to represent a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall have no voting rights. No official business or action of the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall take place at the public hearings referred to in this rule, except for the receiving of public comment and input or adopting procedural rules for the operation of the Commission; provided that, the Co-Chairs must provide at least twenty-four hours written notice to the Commission members for there to be a vote on adopting procedural rules for the operation of the Commission.

Rule 09 | Redistricting plans.

Any member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, person, or organization may submit for the consideration of the Commission a proposed general assembly district plan. Any member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, person or organization may submit for the consideration of the Commission a congressional redistricting plan.

Redistricting plans submitted to the Ohio Redistricting Commission for consideration should contain visual representations of the proposed boundaries. The Ohio Redistricting Commission's website shall give any person or organization access to necessary Census data.

Redistricting plans submitted by the public to the Ohio Redistricting Commission for consideration shall be submitted on the Commission's website at:

www.redistricting.ohio.gov

or by mailing to:

Ohio Redistricting Commission
c/o Clerk of the Ohio Senate
Ohio Statehouse
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Upon receipt, the Co-Chairs' designated staff shall promptly provide electronic notification of a submitted plan to all the members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, and cause each submitted plan to be posted on the Commission's website for the public to view.

Rule 10 | Consideration of redistricting plans; adoption of plan.

The Redistricting Commission shall hold no less than three hearings on three separate days after the Redistricting Commission introduces a proposed General Assembly district plan pursuant to Ohio Const. Art. XI, § 8(A)(1) but prior to adoption of a final plan.

During the meeting or meetings of the commission, a sponsor of a complete statewide general assembly district plan may personally or through a representative present the substance of their plan to the members of the Redistricting Commission for a period not to exceed ten minutes, unless extended by a majority of the commission. The public may offer testimony or comment not to exceed five minutes total on any redistricting plan before the commission, unless extended by a majority of the commission. The co-chairs of the Ohio Redistricting Commission may limit testimony or comments on plans before the Commission, as the Co-Chairs deem necessary.

Any person wishing to testify on a given plan must provide written notice to the Co-Chairs' designated staff prior to the meeting scheduled to consider the various plans submitted.

Members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission may ask questions of any person testifying on the various redistricting plans before the Commission during the meeting scheduled to consider these plans. Members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission may request testimony from experts during this meeting.

Only members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission may offer amendments to a general assembly district plan or, if necessary, a congressional district plan.

The Co-Chairs of the Ohio Redistricting Commission may offer amendments on behalf of those persons sponsoring redistricting plans who are not members of the Commission.

Rule 11 | Publication of redistricting plan.

After a final general assembly district plan is adopted by the Ohio Redistricting Commission in accordance with Article XI of the Ohio Constitution, the Co-Chairs of the Commission shall coordinate with the Governor for the publication of the adopted plan no later than September 30, 2021. The first publication of the plan shall be made electronically on the Ohio Redistricting Commission's website and in its entirety in at least four Ohio newspapers that are geographically diverse, and may be made in a preprinted insert. The second publication shall be made in abbreviated form in those newspapers pursuant to section 7.16 of the Revised Code. No further newspaper publications are required if the second, abbreviated notice meets the requirements of section 7.16 of the Revised Code.

If the Ohio Redistricting Commission adopts a congressional district plan in accordance with Article XIX of the Ohio Constitution, the Co-Chairs of the Commission shall publish the plan no later than November 15, 2021. The first publication of the plan shall be made electronically on the Ohio Redistricting Commission's website and in its entirety in at least four Ohio newspapers that are geographically diverse, and may be made in a preprinted insert. The second publication shall be made in abbreviated form in those newspapers pursuant to section 7.16 of the Revised Code. No further newspaper publications are required if the second, abbreviated notice meets the requirements of section 7.16 of the Revised Code

Rule 12 | Reconvening the Redistricting Commission.

Should further action be necessary pursuant to either Article XI, Section 9 or Article XIX, Section 3 of the Ohio Constitution, the Ohio Redistricting Commission shall reconvene at the joint request of the Co-Chairs subject to this chapter.