

Leading Georgia

Read closely to connect eligibility rules with executive leadership.

SS8CG3.a "Explain the qualifications for the governor and lieutenant governor and their role in the executive branch of state government."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each qualification for either office, circle each duty or role, and write a small 1 beside the sentence that explains what happens if the governor leaves office.

Two Statewide Leaders

- ① Georgia voters elect a governor to lead the executive branch, the part of state government that carries out laws. To run for governor, a candidate must be at least 30 years old, a United States citizen for at least 15 years, and a Georgia resident for the six years immediately before the election. These rules help ensure that the state's chief executive has experience and a strong connection to Georgia when taking this public responsibility.
- ② The lieutenant governor must meet the same age, citizenship, and Georgia residency qualifications as the governor. Georgia elects the two offices separately, so voters may choose leaders from different political parties. The governor serves as the state's chief executive. The governor directs the executive branch, signs bills into law or vetoes them, prepares a state budget, appoints many officials, and serves as commander in chief of Georgia's state military forces. These duties turn laws and public plans into state action.
- ③ Although the lieutenant governor belongs to the executive branch, the office also connects to the legislative branch. The lieutenant governor presides over the Georgia Senate, keeps order during its sessions, and may vote when senators are tied. This role does not make the lieutenant governor a senator. If the governor dies, resigns, or is removed from office, the lieutenant governor becomes governor. Knowing the qualifications and duties of both offices helps voters evaluate who is prepared to lead the state during a statewide emergency.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What three qualifications must a candidate meet to run for governor?

2 Nia is 34 years old and has been a United States citizen for 18 years. She has lived in Georgia for five years immediately before the election. Why can she not run for governor yet?

3 Name one executive duty of the governor and one Senate-related duty of the lieutenant governor.

4 What happens if a governor resigns from office?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Amari is 41 years old, has been a United States citizen for 20 years, and has lived in Georgia for the six years immediately before an election. Write exactly three sentences explaining whether Amari may run for governor, naming two facts that support your decision. In your third sentence, name one governor duty and explain how it affects state action.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each qualification for either office, circle each duty or role, and write a small 1 beside the sentence that explains what happens if the governor leaves office. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What three qualifications must a candidate meet to run for governor?	The candidate must be at least 30 years old, a United States citizen for at least 15 years, and a Georgia resident for the six years immediately before the election.
2	Nia is 34 years old and has been a United States citizen for 18 years. She has lived in Georgia for five years immediately before the election. Why can she not run for governor yet?	She has not been a Georgia resident for the required six years immediately before the election.
3	Name one executive duty of the governor and one Senate-related duty of the lieutenant governor.	Answers vary. The governor may sign or veto bills, prepare the state budget, appoint officials, direct the executive branch, or serve as commander in chief. The lieutenant governor presides over the Georgia Senate, keeps order, or votes in a tie.
4	What happens if a governor resigns from office?	The lieutenant governor becomes governor.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Amari may run for governor because Amari is 41 years old and has been a United States citizen for 20 years. Amari has also lived in Georgia for the required six years immediately before the election. As governor, Amari could prepare a state budget, which helps turn public plans into state action.

Accept the required qualifications in any order. For the open response, accept a correct eligibility decision supported by two stated facts and a valid governor duty connected to carrying out laws or public plans.