

BENCHMARK SS.7.C.2.9

Strand	C Civics and Government
Reporting Category	Government Policies and Political Processes
Standard	Evaluate the roles, rights, and responsibilities of U.S. citizens, and determine methods of active participation in society, government, and the political system.
Benchmark	SS.7.C.2.9 Evaluate candidates for political office by analyzing their qualifications, experience, issue-based platforms, debates, and political ads.
Also Assesses	SS.7.C.2.7 Conduct a mock election to demonstrate the voting process and its impact on a school, community, or local level.
Benchmark Clarifications	<p>Students will identify the constitutional requirements to run for federal political office.</p> <p>Students will recognize the requirements to run for state and local political offices.</p> <p>Students will be able to analyze and/or evaluate the qualifications of candidates for public office based on their experience, platforms, debates, and political advertisements.</p>
Content Limit	Items will not require students to recall the qualifications of specific candidates.
Stimulus Attribute	Items addressing candidates for political office may use historical and contemporary documents and other relevant stimuli (e.g., maps, timelines, charts, graphs, tables).
Content Focus	There are no additional terms except those found in the standards, benchmarks, and benchmark clarifications.

Sample Item 15

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Content Focus Campaign Poster

The political campaign posters below are for two candidates running for mayor.

 Do You Want Your Mayor To Work For You?  VOTE MARIA SMITH FOR MAYOR • College Graduate • 5 Years City Council Member • 2 Years City Planning Commission • 4 Years School Board President Maria Knows What It Takes To Get The Job Done	 Will Work Hard for the City!  VOTE TODD DAVIS FOR MAYOR • College Graduate • 1 Year Little League Coach • 2 Years Boy Scout Assistant Troop Leader • Volunteer Firefighter Todd Takes His Job Seriously
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According to the information on the posters, what is the reason Maria could be considered more qualified than Todd to be elected mayor?

- A. her political policies
- B. her college education
- C. her campaign promises
- ★ D. her experience working in government