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The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia Standing Committee

[Article IV of the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church](#) requires that “In every Diocese, a Standing Committee shall be elected by the Convention.” The Standing Committee functions as the “[Bishop’s Council of Advice,](#)” and in the absence of a Bishop is the [ecclesiastical authority in the diocese](#). A bishop’s election cannot be confirmed without the consent of the majority of the Standing Committees in the Episcopal Church, [nor can a Deacon or Priest be ordained](#) without the consent of the Standing Committee. In [matters of property](#), the consent of the Standing Committee is required before any church property can be bought or sold.

In the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, the Standing Committee comprises six members from the clergy order and six members from the lay order. Two members of each order are elected at the Diocesan Convention for a term of three years.

Generally, the Standing Committee meets in person for a full day at St. George’s in Fredericksburg on the first Thursday of every month. Several hours of preparation might be required prior to meeting.

If you are interested in serving on the Standing Committee, please contact the Committee by emailing: standingcommittee@episcopalvirginia.org.

If you would like to be a candidate for election to the Standing Committee, please fill out the appropriate form found on the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia’s [Annual Convention website page](#) (form is available close to the date of the Convention).

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