

The Bill of Rights



First Amendment. Forbids the Congress from interfering with freedom of religion, speech or press, or with the right to assemble peaceably, or to petition the government.

Second Amendment. Guarantees the right to bear arms.

Third Amendment. Assures that soldiers cannot be arbitrarily lodged in private homes without the consent of the owner.

Fourth Amendment. Forbids unreasonable search or seizure of persons, homes, and effects without a warrant.

Fifth Amendment. Guarantees specific rights when on trial, including no condemnation without trial, no compulsion to be a witness against oneself, and no property taken for public use except with just compensation.

Sixth Amendment. Assures the accused right to a speedy and public trial, right to be represented by an attorney, and right to be faced by accusing witnesses.

Seventh Amendment. In lawsuits of more than \$20, a trial by jury may be requested.

Eighth Amendment. Forbids excessive fines and cruel or unusual punishments.

Ninth Amendment. Just because a right is not mentioned in the Constitution does not mean that the people are not entitled to it.

Tenth Amendment. Powers not delegated to the Federal Government, nor prohibited to the States, are reserved to the States or the people.

Constitutional Amendments 11-27

Amendment XI (1795) prohibited citizens of one state from suing the government of another state

Amendment XII (1804) established separate ballots for president and vice president in the Electoral College

Amendment XIII (1865) abolished slavery

Amendment XIV (1868) made slaves citizens and forbade states from denying civil rights

Amendment XV (1870) prohibited states from denying a person the right to vote on account of race

Amendment XVI (1913) gave Congress the right to levy an income tax

Amendment XVII (1913) provided for direct election of Senators

Amendment XVIII (1919) permitted Congress to ban the sale of liquor

Amendment XIX (1920) gave women the right to vote

Amendment XX (1933) changed the date of the presidential inauguration and set congressional session to begin in January

Amendment XXI (1933) repealed the 18th amendment

Amendment XXII (1951) limited president to two elected terms

Amendment XXIII (1961) granted people of the District of Columbia the right to vote for presidential electors

Amendment XXIV (1964) prohibited use of the poll tax to deny people voting privileges

Amendment XXV (1967) provided a procedure to fill the vice-presidency in the event of a vacancy

Amendment XXVI (1971) lowered the voting age nationally to 18

Amendment XXVII (1992) prohibits laws affecting the compensation of members of Congress from taking effect until after the next election of representatives