

# Job Description for a County Commissioner

Counties in North Carolina are bodies both political and corporate. This means that counties act as a political body, but also exercise many powers as a corporation might. Counties have the right to own property, to act as a corporation, and to exercise the powers, rights and duties assigned to them by the laws of the state.

County Commissioners are the governing body of the county. County Commissioners have the following powers and responsibilities, among others:

- Set the priorities and policies for the county
- Adopt the county's annual budget
- Establish the county annual property tax rate
- Appoint the county manager, county clerk, county attorney, and tax administrator
- Appoint various officials and representatives to advisory boards and commissions
- Provide funding for construction of public school facilities for all traditional public schools in the county
- Determine the level of local current expense funding for all traditional public schools in the county
- Regulate land-use and zoning outside municipal boundaries
- Provide for the safety and welfare of all Wake County residents
- Make long-range plans for county needs (Capital Investment Plan)
- Enact local ordinances for the county
- Call for bond referenda
- Enter into contracts
- Establish new county programs and departments
- Serve as liaisons to local, state, and federal boards, as well as commissions