

# 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**Amendment XXI (1933)** repealed the 18<sup>th</sup> 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