**Constitutional amendments**

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| **#** | **Amendments** | **Proposal date** | **Enactment date** |  |
| [1st](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Protects the [freedom of religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_religion), [speech](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_speech), and [the press](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_the_press), as well as the right to [assemble](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_assembly) and [petition the government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_to_petition_in_the_United_States) | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [2nd](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Protects an individual's [right to bear arms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_to_keep_and_bear_arms) | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [3rd](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Prohibits the forced [quartering](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quartering_Acts) of soldiers out of war time | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [4th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Prohibits unreasonable [searches and seizures](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Search_and_seizure) and sets out requirements for [search warrants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Search_warrant) based on [probable cause](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Probable_cause) | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [5th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fifth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Sets out rules for [indictment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indictment) by [grand jury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_jury) and [eminent domain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eminent_domain#United_States), protects the right to [due process](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Due_process), and prohibits [self-incrimination](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self-incrimination) and [double jeopardy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Double_jeopardy) | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [6th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sixth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Protects the right to a [fair](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fair_trial) and [speedy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speedy_trial) [public](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_trial) [trial by jury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jury_trial), including the rights to be notified of the [accusations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criminal_accusation), to [confront the accuser](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confrontation_Clause), to [obtain witnesses](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subpoena) and to retain [counsel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counsel) | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [7th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventh_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Provides for the right to [trial by jury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jury_trial) in certain [civil cases](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lawsuit), according to [common law](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_law) | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [8th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eighth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Prohibits excessive [fines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fine_(penalty)) and excessive [bail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bail), as well as [cruel and unusual punishment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cruel_and_unusual_punishment) | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [9th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ninth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Protects rights not enumerated in the constitution. | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [10th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Limits the powers of the [federal government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_government_of_the_United_States) to those delegated to it by the Constitution | September 25, 1789 | December 15, 1791 |  |
| [11th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleventh_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Immunity of states from suits from out-of-state citizens and foreigners not living within the state borders. Lays the foundation for [sovereign immunity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sovereign_immunity) | March 4, 1794 | February 7, 1795 |  |
| [12th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twelfth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Revises [presidential election](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Electoral_College) procedures | December 9, 1803 | June 15, 1804 |  |
| [13th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Abolishes [slavery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavery_in_the_United_States) and [involuntary servitude](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Involuntary_servitude), except as punishment for a crime | January 31, 1865 | December 6, 1865 |  |
| [14th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Defines [citizenship](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizenship), contains the [Privileges or Immunities Clause](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Privileges_or_Immunities_Clause), the [Due Process Clause](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fourteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution#Due_Process_Clause), the [Equal Protection Clause](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal_Protection_Clause), and deals with post-[Civil War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Civil_War) issues | June 13, 1866 | July 9, 1868 |  |
| [15th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fifteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Prohibits the denial of [suffrage](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suffrage) based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude | February 26, 1869 | February 3, 1870 |  |
| [16th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sixteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Allows the federal government to collect [income tax](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Income_tax) | July 12, 1909 | February 3, 1913 |  |
| [17th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seventeenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Establishes the direct election of [United States Senators](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Senate) by popular vote | May 13, 1912 | April 8, 1913 |  |
| [18th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eighteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Establishes [Prohibition of alcohol](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prohibition_in_the_United_States) *(Repealed by* [*Twenty-first Amendment*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-first_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution)*)* | December 18, 1917 | January 16, 1919 |  |
| [19th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nineteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Establishes [women's suffrage](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_suffrage_in_the_United_States) | June 4, 1919 | August 18, 1920 |  |
| [20th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twentieth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Fixes the dates of term commencements for Congress (January 3) and the President (January 20); known as the "[lame duck](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lame_duck_(politics)) amendment" | March 2, 1932 | January 23, 1933 |  |
| [21st](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-first_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Repeals the [Eighteenth Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eighteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | February 20, 1933 | December 5, 1933 |  |
| [22nd](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-second_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Limits the president to two terms, or a maximum of 10 years (i.e., if a Vice President serves not more than one half of a President's term, he or she can be elected to a further two terms) | March 24, 1947 | February 27, 1951 |  |
| [23rd](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-third_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Provides for representation of [Washington, D.C.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington,_D.C.) in the [Electoral College](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electoral_College_(United_States)) | June 16, 1960 | March 29, 1961 |  |
| [24th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-fourth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Prohibits the revocation of voting rights due to the non-payment of [poll taxes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poll_tax) | September 14, 1962 | January 23, 1964 |  |
| [25th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-fifth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Codifies the [Tyler Precedent](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Tyler#.22His_Accidency.22); defines the process of presidential succession | July 6, 1965 | February 10, 1967 |  |
| [26th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-sixth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Establishes the official voting age to be 18 years old. | March 23, 1971 | July 1, 1971 |  |
| [27th](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twenty-seventh_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution) | Prevents laws affecting Congressional salary from taking effect until the beginning of the next session of Congress | September 25, 1789 | May 7, 1992 |  |