

Alexander Hamilton

New York (large state)

Personal Background

You were born in 1757 in the British West Indies. As a youth, you showed great intelligence and talent. You lived with your mother, and after she died, people on your island raised money to send you to school in New York. However, your college studies were interrupted by the Revolution. Although you were not yet 20 years old, you wrote several pamphlets to support the Patriot cause. When war broke out, you became an army officer and quickly rose to become an assistant to General George Washington. After the war, you became a lawyer. You were elected to the Continental Congress, and you also served in the state legislature.

Charming, passionate, and ambitious, you are a leading supporter of a strong central government and a powerful nation.

Views on Issues at the Constitutional Convention

Issue 1: You believe that states should be represented in the national legislature based on their population. You think that the legislature should have two houses.

Issue 2: You believe that three fifths of the slaves should be counted for determining both a state's representation in the national legislature and the taxes to be paid by a state.

Issue 3: You believe the executive should be chosen by electors selected by the people.

Sign the Constitution? Yes.