



How to vote in a Presidential Primary Election

Voting for President depends on the party you are registered with. If you are not registered with a qualified political party, and you do not request a party ballot, your ballot will NOT contain the office of President.

The primary election in March chooses the candidates who will run in the General Election in November. You may see three different types of primaries on your ballot. The way each primary works depends on the office.

 Presidential Nominated by party	 California Top-Two Primary Nominated by voters	 Local Nonpartisan candidates
---	--	--

Who can vote in each type of primary election in 2020?

<p>Only voters who registered in the same political party as the candidate can vote for these offices.</p> <p>The following parties allow voters who registered with no party preference to vote in their presidential primary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democratic • American Independent • Libertarian 	<p>All voters can vote for any candidate running for these offices. All candidates from all parties appear on the ballot for these offices.</p>	<p>All voters can vote for any candidate running for these offices.</p>
---	--	--

Which offices are in each type of primary?

<p>The candidates' party always appears on the ballot</p>	<p>The candidates' party preference (or "None") always appears on the ballot.</p>	<p>The candidates' party preference never appears on the ballot</p>
<p>U.S. President</p> <p>Parties may also elect candidates for County Central Committees and County Councils.</p>	<p>U.S. Representative State Senator State Assembly Member</p>	<p>Superior Court Judges County Supervisors</p>

What is the result of each type of primary election?

<p>The winner of each political party's Presidential primary will represent that party in the General Election.</p>	<p>The top two candidates with the most votes move on to the General Election.</p> <p>They may have the same party preference.</p>	<p>Candidates who receive at least 50% plus 1 vote are elected.</p> <p>Or, if no candidate wins, the two candidates with the most votes move on to the General Election.</p>
--	---	--



How to vote in the Presidential Primary Election

Six political parties are holding Presidential Primaries:

- Democratic
- American Independent
- Libertarian
- Republican
- Green
- Peace and Freedom

If you are registered with one of these parties, your ballot will include the candidates running for that party's nomination. If you are registered with one political party, you may not vote a ballot for another political party. You can only vote for the County Central Committees/County Councils if you are registered with that party.

If you are not registered with one of the six political parties, or if you registered No Party Preference, Independent, or Nonpartisan, you are a **No Party Preference (NPP) Voter**.

Three parties allow NPP voters to vote in their presidential primary:

- Democratic
- American Independent
- Libertarian

If you want to vote in one of these party primaries, you must ask for that ballot. Otherwise you will receive a Nonpartisan ballot that will not include the office of President.

Three parties allow only voters registered with their party to vote in their presidential primary:

- Republican
- Green
- Peace and Freedom

If you want to change your party registration before the primary, the last day to re-register to vote is February 18, 2020. You can register to vote online at registertovote.ca.gov or cards are available at post offices, city halls, libraries and the County Elections Department.

If you miss the deadline to register or change your party, you may still register and vote up to and including Election Day.

How to vote in the California Top-Two Primary

In a Top-Two Primary, you can cast your vote for any candidate.

- All candidates from all parties will be on the ballot for these contests.
- You don't have to be registered with a party to vote on these contests.
- You can vote for a candidate from any party.
- You can "write in" a candidate in the Primary Election.
- The two candidates with the most votes will appear on the General Election ballot even if they have the same party preference.

Nonpartisan offices: Superior Court Judge and County Supervisor are always open to all eligible voters.

What does party preference mean?

Voters may either register with a political party preference or choose "none."

A candidate's party preference does not necessarily mean that they have that political party's support. The list of candidates who receive a party's official endorsement is in the county Voter Information Guide.