

All voters can vote in a primary election.

Voting for President depends on the party you are registered with.

A primary election in June 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.**

 <p>Presidential Nominated by party</p>	 <p>California Top-Two Primary Nominated by voters</p>	 <p>County or Local Primary Non-partisan candidates</p>
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## Who can vote in each type of primary election in 2016?

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

<p><b>The winner of each party's Presidential primary</b> represent that political party in the General Election.</p>	<p><b>The top two candidates with the most votes</b> move on to the General Election.</p> <p>They may have the same party preference.</p>	<p><b>Candidates who receive at least 50% plus 1 vote are elected.</b></p> <p>Or, if no candidate wins, <b>the two candidates with the most votes</b> move on to the General Election.</p>
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## Which offices are in each type of primary in 2016?

<p>The candidates' party <b>always</b> appears on the ballot.</p>	<p>The candidates' party preference (or "None") <b>always</b> appears on the ballot.</p>	<p>The candidates' party preference <b>never</b> appears on the ballot.</p>
<p>U.S. President</p> <p>Parties also nominate candidates for County Central Committees and County Councils.</p>	<p>U.S. Senator U.S. Representative State Senator State Assembly Member</p>	<p>County Supervisor District Attorney Auditor-Cont. &amp; Treas.-Tax Col. Superior Court Judges</p>

On June 8, 2010, California voters approved the Top-Two Open Primary Act (Proposition 14). See [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/primary-elections-california/](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/primary-elections-california/) for more information.

## How to vote in the Presidential Primary

### 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 Decline to State, 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 May 23, 2016. Information is online at [www.votescount.com](http://www.votescount.com) and in the county Voter Information Guide.

## 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: Judges, County Supervisor, and County offices 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.