



How to vote in a Primary?

All voters can now vote in a Primary Election.

A primary election in June chooses the candidates who will run in the General Election in November. You will see two different types of primaries on your ballot.

The way each primary works depends on the office.



California Top-Two Primary
Nominated by voters



County or Local Offices
Non-partisan Primary

Who can vote in each type of primary election?

All voters can vote for any candidate running for these offices.

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What is the result of each type of primary election?

The top two candidates with the most votes move on to the General Election.
They may have the same party preference.

Candidates who receive 50% plus 1 vote are elected.
Or, if no candidate wins, **the two candidates with the most votes** move on to the General Election.

Which offices are in each type of primary in 2018?

U.S. Senator
U.S. Representative
Governor and Lt. Governor and other state offices
State Assembly Member

The candidates' party preference (or "None") **always** appears on the ballot.

County Supervisor
County offices such as District Attorney, Sheriff, County Superintendent of Schools
Superior Court Judge
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

The candidates' party preference **never** appears on the ballot.

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

What does party preference mean?

Voters may either register with a political party or choose no party preference.

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 can be found in this county voter information guide.