

Quick Facts for the November 3, 2026, General Election

How do I register to vote?

Register to vote or update your registration online at registertovote.ca.gov. If you would like to fill out a physical form, voter registration applications can be found at post offices, county elections offices, and libraries.

What if I miss the voter registration deadline?

If you miss the deadline to register to vote, you can still go to your county elections office, vote center, or polling place on or before Election Day to complete conditional voter registration (often referred to as “Same Day Voter Registration”). Contact your county elections office for more information or visit vote.ca.gov.

What if I need to check my voter registration status?

To check your voter registration status, you can use the “My Voter Status” tool at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

When will I receive my ballot?

All active registered voters will be mailed a ballot for the November 3, 2026, General Election. October 5, 2026, is the last day for counties to begin mailing ballots.

When will I receive my State Official Voter Information Guide?

Registered voters will receive their State Official Voter Information Guide a few weeks before Election Day. It will also be available online at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

What if I need a replacement ballot?

If you did not receive your ballot in the mail, or your original ballot was lost or damaged, you may apply for a replacement ballot. The replacement ballot application can be found at <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/vote-by-mail/pdf/replacement-application.pdf>.

You may also request a replacement ballot from your county elections office by phone, email, fax, or other electronic means.

How can I return my ballot?

You can return your ballot:

- **By drop box:** You may personally deliver your ballot to any polling or ballot drop-off location in California by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

- **In person:** Polling locations are established by county elections officials and are open from **7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2026**. To find a location to vote early before Election Day, visit caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov.
- **By mail:** Return your ballot by mail as soon as you receive it. Mailed ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day. To ensure your ballot is postmarked by Election Day make sure to mail it at least 7 days in advance. If mailing on November 3, 2026, get a manual postmark from a postal employee inside a United States Post Office.

How do I find my nearest drop box, polling place, or vote center?

- Visit caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov to find your nearest drop box, polling place, or vote center location.
- Contact your county elections office.

How can I track my ballot to find out if it has been received and counted?

Voters can receive notifications on the status of their returned ballot by signing up for the “Where’s My Ballot?” tool.

Sign up at wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov to receive automatic updates by text message (SMS), email, or voice call.

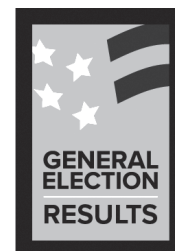
You can also go to voterstatus.sos.ca.gov to find out if your vote was counted.

Election Results

Election results for the November 3, 2026, General Election are available beginning after the polls close at 8:00 p.m. on the California Secretary of State’s Election Results website at electionresults.sos.ca.gov.

Results will begin to be posted at 8:00 p.m. and will be updated throughout Election Night. In the days afterwards, the results will be updated each day throughout the canvass as counties count the remaining ballots.

The official certified results of the election will be posted by December 11, 2026, at sos.ca.gov/elections.



Don't Delay, Vote Today!

All California voters will be mailed a ballot with a prepaid postage return envelope for the November 3, 2026, General Election. County elections officials will begin sending ballots no later than October 5, 2026.

Make your voice heard early. You can vote your ballot as soon as you receive it in the mail.

Democracy is counting on you! Follow these five easy steps to exercise your right to vote:

- ☒ **Complete it.**
Mark your choices on your ballot.
- ☒ **Seal it.**
Secure your ballot inside the ballot return envelope you received from your county elections office.
- ☒ **Sign it.**
Sign the outside of your ballot return envelope.
Make sure your signature matches the one on your CA driver's license/state ID, or the one you provided when registering to vote. Your county elections office will compare them before they count your ballot.
- ☒ **Return it.**
By drop box—Drop off your completed ballot in the return envelope at a secure official drop box in your county at any time between October 6 through the close of polls on November 3.
In person—Drop your completed ballot in the return envelope off at a secure drop box, polling place, vote center, or county elections office by 8:00 p.m. on November 3. Voting locations will be available in all counties before Election Day. Voting locations offer voter registration, replacement ballots, accessible voting machines, and language assistance.
By mail—Mail your ballot back as soon as possible after you receive it. To be counted, your ballot must be postmarked no later than Election Day. We recommend mailing it at least 7 days before Election Day. If you mail it closer to Election Day, take it to a United States Post Office and ask a postal employee for a manual postmark.
- ☒ **Track it.**
Sign up at wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov to receive updates on the status of your ballot by text message (SMS), email, or voice call.

Top Contributors to State Candidates and Ballot Measures



When a committee (a person or group of people who receive or spend money for the purpose of influencing voters to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures) raises at least \$1 million, it must report its top 10 contributors to the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). The committee must update the list when there is any change.

These lists are available on the FPPC website at:
fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html

To research campaign contributions for candidates or ballot measures, visit the Secretary of State's website at powersearch.sos.ca.gov.

Elections in California

The Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act requires that all candidates for a voter-nominated office be listed on the same ballot. Previously known as partisan offices, voter-nominated offices include state legislative offices, U.S. congressional offices, and state constitutional offices.

In both the open primary and general elections, you can vote for any candidate regardless of what party preference you indicated on your voter registration form. In the primary election, the two candidates receiving the most votes—regardless of party preference—move on to the general election. If a candidate receives a majority of the vote (at least 50 percent + 1), a general election still must be held.

California's open primary system does not apply to candidates running for U.S. President, county central committee, or local offices.

Write-in candidates for voter-nominated offices may still run in the primary election. However, a write-in candidate can only move on to the general election if the candidate is one of the top two vote-getters in the primary election. Additionally, there is no independent nomination process for a general election.

California law requires the following information to be printed in this guide.

Voter-Nominated Offices

Political parties are not entitled to formally nominate candidates for voter-nominated offices at the primary election. A candidate nominated for a voter-nominated office at the primary election is the nominee of the people and not the official nominee of any party at the general election. A candidate for nomination to a voter-nominated office shall have his or her qualified party preference, or lack of qualified party preference, stated on the ballot, but the party preference designation is selected solely by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not mean the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party designated, or that there is an affiliation between the party and candidate, and no candidate nominated by the voters shall be deemed to be the officially nominated candidate of any political party. In the county voter information guide, parties may list the candidates for voter-nominated offices who have received the party's official endorsement.

Any voter may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated office, if they meet the other qualifications required to vote for that office. The top two vote-getters at the primary election move on to the general election for the voter-nominated office even if both candidates have specified the same party preference designation. No party is entitled to have a candidate with its party preference designation move on to the general election, unless the candidate is one of the two highest vote-getters at the primary election.

Nonpartisan Offices

Political parties are not entitled to nominate candidates for nonpartisan offices at the primary election, and a candidate at the primary election is not the official nominee of any party for the specific office at the general election. A candidate for nomination to a nonpartisan office may not designate his or her party preference, or lack of party preference, on the ballot. The top two vote-getters at the primary election move on to the general election for the nonpartisan office.

Information About Candidate Statements

This voter guide includes candidate statements from statewide constitutional office candidates which begins on page 83 of this guide.

Statewide Constitutional Offices

California law includes voluntary spending limits for candidates running for state office who choose to keep their campaign expenses under specified dollar amounts. Statewide constitutional office candidates who accept the spending limits may buy space for a candidate statement (up to 250 words) in this voter guide.

Voluntary spending limits for the following offices for the November 3, 2026, General Election are:

- Governor—\$19,611,000
- Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, and Superintendent of Public Instruction—\$11,767,000
- Member of the Board of Equalization—\$2,942,000

In the following candidate lists, an asterisk (*) designates a statewide constitutional office candidate who accepted California's voluntary campaign spending limits and therefore has the option to buy space for a candidate statement in this voter guide. (Some eligible candidates who accepted the spending limits choose not to buy space for a candidate statement.) Candidates who did not accept the spending limits are not permitted to submit statements.

For the final certified list of candidates, which was due after this guide was published, go to vote.ca.gov.

Governor

Xavier Becerra	Democratic
Steve Hilton	Republican

Lieutenant Governor

Fiona Ma*	Democratic
Gloria Romero*	Republican

Secretary of State

Donald P. (Don) Wagner*	Republican
Shirley N. Weber*	Democratic

Controller

Malia M. Cohen*	Democratic
Herb W Morgan*	Republican

Treasurer

Jennifer Hawks*	Republican
Eleni Kounalakis*	Democratic

Attorney General

Rob Bonta	Democratic
Michael E. Gates*	Republican

Insurance Commissioner

Ben Allen*	Democratic
Jane Kim*	Democratic

Board of Equalization District 1

Nelson Esparza*	Democratic
Shannon Grove*	Republican

Board of Equalization District 2

Sally J. Lieber*	Democratic
John Pimentel*	Democratic

Board of Equalization District 3

Mike Gipson*	Democratic
Samuel P. Sukaton	Democratic

Board of Equalization District 4

Denis Bilodeau*	Republican
Tom Umberg*	Democratic

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Richard Barrera*	Nonpartisan
Sonja Shaw*	Nonpartisan



The California Motor Voter program is making registering to vote at the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) more convenient and secure. All eligible individuals completing a driver's license, ID card, or change of address transaction online, by mail, or in person at the DMV will be automatically registered to vote unless they choose to "opt out" of automatic voter registration.

The California Motor Voter program applies to Californians who are 18 years or older and meet all the following criteria:

- A United States citizen.
- A resident of California.
- Not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony.
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.

Voter pre-registration is available for those 16 and 17 years of age. Their voter registration will become active automatically when they turn 18 years of age.

For more information, visit motorvoter.sos.ca.gov.

To register to vote online, visit registertovote.ca.gov.

Voter Registration Privacy Information

Safe at Home Confidential Voter Registration: Certain voters facing life-threatening situations may qualify for confidential voter status if they are active members of the Safe at Home program. This includes victims and survivors of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, human trafficking, child abduction, and elder/dependent adult abuse, as well as public entity employees/contractors in fear for their safety because of their work for a public entity, and reproductive and gender affirming health care providers, employees, volunteers, and patients in fear for their safety because of their affiliation with a reproductive or gender affirming health care facility. For more information, contact the Secretary of State's Safe at Home program toll-free at (877) 322-5227 or visit sos.ca.gov/safeathome.

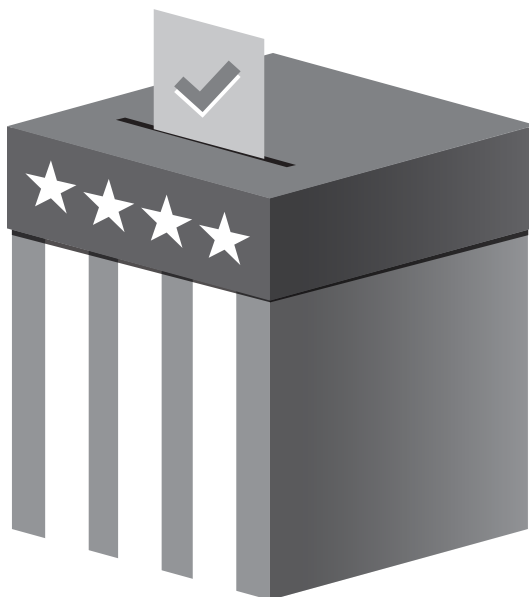
Voter Information Privacy: Information on your voter registration affidavit will be used by elections officials to send you official information on the voting process, such as the location of your polling place, and the measures and candidates that will appear on the ballot. Commercial use of voter registration information is prohibited by law and is a misdemeanor. Voter information may be provided to a candidate for office, a ballot measure committee, or other person for election, scholarly, journalistic, political, or governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State. Driver's license and social security numbers, or your signature as shown on your voter registration card, cannot be released for these purposes. If you have any questions about the use of voter information or wish to report suspected misuse of such information, please call the Secretary of State's toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

WARNING: ELECTIONEERING PROHIBITED!

Violations can lead to fines and/or imprisonment.

WHERE:

- Within the immediate vicinity of a person in line to cast their ballot or within 100 feet of the entrance of a polling place, curbside voting, or ballot drop box, the following activities are prohibited.



WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE PROHIBITED:

- **DO NOT** ask a person to vote for or against any candidate or ballot measure.
- **DO NOT** display a candidate's name, image, or logo.
- **DO NOT** block access to or loiter near any ballot drop boxes.
- **DO NOT** provide any material or audible information for or against any candidate or ballot measure near any polling place, vote center, or ballot drop box.
- **DO NOT** circulate any petitions, including for initiatives, referenda, recalls, or candidate nominations.
- **DO NOT** distribute, display, or wear any clothing (hats, shirts, signs, buttons, stickers) that include a candidate's name, image, logo, and/or support or oppose any candidate or ballot measure.
- **DO NOT** display information or speak to a voter about the voter's eligibility to vote.

The electioneering prohibitions summarized above are set forth in Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

WARNING: CORRUPTING THE VOTING PROCESS IS PROHIBITED!

Violations can lead to fines and/or imprisonment.

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE PROHIBITED:

- **DO NOT** commit or attempt to commit election fraud.
- **DO NOT** provide any sort of compensation or bribery to, in any fashion or by any means induce or attempt to induce, a person to vote or refrain from voting.
- **DO NOT** illegally vote.
- **DO NOT** attempt to vote or aid another to vote when not entitled to vote.
- **DO NOT** engage in electioneering; photograph or record a voter entering or exiting a polling place; or obstruct ingress, egress, or parking.
- **DO NOT** challenge a person's right to vote or prevent voters from voting; delay the process of voting; or fraudulently advise any person that they are not eligible to vote or are not registered to vote.
- **DO NOT** attempt to ascertain how a voter voted their ballot.
- **DO NOT** possess or arrange for someone to possess a firearm in the immediate vicinity of a polling place, with some exceptions.
- **DO NOT** appear or arrange for someone to appear in the uniform of a peace officer, guard, or security personnel in the immediate vicinity of a polling place, with some exceptions.
- **DO NOT** tamper or interfere with any component of a voting system.
- **DO NOT** forge, counterfeit, or tamper with the returns of an election.
- **DO NOT** alter the returns of an election.
- **DO NOT** tamper with, destroy, or alter any polling list, official ballot, or ballot container.
- **DO NOT** display any unofficial ballot collection container that may deceive a voter into believing it is an official collection box.
- **DO NOT** tamper or interfere with copy of the results of votes cast.
- **DO NOT** coerce or deceive a person who cannot read or an elder into voting for or against a candidate or measure contrary to their intent.
- **DO NOT** act as an election officer when you are not one.

EMPLOYERS cannot require or ask their employee to bring their vote-by-mail ballot to work or ask their employee to vote their ballot at work. At the time of payment of salary or wages, employers cannot enclose materials that attempt to influence the political opinions or actions of their employee.

PRECINCT BOARD MEMBERS cannot attempt to determine how a voter voted their ballot or, if that information is discovered, disclose how a voter voted their ballot.

The prohibitions on activity related to corruption of the voting process summarized above are set forth in Chapter 6 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

Assistance for Voters with Disabilities

California is committed to ensuring every voter is able to cast their ballot privately and independently.

For more detailed information about what assistance your county offers to voters with disabilities, please check your county Voter Information Guide or contact your county elections official. County contact information is available at sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices.

Voting at a Polling Place or Vote Center

If you need help marking your ballot, you may choose up to two people to help you. This person cannot be:

- Your employer or anyone who works for your employer
- Your labor union leader or anyone who works for your labor union

Curbside voting allows you to park as close as possible to the voting area. Elections officials will bring you a roster to sign, a ballot, and any other voting materials you may need, whether you are actually at a curb or in a car.

All polling places and vote centers are required to be accessible to voters with disabilities and will have accessible voting machines.

Voting At Home

Remote accessible vote-by-mail (RAVBM) systems provide an accessible option for voters with disabilities to receive their ballots at home and mark them independently and privately before sending them back to elections officials. Contact your county elections official for more information.

Audio and Large Print Voter Information Guides

This guide is available in audio and large-print versions as well in English, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese at no cost.

To order:



Visit vote.ca.gov

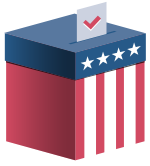


Call the Secretary of State's toll-free voter hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683)



Download an audio MP3 version at voterguide.sos.ca.gov/en/audio

DATES TO REMEMBER!



Don't Delay, Vote Today!

Return your ballot as soon as you receive it.

Vote-by-mail early voting period opens **October 5, 2026**.

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on **November 3, 2026, Election Day!**

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

October 5

County elections officials will begin mailing ballots on or before this date.

October 5–November 3

Voting period to return ballot.

October 6

Secure ballot drop boxes open.

October 19

Last day to register to vote. Same day voter registration is available at your county elections office or voting location after the voter registration deadline, up to and including Election Day.

October 24

First day vote centers open in Voter's Choice Act counties for early in-person voting.

October 31

In-person early voting locations throughout California will be open on Saturday, October 31. Visit caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov to find locations and voting hours.

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

Last day to vote in-person or return a ballot by 8:00 p.m.

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mail your ballot back as soon as possible after you receive it. To be counted, your ballot must be postmarked no later than Election Day. We recommend mailing it at least 7 days before Election Day. If you mail it closer to Election Day, take it to a United States Post Office and ask a postal employee for a manual postmark.

November 10

Last day counties can receive vote-by-mail ballots postmarked by Election Day.

November 25

Last day to correct ballot envelope signature issues by 5:00 p.m.