

KNOW YOUR VOTING RIGHTS

California's 2018 Primary Election

Primary Election: Tuesday, June 5, 2018



Can I Vote in This Election?

To vote in an election, you must first be registered to vote. You can register to

vote if you are:

- a U.S. citizen;
- a resident of California;
- will be 18 years or older on Election Day;
- not currently in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony; and
- not found by a court to be “mentally incompetent.”

Even if you missed the voter registration deadline on May 21, 2018, you can still register all the way up to and through Election Day by visiting your county elections office. If you live in Napa, Nevada, Madera, Sacramento, or San Mateo County, you can visit any Vote Center to register and vote on the same day.

How Do I Know If I'm Registered to Vote?

Check online to see if you are registered at www.voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

Do I Need to Vote On Every Item on the Ballot?

No, you do not need to vote in every contest — you can leave any of them blank. If you make a mistake, you can request another ballot.



How Do I Vote on Election Day?

Election Day is **Tuesday, June 5, 2018**.
Polls will be open from **7 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

Walk into your polling place, find the main table, and give the staff (known as “poll workers”) your name and address. Make sure to ask the poll workers if a ballot is available in your preferred language.

Where Do I Vote?

The sample ballot you have received from your county elections office prior to the election will list your assigned polling place. You can also find your polling place here:

www.sos.ca.gov/elections/polling-place

Do I Need to Show My Photo ID When Voting?

In almost all instances, no. You only need to show documents before voting in California if you are voting for the first time **and** you did not include your driver's license number, state ID number, OR Social Security Number when you registered to vote. Lots of documents will suffice; call your elections office in advance if you are concerned about your lack of identification.

Can I Bring Someone to Help Me Vote?

Yes. California law allows you to bring up to two people to your polling place to help you vote, as long as they do not represent your employer or your union. Bring a family member or friend.



How Do I Vote By Mail?

You can vote by mail, which means that about a month before Election

Day, you will receive your ballot in the mail. You can return the ballot by mail or drop it off at a polling place on Election Day. If you are already registered, you can download a vote-by-mail application at

www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail

What's the Deadline for Returning My Vote-By-Mail Ballot?

Your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked by Election Day. You can also drop it off at any polling place in your county before 8 p.m. on Election Day.

New Voting System in Some Counties

If you are a registered voter in Napa, Nevada, Madera, Sacramento, or San Mateo counties, you will automatically receive a ballot in the mail and will have the choice to return it by mail, drop it off (without postage) at a ballot “drop box,” or vote in-person at a “vote center.” If you live in one of those counties, you will receive information about drop box and vote center locations by mail.



Will I Be Able to Vote in Languages Other than English?

In these counties, **all** voting materials should be translated into these languages:

- **Los Angeles:** Spanish, Chinese, Filipino/Tagalog, Vietnamese, Korean, Cambodian/Khmer
- **San Diego:** Spanish, Chinese, Filipino/Tagalog, Vietnamese, American Indian
- **Orange:** Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese
- **Alameda:** Spanish, Chinese, Filipino/Tagalog, Vietnamese
- **Santa Clara:** Spanish, Chinese, Filipino/Tagalog, Vietnamese
- **San Francisco:** Spanish, Chinese, Filipino/Tagalog
- **Sacramento:** Spanish, Chinese
- **San Mateo:** Spanish, Chinese

This is an incomplete list of which counties offer translated voting materials. To find out what is available in your county, call your county elections office. You can find their number here: www.sos.ca.gov/county-elections-offices.

Additionally, **you may be able to get a translated sample ballot in a wider range of languages:**

Arabic, Armenian, Assyrian (Syriac), Cambodian/Khmer, Chinese, Farsi, Filipino/Tagalog, Hmong, Ilocano, Korean, Punjabi, Spanish, and Vietnamese. You can refer to the translated sample ballots when voting, but you must actually cast your vote on an English ballot.

These translated sample ballots will be available at some polling places and may be available for you to request before Election Day. Instructions on how to request a translated sample ballot can be found

in your voter information guide and on your local county elections website. Or simply call your county elections office. You can find their number here: www.sos.ca.gov/county-elections-offices

When you go vote on Election Day, **ask the staff working at your polling place** if translated materials are available and if the staff present speaks your preferred language.



What If I Run Into Problems While Voting?

What If I am Not on the Voter List?

If you are not on the voter list, ask a poll worker to check the list again, including any supplemental lists. If they still cannot find your name, ask if you are in the wrong polling place and if the poll worker can help you identify the correct polling place.

Don't Let Anyone Take Your Vote Away!

If you cannot figure out where you are registered or which polling place is correct, do not give up! **Ask for a provisional ballot.** A provisional ballot is a regular ballot that will be counted after elections officials have confirmed your eligibility and confirmed that you have voted in your county of residence.

What If Someone Tries to Intimidate or Harass Me?

Tell a poll worker right away. If the poll worker is the one harassing you, or the poll worker is not helpful, call one of the phone numbers below:

- **866-OUR-VOTE** (866-687-8683) for assistance in English.
- **888-API-VOTE** (888-274-8683) for assistance in English and other Asian languages.
- **888-VE-Y-VOTA** (1-888-839-8682) - NALEO Educational Fund toll-free bilingual English-Spanish hotline.