

Language Assistance for California Voters

Everything you need to know to vote in November 2018 in the language of your choice

California voters who prefer to vote in a language other than English can now get more assistance than ever before! The largest immigrant communities throughout California have had access to fully bilingual elections for years. **Look at the table below** – if your preferred language is in the right-most column for your county, everything available in English when voting should also be available in your preferred language. Call your elections office to get translated materials!

In 2018, many smaller but still sizable minority language communities will have better access to translated sample ballots, information, and assistance. **Look at the table below** – if your preferred language is in the middle column for your county, your polling place may have translated sample ballots (also known as “translated facsimile ballots”) in your language. Important: These ballots are not votable ballots but can be used as a translated reference guide when voting on an English ballot.

Quick tip for voters who vote at polling places

Always ask the staff at your polling place what materials they have available in the language you prefer. And ask if any staff at the polling place speak your language.

Quick tip for voters who vote by mail

If you vote by mail, call your elections office and ask what translated materials they can send you. Everything should be provided free of cost.

Before Election Day



At least two weeks before Election Day, your **county elections website** will have a list of all polling places that will have translated sample ballots. The county voter information guide you receive in the mail should have translated content that explains how to access this list online.



If you are a **vote-by-mail** voter, you may be able to request that a translated sample ballot be sent to you, for free. This may not be available in all neighborhoods in the county -- call your county elections office and ask if your area will have these translated sample ballots. If so, you can have the office mail or email you a copy at no cost to you. You must make your request at least 7 days before Election Day.



Your county voter information guide and elections website should now contain translated content explaining that a voter can **bring up to two people to help them vote** as long as those people do not represent the voter's employer or union. Bring a family member or friend!

On Election Day



Somewhere in the polling place, you should find a **translated sign** informing you of the languages in which translated sample ballots are available. There should also be a translated sign telling you which languages are spoken by the poll workers staffing the polling place.



If your polling place has a translated sample ballot in your language, a copy should be **posted prominently** AND there should be a copy for you to **take into the voting booth** to use as a reference while voting on an English ballot. If you want to see one, just ask for it!



If there are bilingual poll workers at your polling place, **they will wear a badge, a ribbon, or a sticker** saying which languages they speak.

To find out if your polling place will have a translated sample ballot and/or bilingual poll workers for your language, contact your county elections office or visit their website. To find their information, look below or visit: www.sos.ca.gov/county-elections-offices

Voter’s Choice Counties: If you live in a county¹ adopting the Voter’s Choice Act model of elections, more services are available. Ask the staff at any vote center if they have materials in your language.

Language Requirements by County

Look at the middle column below. If your language is listed there for your county, translated sample ballots (also known as “facsimile ballots”) may be available. Call your county elections office to ask.

Look at the right-hand column below. If your language is listed there for your county, everything available in English, including translated votable ballots, should also be available in your language.

County	Translated Sample Ballots Available	Translated Versions of ALL Voting Materials Available
Alameda (510) 272-6933	Khmer, Korean, Punjabi	Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese
Alpine (530) 694-2281	--	--
Amador (209) 223-6465	Spanish	--
Butte (530) 538-7761	Hmong, Spanish	--
Calaveras (209) 754-6376	Spanish	--
Colusa (530) 458-0500	--	Spanish
Contra Costa (925) 335-7800	Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Chinese, Spanish
Del Norte (707) 464-7216 or (707) 465-0383	Spanish	American Indian (determined at the county level)
El Dorado (530) 621-7480	Chinese, Spanish	--
Fresno (559) 600-8683	Chinese, Hmong, Korean, Khmer, Punjabi, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Spanish

¹ Five California counties are using this new election model in 2018: Madera, Napa, Nevada, Sacramento, and San Mateo.

Glenn (530) 934-6414	--	Spanish
Humboldt (707) 445-7481	Spanish	--
Imperial (442) 265-1060	--	Spanish
Inyo (760) 878-0224	Spanish	--
Kern (661) 868-3590 or (800) 452-8683	Tagalog, Punjabi	Spanish
Kings (559) 852-4401	Tagalog	Spanish
Lake (707) 263-2372	Spanish	--
Lassen (530) 251-8217	Spanish	--
Los Angeles (800) 815-2666	Armenian, Bengali, Farsi	Khmer, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese
Madera* (559) 675-7720	Punjabi	Spanish
Marin (415) 473-6456	Spanish, Vietnamese	--
Mariposa (209) 966-2007	Spanish, Tagalog	--
Mendocino (707) 234-6819	Spanish	--
Merced (209) 385-7541	Chinese, Hmong, Punjabi	Spanish
Modoc (530) 233-6205	Spanish	--
Mono (760) 932-5537	Spanish	--
Monterey (831) 796-1499	Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Spanish
Napa* (707) 253-4321	Spanish, Tagalog	--
Nevada* (530) 265-1298	Spanish	--
Orange (714) 567-7600	Tagalog, Farsi	Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Vietnamese
Placer (530) 886-5650	Korean, Spanish, Tagalog	--
Plumas (530) 283-6256	Spanish	--
Riverside (951) 486-7200	Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Spanish
Sacramento* (916) 875-6451	Hmong, Korean, Punjabi, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Chinese, Spanish
San Benito (831) 636-4016	--	Spanish
San Bernardino	Chinese, Korean, Tagalog,	Spanish

(909) 387-8300	Vietnamese	
San Diego (858) 565-5800 or (800) 696-0136	Arabic, Korean	American Indian (determined at the county level), Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese
San Francisco (415) 554-4375	Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Chinese, Spanish
San Joaquin (209) 468-2885	Chinese, Khmer, Punjabi, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Spanish
San Luis Obispo (805) 781-5228	Spanish, Tagalog	--
San Mateo* (650) 312-5222	Korean, Tagalog	Chinese, Spanish
Santa Barbara (805) 568-2200 or (800) 722-8683	Chinese, Korean, Tagalog	Spanish
Santa Clara (408) 299-8683 or (866) 430-8683	Korean, Khmer	Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese
Santa Cruz (831) 454-2060	Spanish	--
Shasta (530) 225-5730	Spanish	--
Sierra (530) 289-3295	Spanish	--
Siskiyou (530) 842-8084	Spanish	--
Solano (707) 784-6675	Spanish, Tagalog	--
Sonoma (707) 565-6800	Spanish, Khmer, Tagalog, Vietnamese	--
Stanislaus (209) 525-5200	Khmer, Punjabi, Syriac	Spanish
Sutter (530) 822-7122	Spanish, Punjabi, Tagalog	--
Tehama (530) 527-8190	Spanish	--
Trinity (530) 623-1220	--	--
Tulare (559) 624-7300	Tagalog	Spanish
Tuolumne (209) 533-5570	Spanish	--
Ventura (805) 654-2664	Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese	Spanish
Yolo (530) 666-8133	Spanish, Chinese, Korean	--
Yuba (530) 749-7855	Hmong, Spanish	--

* These counties are implementing a new voting system. Visit voterschoice.org for more info.