

STOP AND DOUBLE-CHECK IF THIS IS THE RIGHT INFORMATION FOR YOU!

This factsheet is only for voters in **Amador, Butte, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Sacramento, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Tuolumne** counties.



**CALIFORNIA'S 2020
PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

Tuesday,
Feb 18, 2020

Voter Registration Deadline
for the Primary Election

Tuesday,
Mar 3, 2020

Primary Election (in-person
voting starts Feb 22, 2020)

Know Your Voting Rights

Can I Vote in This Election? How Do I Get Started?

To vote in an election, you must first register to vote! You can register 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.”

How Do I Register to Vote?

The deadline is 15 days before the election: **Tuesday, February 18, 2020**. You can register:

- online at www.registertovote.ca.gov;
- at the DMV, post office, library, or your county elections office; or
- by calling (800) 345-VOTE (8683) to request a voter registration form, which must be in the mail by February 18th. No stamp needed!

What If I Miss the Voter Registration Deadline?

No problem! You can still use “same-day voter registration” to register and vote at any vote center in your county. You’ll get a voter registration form and ballot to complete on the spot. That said, registering by the deadline will ensure you receive a ballot in the mail before Election Day (except in LA County) along with helpful materials about what is on the ballot.

I’m a “No Party Preference” Voter. How Do I Vote for a Presidential Candidate?

The default ballot for No Party Preference (NPP) voters does not have presidential candidates on it. NPP voters need to take extra steps to cast a vote in the presidential primary.

To vote in the American Independent, Democratic, and Libertarian Party primaries:

- You should have received a postcard asking if you want to request a vote-by-mail ballot for one of the parties that allows NPP voters to participate in their primaries. You can also call, email, or fax your county elections office with this request. If you already received your vote-by-mail ballot without presidential candidates on it, just bring your vote-by-mail ballot into any vote



Feb 18	Voter registration deadline
Feb 19 - Feb 28	Check with your county elections office to see which vote centers are open: www.sos.ca.gov/county-elections-offices . You can register and vote at any of them.
Feb 29 - March 3	Go to any vote center in your county to register and vote. All vote centers will be open!

What If I Don’t Know If I’m Already Registered to Vote?

Check online to see if you are registered at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov. Alternatively, you can always register again. You should always re-register to vote if you have changed your name, your address, or your political party.

Do I Have to Choose a Political Party?

No. If you want to be independent, you can register with “No Party Preference” or leave that section blank. Be careful! Registering with the American Independent Party is not the same as registering as an independent.

If you recently registered or re-registered to vote at the DMV, your party choice may have unintentionally changed. Use voterstatus.sos.ca.gov to double-check this preference and re-register if it is incorrect.

center and exchange it for a ballot with presidential candidates when you check in.

To vote in the Green, Peace and Freedom, and Republican Party primaries:

- **You must re-register to vote and choose a party preference for one of these three parties** to receive a ballot with their presidential candidates on it. If the registration deadline has passed, you can use same-day voter registration through Election Day at any vote center. You can always re-register after the election to switch back to No Party Preference.

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Voting Is Now Easier In Your County!

Fifteen counties are implementing a new election system to make voting easier: Amador, Butte, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Sacramento, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Tuolumne.

Registered voters in all of these counties (except Los Angeles) will automatically receive a ballot in the mail with instructions on three ways to vote:

1. **Return your ballot by mail** -- no stamp needed!
2. **Drop it off at one of many official ballot “drop boxes”** located throughout the county -- again, no stamp needed!
3. **Vote in-person at a “vote center,”** which is like a jumbo, full-service polling place

How Do I Vote at a Vote Center?

You can vote at any vote center in your county. You will receive information about vote center locations and hours by mail, or you can check your county elections website: www.sos.ca.gov/county-elections-offices. Walk into any vote center and give the poll workers your name and address to receive a ballot. If you prefer voting in a non-English language, ask if they have any materials in that language and if any of the vote center workers speak that language.

Do I Need to Show My ID When Voting?

In almost all instances, no. You only need to show documents 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. If this is the case, many documents will work. Call your elections office in advance if you are concerned.

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.

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

Language assistance differs by county. Call your county elections office or visit a vote center to ask if translated materials are available and if the staff present speaks your preferred language.

The languages that may be offered in your county include: **Arabic, Armenian, Assyrian/Syriac, Cambodian/Khmer, Chinese, Farsi, Filipino/Tagalog, Hmong, Ilocano, Korean, Punjabi, Spanish, Vietnamese, Japanese (LA only), Hindi (LA only), and Thai (LA only).**

You can find a handout on language access in voting that explains what languages are available in your county at: www.advancingjustice-alc.org/know-your-voting-rights/.

Los Angeles County voters will only receive a vote-by-mail ballot if they are a permanent vote-by-mail voter or if they request a vote-by-mail ballot.

What benefits do vote centers provide?

- Early voting - Vote centers are open 3 or 10 days before Election Day.
- Location flexibility - You can vote at any vote center in your county, not just the one closest to your home.
- Same-day voter registration - Register and vote on the same day at any vote center, even after the voter registration deadline has passed.
- Support - Vote centers offer translated language assistance and multiple accessible voting machines.

What If I Run Into Problems at a Vote Center?



Do not give up! **Ask to use same-day voter registration** to re-register and vote. If you are unable to do so for some reason, **ask for a provisional ballot**, which is a ballot that will be counted after Election Day if elections officials confirm your eligibility.

Or, call an Election Day voter protection hotline:

- **866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)** for assistance in English.
- **888-API-VOTE (888-274-8683)** for assistance in English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, Bengali, Urdu, Hindi, and Tagalog.
- **888-Ve-Y-Vota (888-839-8682)** NALEO Educational Fund toll-free bilingual English-Spanish hotline.