



# Get Ready to Vote: PA Primary Election

May 18, 2021, 7 am – 8 pm



## Who Is Eligible to Vote?

- All US citizens age 18 or older as of May 18, 2021
- PA residents for 30 days prior to May 18, 2021

## Register by May 3 to Vote in the Primary.

Register online at **VotesPA.com** using your PA driver's license, PennDOT ID or Social Security #. Printed registration forms can be downloaded from the website, or requested from your local county elections office\*. Check your voter registration status at **VotesPA.com**.

## To Vote by Absentee or Mail-in Ballot:



- **Apply** online or download printed form at **VotesPA.com**, or request one from your local county elections office\*. **DEADLINE MAY 11** for receipt by your elections office\*.
- **Complete and mail your ballot:** Place your ballot in the secrecy envelope, seal it, and place it into official envelope. Complete all information on the back of the official envelope and sign the declaration. **DEADLINE MAY 18** for receipt by your elections office\*. Postmarks do not count.

## To Vote In-Person:

Polls are open from 7am-8pm on Election Day, MAY 18. Bring voter registration card or another valid ID. Don't leave without voting. You may request a provisional ballot.

## Remember These Important Deadlines:

(If mailing, add time. Postmarks do not count!)

- **May 3:** Last day to register to vote.
- **May 11:** Last day to apply for mail-in or absentee ballot.
- **May 18:** Election Day. Mail-in or absentee ballots to be received by 8pm.



## Need More Information?



**www.VotesPA.com** - Everything you need to register, change your address or party, apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot, check your registration status or your polling place is available here.

**www.Vote411.org** - League of Women Voters' online voters' guide to any election. Enter your home address to learn exactly which candidates and ballot questions are on YOUR local ballot. Check back for candidate updates.

## \* Allegheny County Elections Office

542 Forbes Ave., Suite 609,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219; 412-350-4500

## League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh

Email: [info@lwvpg.org](mailto:info@lwvpg.org), 412-261-4284, Website: [lwvpg.org](http://lwvpg.org)



# May 18 PA Primary Election



## What is a Closed Primary?

There are two elections every year: a closed Primary Election in the spring (May 18, 2021), and an open General Election in the fall (Nov. 2, 2021.) Pennsylvania's closed primary election only allows members of the two major political parties—Republican or Democratic—to choose their candidates for the General Election. However, all voters can vote on all ballot questions. See below. Any registered voter can vote for any candidate of any party in the General Election. There is no "independent" party in Pennsylvania, but candidates in the Libertarian, Green and other Parties can run for office in the General Election, and anyone can vote for them.



## Ballot Questions and Amendments

In the Primary, **all voters can vote on ballot questions**, amendments, and special elections. There will be five or six ballot questions on the Primary ballot: four statewide ballot questions, one county-wide ballot question, and one city-wide ballot question. Go to [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) or [lwvpg.org](https://lwvpg.org) for descriptions of each of these ballot questions.



## Changing or Choosing a Party

In order to vote for candidates in a closed primary election, you had to choose either the Democratic or Republican party when you registered to vote. However, you can choose or change your party affiliation by re-registering at [VotesPA.com](https://VotesPA.com) or requesting a paper registration form. Just check Change Party. Find resources on the reverse side.

## Who Is Running for Office?



2021 is a Local Election year. Running for office this year are 1/2 of Allegheny County Council and the Sheriff, 1/2 of Pittsburgh City Council and the Pittsburgh Mayor, 1/2 of the Pittsburgh School Board, 1/2 of every other School Board in the County, 1/2 of every municipal or borough council, Magistrate Judges, Statewide Supreme Court, Superior Court and Commonwealth Court Judges, and 39 candidates are running for 9 open positions on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. Go to [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) for candidate and ballot question information.