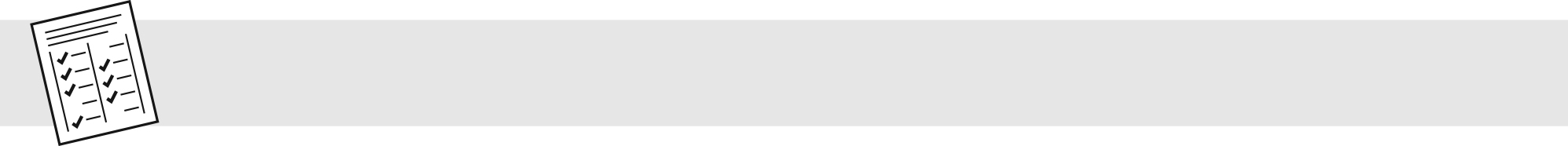
*  How to vote in a primary election

## All voters can now vote in the primary election.

A primary election in June chooses the candidates who will run in the General Election in November.   
You may see three different types of primaries on your ballot. **The way each primary works depends on the office.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| National elections | State elections | Local elections |
| Presidential Nominated by party | California Top-Two Primary Nominated by voters | County and Local Primary Nonpartisan candidates |
| Who can vote in each type of primary election? | | |
| **Only voters who registered in the same political party** as the candidate can vote for these offices.  The American Independent, Democratic and Libertarian parties allow voters who registered with no party preference to vote in their primary. | **All voters** can vote for any candidate running for these offices. | **All voters** can vote for any candidate running for these offices. |
| Which offices are in each type of primary? | | |
| The candidates’ party **always** appears on the ballot | The candidates’ party preference (or “None”) **always** appears on the ballot. | The candidates’ party preference **never** appears on the ballot |
| U.S. President  Parties also nominate candidates for County Central Committees and County Councils | U.S. Senator  U.S. Representative  State Senator  State Assembly Member | County Supervisor  County offices including Sheriff, County Clerk, Recorder-Assessor  Municipal Offices |
| What is the result of each type of primary election? | | |
| **The winner of each political party’s Presidential primary** will represent that party in the General Election | **The top two candidates with the most votes** move on to the General Election.  They may have the same party preference. | **Candidates who receive at least 50% plus 1 vote are elected.**  Or, if no candidate wins, **the two candidates with the most votes** move on to the General Election. |

On June 8, 2010, California voters approved the Top-Two Open Primary Act (Proposition 14).   
See [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/primary-elections-california/](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/primary-elections-california/) for more information.