



## Primary Election FAQ

### 1. What is a primary election?

The primary election is held for the members of political parties to nominate candidates for the general election. The primary election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June of even-numbered years.

### 2. Does anyone get elected at a primary election?

No, no one is elected at a primary election. Candidates are nominated at the primary election to run as a political party's candidate in the general election.

### 3. Do I have to declare a party to vote in the primary election?

Yes, a voter's party affiliation matters and only voters who are registered with the Democratic, Libertarian, or Republic parties are allowed to vote in primary elections.

### 4. Can I vote in more than one party's primary election?

No, Iowa has a "closed" primary which means that voters can vote in only one party's primary election and only if they are willing to declare themselves as members of that party.

### 5. How do I know if I am registered to vote?

You can check if your registered to vote here:

<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterreg/regtovote/search.aspx>

### 6. Can I change my party affiliation and still vote in the primary election?

Yes, any registered voter can declare or change party affiliation at any time. A voter can even change their party affiliation at the polls on election day or when voting an absentee ballot.

### 7. How do I change my party affiliation?

To change party affiliation, you will need to submit a completed voter registration form (which can be found at: <https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/voteapp.pdf>) to the Auditor's Office or you can update your registration online at:

<https://mymvd.iowadot.gov/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fVoterRegistration>

### 8. Can I change my party affiliation back after the primary election?

Yes, if you changed your political party to vote in the primary election, you can change your party again after the primary election. After the election is over, you will simply need to submit a voter registration form to the Auditor's Office or register online at:

<https://mymvd.iowadot.gov/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fVoterRegistration>