

# NASS 2012 Presidential Primaries Guide



A State-By-State Snapshot to Engage  
Voters

Updated: January 20, 2012

Developed by the National Association of Secretaries of State in  
coordination with the students of the National Campaign Committee at  
the Harvard University Institute of Politics



## Introduction by the 2011-2012 President of NASS

One of the chief goals of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) is to encourage voter participation by assisting the nation's election officials in their outreach to eligible voters. This work can be particularly challenging when it deals with the presidential nominating process, which changes considerably from cycle to cycle. In addition to the national party rules that serve as a driving force in establishing primary election dates and other key tenets of the process each cycle, state and local election officials must deal with new legal, financial, and administrative realities that can also have an impact on this process. As a result, it is very important to provide voters throughout the U.S. with accurate, reliable election information to ensure that they will have a satisfying, positive voting experience.

Recognizing the widespread interest in voting information for the 2012 presidential primary process, NASS set forth to produce an easy-to-read, state-by-state guide that would serve as a resource for voters and others with an interest in these details. We are grateful to the many busy election officials who took the time to provide information and feedback for this project, as well as the hardworking team of young leaders at the Harvard Kennedy School's Institute of Politics National Campaign Committee, who conducted much of the initial research for our state snapshots. We could not have produced this document without them.

Because this guide is geared towards the work of state elections offices and their collective goal of engaging voters in the presidential nominating process, it's also important to note that it does not provide much information on party-driven processes, such as delegate selection and allocation plans. For those details, we encourage you to seek out additional sources with direct ties to national and state party offices.

As states struggle to find ways to be relevant in choosing each party's presidential nominee, Secretaries of State continue to support a more logical, more inclusive alternative to the current process: the NASS Rotating Regional Presidential Primaries Plan. Although this plan hasn't gained much traction for 2012, we hope you will take a look at see why its adoption could bring about dramatic improvements for voters and candidates alike.

Above all, my colleagues and I wish to ensure that next year's primary voters will have a positive election experience fueled at least in part by the helpful information provided by this guide.

**Hon. Beth Chapman**  
**Alabama Secretary of State**  
**2011-2012 NASS President**

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## What's New for 2012

State legislators spent much of the past year fine-tuning their laws in preparation for 2012. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, there were 21 presidential primary-related bills enacted in 17 states in 2011. Much of the wrangling over these bills had to do with shifting primary dates to comply with party rules, which required most states to push their dates back to March or later. While states such as Florida and Michigan moved their dates ahead, the new party rules—coupled with state funding issues—seemed to diminish the overall appeal of early primaries. Compared to 2008, when 37 states plus the District of Columbia held their presidential nominating contests by the end of February, only 11 states are slated to do so this time around. A full calendar of 2012 presidential primary and caucus dates is available online at [www.nass.org](http://www.nass.org).

Overall, the number of presidential preference primaries has not shifted much from the last cycle. In total, 38 states, plus DC and Puerto Rico, are holding presidential primaries in 2012.<sup>1</sup> The first votes will be cast during the Iowa Caucuses on January 3, followed shortly thereafter with New Hampshire's "First in the Nation" presidential primary on January 10. If there is a "Super Tuesday" for the coming cycle, it is Tuesday, March 6, when a dozen states will be holding primaries or caucuses. The last votes for presidential candidate selections will be cast during the summer, when Utah holds its June 26 primary.

With many states facing serious budget shortfalls and cutbacks, presidential primary funding and consolidation issues have taken on great importance for the 2012 cycle. At least five states (Alabama, Arkansas, California, New Jersey and Utah), as well as the District of Columbia, have moved their presidential primary date to coincide with regular state primary elections at considerable cost savings (see state snapshots for details).<sup>2</sup> One state, Washington, canceled its 2012 primary outright to save roughly \$10 million. Meanwhile, the Kansas legislature opted not to fund a presidential primary for the 2012 cycle.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This number does not include Idaho, which technically still has a primary on the calendar for 2012. However, the Secretary of State's office is urging the legislature to pass legislation that would cancel the contest when it reconvenes in January 2012.

<sup>2</sup> This attempt at cost-savings and greater efficiency is not only true of combined primary contests. Montana Republicans cancelled their 2012 caucus in favor of using the state's presidential primary to select their delegates to the conventions.

<sup>3</sup> An interesting plan has also taken shape in South Carolina, where the governor vetoed a bill with funding for the state's first in the South primary. As a result, some counties are concerned that they will not be fully reimbursed by the South Carolina Republican Party for their election costs, and they have sought help from the courts to resolve this matter.

The consolidation of presidential and general primary elections may be a contributing factor to an overall shift away from regional groupings for presidential primaries. There will be no coordinated “Potomac Primary” for Maryland, Virginia and District of Columbia voters this time around, nor will there be a “Frozen Tuesday” for Minnesota and Wisconsin voters. Western states such as Utah, which has codified its support for a regional presidential primary effort and had leaders who have tried to coordinate one in the past, did not pursue such a plan for 2012. Only the states of Connecticut, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and New York will be holding a regional presidential primary for the coming cycle, on April 24, 2012.

Another more subtle, but increasingly important, issue that has emerged in the lead-up to 2012 is the process by which state primary dates are set. Based at least in part on the gridlock and other challenges that some state legislatures have faced in setting their presidential primary dates, some states have sought greater flexibility in how these dates are established. This year, Georgia followed New Hampshire’s lead and gave the Secretary of State the authority to set the date of the state’s presidential primary. Meanwhile, Florida established a committee structure for setting its presidential primary date, including the Secretary of State as a non-voting member. Other states made more subtle procedural changes to increase their relevance to the nominations process, including Kansas, which passed a new law in 2011 that calls for the Secretary of State to certify a common date on which at least five other states will hold a presidential primary election in 2016, if possible.<sup>4</sup>

With so many complex variations to presidential primary and caucus dates and processes, communicating relevant information is much more difficult than for other elections. A large part of election outreach work for 2012 is aimed at making sure that the public understands dates, deadlines and basic voting rules, particularly if there have been changes since the last election cycle. Although the nuts and bolts administration of a presidential preference primary is largely a function of city or county government, state election offices are committed to helping local election officials prepare for Election Day, and they offer many resources to assist voters. To highlight these efforts, this guide provides state-by-state snapshots of 2012 presidential preference primaries. Readers will note that this guide does not include the states that are holding presidential nominating caucuses, since these contests are run and governed by political parties. To learn more about a political party caucus in your state, it is recommended that you contact your local political party office.

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<sup>4</sup> The new legislation in Kansas calls for the next presidential primary election to be held in 2016, requiring the Secretary of State to certify a common date on which at least five other states will hold a presidential primary election by no later than November 1, 2015. If no such common date exists, the Secretary must certify a date that is on or before the first Tuesday in April. (2011 Kan. Sess. Laws 5; Kan. Stat. Ann. § 25-4501(b)).

## FAQ on the Presidential Primaries

Most Secretaries of State serve as chief state election officials, overseeing the administration of elections and the certification of voting results. However, state and local governments may not play a role in presidential nominating contests, particularly in states where the parties are holding caucuses. While this FAQ focuses on the most common questions that state election offices can help to answer regarding presidential preference primaries, some questions are best directed to the political parties, which are responsible for establishing the rules by which their nominees are selected. Specific questions on voting are often best answered by your local elections office. NASS provides a state voting information and local election official contact information on its non-partisan voter assistance website, [www.CanIVote.org](http://www.CanIVote.org).

**Q: What is a primary election?**

A: A primary is an election that is held to nominate political party candidates for the general election. To secure their party's nomination for the Presidency of the United States, the candidates must compete in a series of state presidential primary and caucus contests which help them win delegates at their party's national convention. The candidates with the most delegates win their respective party's nomination and compete in the general election that is scheduled for Tuesday, November 6, 2012.

**Q: Why does my state hold a presidential primary, while other states hold party caucuses?**

A: Each state has its own system of nominating presidential candidates based on its political party rules and traditions, as well as its elections history and culture. Although most states hold either a presidential primary or party caucuses (or the major political parties choose one format or the other for delegate selection and allocation purposes), there are a few states with a mixed system, where delegates are allocated through both a presidential primary and party caucus events. If you have questions about your state's presidential primary or party caucuses, contact your local election office for assistance.

**Q: Am I eligible to vote in the upcoming presidential primary/caucus?**

A: In order to vote in a presidential primary or caucus in your state, you must be an eligible voter. Typically, you must meet the following requirements: 1) You are a U.S. citizen, 2) you are a resident of the state where you are voting, and 3) you will be at least 18 years old at the time of the next election. Unless you live in North Dakota, you will also need to be registered to vote (keeping in mind that some states offer Election Day registration). In many states, your political party preference that is part of your voter registration record will also be a determining factor in whether or not you are eligible to participate in a primary election. In some states, you cannot vote if you are not registered with the political party affiliated with the primary. Since presidential primaries are governed according to state election laws and political

party rules/determinations, it is important to know about any specific laws or guidelines that apply where you live. If you plan to vote in person, it is also helpful to be familiar with your designated polling place location, which can often be found or confirmed online.

**Q: Can I vote for a candidate from a different party?**

A: It depends on where you live. In some states, only voters who are registered members of the same political party as the candidate they wish to vote for may take part in the primary (often referred to as a "closed primary"). In other states, all registered voters can vote in a primary election, regardless of political party affiliation (often called an "open primary"). The best course of action is to inquire with the authorities in charge of the presidential selection contest in which you wish to vote.

*NOTE: The state-by-state snapshots in this guide contain descriptions of presidential preference primary contests based upon the following general definitions:*

- **"Closed" contests:** States where only registered voters in the party can participate.
- **"Semi-Open/Semi-Closed" contests:** Generally, states where independents and/or unenrolled/undeclared voters are allowed to vote in party primaries. Some states require independents or un-enrolled voters to affiliate with a party at the polls prior to casting a ballot in that primary.
- **"Open" contests:** All voters are free to participate in the primary or caucus of their choice.

There are, of course, exceptions and additional complexities to these definitions. Please contact your state or local elections office with questions related to the presidential primary process in your state.

**Q: How do I register for the presidential primary in my state? What is the deadline?**

A: Registering to vote is easier and more convenient than ever before, with some states now offering this service online. If you have questions about your voter registration status, or if you need to find the registration deadline, you may contact your county or city elections office, or check your status online at the state elections website. Some states allow same-day voter registration on or before Election Day, while others require advance registration by a certain date. If you need help with registering to vote, contact your local elections office.

**Q: If I have recently moved, how do I update my voter registration?**

A: Updating your voter registration information is easier than ever before thanks to state election websites, which can allow you to verify and update your information online. If you have questions about your voter registration status, or if you need to find the registration deadline, contact your local elections office or check your status online at the state elections website. Do this well in advance of the election, if possible.

**Q: How do I find my polling place?**

A: In most states, you can use the state elections website to find your polling place and get directions to the voting site. However, keep in mind that caucus precincts are set by the political parties and may differ from where you normally vote. Contact your local elections office for additional assistance.

**Q: Can I vote by absentee ballot in the presidential primary?**

A: If you can't make it to the polls on Election Day, you may be qualified to vote absentee in the primary. Absentee voting is conducted by mail, and sometimes in person, before Election Day. Contact your local election officials to request an absentee ballot application and learn more about the rules of eligibility. Some states allow voters to vote early, even if they are able to make it to the polls on Election Day. This practice is often referred to as early voting, or no-excuse absentee voting. There is typically no form of absentee voting for caucuses, as you must be present to participate.

**Q: Why do all the presidential primary dates keep changing?**

A: The major political parties determine the rules regarding presidential primaries, setting both the general timeframe for these contests and determining which states will get to vote earlier than others. Iowa traditionally holds the first caucus, while New Hampshire has established its place as the first in the nation primary. In recent presidential election cycles, the trend has been towards frontloading, where the states have moved towards the front of the calendar to maximize their influence on the nominations process. For 2012, new rules have prompted most states to shift to later dates. You can find a full list of presidential primary and caucus dates online at [www.nass.org](http://www.nass.org).

**Q: Isn't there any better, less confusing way to conduct the process of selecting candidates for President of the United States?**

A: Yes. Candidates, voters, political party members and election officials are increasingly frustrated with and confused by the complex and seemingly arbitrary process by which the candidates for President of the United States are selected every four years. Since 1999, Secretaries of State have advocated for a NASS Rotating, Regional Presidential Primary Plan that offers a more logical, orderly and neutral presidential nominating process that gives every state and its voters a reasonable opportunity to play a role in the selection of the nominees with results that are representative of all regions of the country. Details are available online at [www.nass.org](http://www.nass.org).





# Alabama

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 13, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 2, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-247-VOTE (8683)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.AlabamaVotes.gov">www.AlabamaVotes.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same day.

## ABOUT THE ALABAMA PRIMARY

- This is an open contest run in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who participate in this presidential primary election will also be able to select candidates for other federal, state and local offices.

## EARLY VOTING/IN-PERSON ABSENTEE AND BY MAIL ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION

- Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. Application must be completed and returned no later than the fifth calendar day prior to the election (March 6, 2012). **In Person:** Completed ballot must be returned by 5:00 PM on March 12, 2012. **By Mail:** Completed ballot must be postmarked no later than March 12 and received no later than noon on March 13, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Alabama counties (Alabama Code §17-13-100d)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The State of Alabama is required to reimburse counties for the cost of holding and conducting the presidential primary elections (Alabama Code §17-13-100d).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- New legislation in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary election as the second Tuesday in March (see 2011 Ala. Acts 2011-566; Alabama Code §17-13-100a), combining the dates of both the presidential primary and state primary for an estimated cost savings of roughly \$4 million.

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Live election results posted online at:  
<http://www.sos.alabama.gov/elections/electionresults.aspx>



## Arizona

<b>Presidential Preference Date:</b>	<b>February 28, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	January 30, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-877-THE-VOTE
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.azsos.gov/election">www.azsos.gov/election</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	August 28, 2012

### ABOUT THE ARIZONA PRIMARY

- This is a closed election run separately from the state primary election. The public meeting to draw the ballot order for the Presidential Preference Election will be held on January 10 at 10:00 AM at the Arizona Secretary of State's office. The office will hold the official statewide canvass of the Presidential Preference Election at 1:30 PM on Monday, March 12, 2012.

### IN-PERSON ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** Begins February 2, 2012. Get more information here: <http://www.azsos.gov/election/2012/info/importantdates.htm>
- **Absentee Vote:** Arizona has no fault early voting. Early ballot applications must be received by 5:00 PM on February 17, 2012. Early ballot applications can be requested up to 93 days before the primary. Completed ballot must be received by 7:00 PM on Election Day.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- The Secretary of State's office is the filing office for this statewide election. Arizona counties administer the election. (Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-241(D))

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The Secretary of State's office must include funding for the presidential primary election in its budget request. Counties are reimbursed for the cost of administering the election at a rate of \$1.25 per active, registered voter (Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-250).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the fourth Tuesday of February. However, the law authorizes the Governor of Arizona to change the date by issuing a proclamation (Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 16-241(A)).

### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results will be posted online at: [www.azsos.gov/election](http://www.azsos.gov/election).



# Arkansas

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>May 22, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 23, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:30 AM - 7:30 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-247-3312
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.votenaturally.org">www.votenaturally.org</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the preferential primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE ARKANSAS PRIMARY

- This is an open primary contest run in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who take part in the presidential primary will also be able to select candidates for other federal, state and local offices. Voters may also utilize their smartphone to check their registration, polling place location and more using the Arkansas Voter View Mobile App: [https://www.ark.org/sos\\_voterview\\_m/m.aspx](https://www.ark.org/sos_voterview_m/m.aspx).

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- Early Voting:** May 7 – May 21, 2012
- Absentee Vote:** Check local county clerk office for application. **In Person:** Ballot must be returned by regular close of business on May 21, 2012. **Third Party/By Mail Vote:** Ballot must be returned by 7:30 PM on May 22, 2012. NOTE: UOCAVA voters have until 5:00 PM on June 1, 2012, to submit their completed ballot.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Arkansas counties (Ark. Code Ann. § 7-7-201(b)(1))

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The State of Arkansas is required to appropriate money to the State Board of Election Commissioners for the cost of administering the presidential primary election (Ark. Code Ann. § 7-7-201(a)).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the preferential primary election as three weeks before the general primary election, which takes place on the second Tuesday in June (Ark. Code Ann. § 7-7-203(a) & (b)). A 2009 law combined the dates of the presidential and the preferential primary elections for an estimated cost savings of \$1.7 million.

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results available online at: <http://www.votenaturally.org/electionresults/index.php>.



# California

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>June 5, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	May 21, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-345-VOTE (8683)
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vr.htm">http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vr.htm</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary & the statewide primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARY

Qualified political parties in California may hold presidential primaries in one of two ways:

- Closed presidential primary, in which only voters indicating a preference for the party may vote for that party's presidential nominee.
- Modified-closed primary, in which the party also allows voters who did not state a party preference to vote for that party's presidential nominee.

The statewide primary is an open primary for federal and state offices. All candidates are listed on one ballot and only the top two vote-getters in the primary election – regardless of party preference – move on to the general election. This “Top Two Candidates Open Primary” law does not apply to candidates running for U.S. President or local office.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** May 7, 2012 – June 5, 2012
- **Absentee Vote:** Any registered voter applicable. **By Mail:** Vote-by-mail application deadline is May 29, 2012. Ballot must be received by county elections officials by 8:00 PM on June 5, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- California counties (see California Elections Code Ann. §§ 6220, 6420)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Counties cover the cost of administering the election (California Elections Code Ann. § 13001).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June. (See Chapter 138, Statutes of 2011) This law moved the date of the presidential primary to coincide with the statewide primary, for an estimated cost savings of \$100 million.

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Live election results posted online at: <http://vote.sos.ca.gov/>.



## Connecticut

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 24, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 23, 2012 (By 12:00 PM)
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-733-2463
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sots.ct.gov">www.sots.ct.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	August 14, 2012

### ABOUT THE CONNECTICUT PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest for both Democratic and Republican voters. Connecticut will be part of a regional primary, as voters in New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Delaware will also be heading to the polls that day. The complete calendar for the primary can be found online at [www.sots.ct.gov](http://www.sots.ct.gov)

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- Connecticut voters can register up to one day before the Connecticut Presidential Preference Primary in order to cast ballot their on April 24, 2012. In addition, unaffiliated voters will have until that same deadline – April 23, 2012 – to enroll in a major party in order to cast a ballot the following day.
- **Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. Ballot may be obtained from any Town Clerk's office [http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/electionservices/lists/rov\\_phone\\_list.pdf](http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/electionservices/lists/rov_phone_list.pdf).

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Connecticut towns (see Conn. Gen. Stat. § 9-476).

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

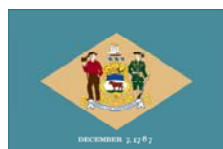
- Connecticut towns (see Conn. Gen. Stat. § 9-464).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary election as the last Tuesday in April (see 2011 Conn. Pub. Act 11-143; Conn. Gen. Stat. § 9-464).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at:  
[www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3179&q=392194&SOTSNav\\_GID=1846](http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3179&q=392194&SOTSNav_GID=1846)



# Delaware

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 24, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 31, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	302-739-4377
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.elections.delaware.gov">www.elections.delaware.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	September 11, 2012

## ABOUT THE DELAWARE PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest. Voters may also find polling place information and election results using their smartphone and this mobile app: <http://mobile.delaware.gov/>. Voters may register online at this link: <https://registertovote.elections.delaware.gov/voterreg/TermsAgreement>.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. Absentee deadlines are the same statewide, however, each county office has different “additional hours.” Contact your local elections office for information and assistance. Request an absentee ballot by email: <http://elections.delaware.gov/locations.shtml>.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Delaware county offices run the election. However, all officials are state employees who represent the Delaware Department of Election for each county. (Del. Code Ann. tit. 15 § 3182)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The cost of the election is paid for by the State of Delaware (Del. Code Ann. tit. 15 § 3111).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law adopted in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary as the fourth Tuesday in April (Del. Code Ann. tit. 15 § 3181).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: <http://elections.delaware.gov/results/html/unofresl.shtml>.



## District of Columbia

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 3, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	Election Day Registration Available
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official District Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-DC-VOTES (328-6837)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.dcboee.org">www.dcboee.org</a>
<b>Separate DC Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the primary for District offices are held on the same date.

### ABOUT THE DC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

- This is a closed primary. Voters must be registered with a political party to have their ballot counted in that party's primary election.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** March 19 – March 31, 2012 (Open 8:30 AM – 7:00 PM Monday to Saturday/Closed Sunday). Visit [www.dcboee.org](http://www.dcboee.org) for location information.
- **Absentee Vote:** Last day for Board to receive and process mailed or electronically received requests for absentee ballots and absentee federal ballots is March 27, 2012. Last day for receipt of absentee ballots postmarked no later than Election Day is April 13, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- The District of Columbia Board of Elections (DC ST § 1-1001.05(b)(1))

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The cost of this election is paid for by the District of Columbia City Government (DC ST § 1-1001.13).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law in 2011 moved the dates of the both the presidential primary and the general primary to combine them into the same date, the first Tuesday in April. (DC ST § 1-1001.05(b)(1)). No estimated cost savings figure is available.

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results available online at: <http://www.dcboee.org>.



## Florida

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>January 31, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	January 3, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM (EST and CST Time Zones)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-308-6739 (English and Spanish available) Toll free number for TTY is 1-800-955-8771
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.election.dos.state.fl.us">www.election.dos.state.fl.us</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	August 14, 2012

### ABOUT THE FLORIDA PRIMARY

- This is a closed primary.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Voting Period** (62 Counties other than preclearance counties): January 21 – January 28, 2012
- **Preclearance Early Voting Period** (Collier, Hardee, Hendry, Hillsborough, and Monroe Counties only): January 16 - January 29, 2012

NOTE: Preclearance counties: Collier, Hardee, Hendry, Hillsborough, and Monroe Counties are governed by the provisions of Section 101.657, Florida Statutes (2010). In accordance with Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, these counties will continue to administer the 2010 statute until the recently-enacted changes have been granted preclearance.

- **Absentee Vote:** Request mail ballot by no later than 5:00 PM on January 23, 2012. Otherwise, voters may obtain an absentee ballot up until/on Election Day. Return completed ballot by 7:00 PM on Election Day.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Florida counties (Fla. Stat. § 102.012)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The State of Florida funds the election (Fla. Stat. § 100.011).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law passed in 2011 establishes a Date Selection Committee that is responsible for selecting a presidential primary date that is no earlier than the first Tuesday in January, and no later than the first Tuesday in March (Fla. Stat. § 103.101).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results are available online at: <http://enight.dos.state.fl.us/>.





## Georgia

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	March 6, 2012
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 6, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	404-656-2871
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.ga.gov/mvp">www.sos.ga.gov/mvp</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	July 31, 2012

### ABOUT THE GEORGIA PRIMARY

- This is an open contest. Find out how to contact your location election office at this link: [http://sos.ga.gov/elections/contact\\_information.htm](http://sos.ga.gov/elections/contact_information.htm).

### ABSENTEE/ADVANCE IN-PERSON VOTING INFORMATION

- **Advance Voting: By Mail:** Ballots must be mailed by January 21, 2012. **In Person:** Voting begins February 13, 2012.
- **Mandatory Advance In-Person Saturday Vote:** February 25, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Georgia counties (Ga. Code Ann. § 21-2-200)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The cost of the election is paid for by the counties (Ga. Code Ann. § 21-2-156).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- Georgia allows local jurisdictions to use electronic poll books. New legislation in 2011 authorizes the Secretary of State to set the date of the presidential primary. The Secretary of State must set the date no later than December 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding the election, and the selected date must be no later than the second Tuesday in June (Ga. Code Ann. § 21-2-191).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.sos.ga.gov](http://www.sos.ga.gov).



# Illinois

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 20, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 21, 2012 (Date may vary in Chicago and Cook Counties) **Illinois also allows a "grace period" between registration and voting from February 22 - March 13. During that time, voters can register to vote or update their registration information.
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-513-1121
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.elections.il.gov">www.elections.il.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE ILLINOIS PRIMARY

- This is an open contest held in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who participate in the presidential primary will be able to select other candidates for federal, state and local office.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no excuse early voting available from February 27 – March 15, 2012
- **Absentee Vote:** By mail: First day to apply for absentee ballot is February 9, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Illinois counties (10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/17-30)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Counties pay for the costs of holding the election (10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/7-6).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the third Tuesday in March (10 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 5/2A-1.1).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at:  
<http://www.elections.il.gov/electioninformation/electionresults.aspx>.



# Indiana

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>May 8, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 9, 2012 – Voter registration opens December 1, 2011
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 6:00 PM (EST & CST Time Zones)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	Yes
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-IN1-VOTE (1-866-461-8683)
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.indianavoters.com">www.indianavoters.com</a>
<b>Separate State Primary:</b>	No, the presidential primary & the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE INDIANA PRIMARY

- This is an open contest run in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who participate in the presidential primary will be able to select other candidates for federal, state and local office.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** Begins April 9, 2012
- **Absentee Vote:** All registered voters eligible for in-person absentee starting April 9, 2012.  
**By mail:** Eligibility verification required.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Indiana counties (Ind. Code § 3-10)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Counties pay for the costs of holding the election (Ind. Code § 3-5-3-1).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May. (Ind. Code § 3-10-1-3).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Official election results posted online at: <http://www.in.gov/sos/elections/2400.htm>.
- The Indiana Secretary of State's office also offers an election tracker feature at: <https://myweb.in.gov/SOS/IndianaElectionResults/>.



# Kentucky

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>May 22, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 23, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 6:00 PM (EST & CST Time Zones)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	502-573-7100/1-800-246-1399
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.elect.ky.gov">www.elect.ky.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE KENTUCKY PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest run in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who participate will be able to select other candidates for federal, state and local office.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. Application must be received 7 days prior (May 15, 2012). Completed ballot must be returned by 6:00 PM on Election Day.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Kentucky counties (Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 117.345; 118.561)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The cost of the election is paid for by counties. After the election, the state must reimburse each county a specified amount, as stipulated in the current enacted Commonwealth Biennium Budget (Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 117.345; 118.561).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday after the third Monday in May (Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 118.561).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results available online at: [www.elect.ky.gov](http://www.elect.ky.gov).
- The state will also be offering a mobile version of its Election Night Reporting site that will be available for smart phones in 2012.



## Louisiana

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 24, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 22, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM to 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-883-2805
<b>Election Fraud Hotline:</b>	800-722-5305
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.geauxvote.com">www.geauxvote.com</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential preference primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

### ABOUT THE LOUISIANA PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest run in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who take part in the presidential primary will be able to select other candidates for local, state and federal office. Launched in 2011, the Louisiana Secretary of State's office now offers a Geaux Vote Mobile App for smartphones available at: <https://geauxvotemobile.sos.la.gov/MobileLanding.aspx>.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no-excuse early voting from March 10-17, 2012 (8:30 AM to 6:00 PM).
- **Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. Deadline to request absentee ballot is 4:30 PM on March 20, 2012. **By mail:** Completed and returned by 4:30 PM on March 23, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Louisiana parishes (La. Stat. Ann. §1280.23).

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Louisiana Presidential Preference Primary election expenses incurred by parishes are paid for by the state through funds appropriated to the Secretary of State (La.Stat.Ann. §§ 1400.5), except when a local governing authority schedules an election on the date of the Presidential Preference Primary, then the local governing authority shall pay all costs and expenses incurred for such elections.

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law passed in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary election as the third Saturday after the first Tuesday in March (La. Stat. Ann. §1280.21(A))

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: <http://www.sos.la.gov/tabid/153/Default.aspx>
- Voter information for smartphones also available via GeauxVote Mobile App: <https://geauxvotemobile.sos.la.gov/MobileLanding.aspx>.



## Maryland

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 3, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 13, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM to 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-222-VOTE (8683)
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.elections.state.md.us">www.elections.state.md.us</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

### ABOUT THE MARYLAND PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest held in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who participate in the presidential primary will be able to select other candidates for federal, state and local office.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** March 24 – March 29, 2012 (Open regularly from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM, and Sundays from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM)
- **Absentee Vote:** Available to any registered voter. **In-Person/Mail:** Ballot request deadline is 8:00 PM on March 27, 2012; **Fax/Email:** Ballot request deadline is 11:59 PM on March 27, 2012. Completed ballot must be returned in-person by 8:00 PM on April 3, 2012. **By Mail:** Completed ballot must be mailed on or before April 3, 2012, and received by 10:00 AM on April 13, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Maryland counties (Md. Ann. Code, Elec. Law, § 8-101)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Counties cover the expenses incurred in administering the election (Md. Ann. Code, Elec. Law, § 2-203).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law in 2011 set the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday in April (Md. Ann. Code, Elec. Law, § 8-201).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results available online at:  
<http://www.elections.state.md.us/elections/2012/index.html>.
- For the 2012 elections, SBE will receive automatic updates from the local election officials every 15 minutes and will immediately post to SBE's website the updated results. For media feeds, please contact SBE.



# Massachusetts

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 6, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 15, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-462-8683
<b>Voter Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.wheredoivotema.com">www.wheredoivotema.com</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date;</b>	September 6, 2012 (May be subject to change)

## ABOUT THE MASSACHUSETTS PRIMARY

- This is a semi-open contest.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Information and instructions available online at: <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/>.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Massachusetts cities and towns (Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 53, § 64)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Presidential primary expenses are shared between the State of Massachusetts and cities/towns.

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday in March (Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 53, § 28).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results available online at: <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/>.



# Michigan

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>February 28, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	January 30, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM (EST & CST Time Zones)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-292-5973
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/sos/">www.michigan.gov/sos/</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	August 7, 2012

## ABOUT THE MICHIGAN PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest. New for 2012: The candidates for each party will be printed on separate ballots and voters will select which party ballot they are choosing.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Ballot request must be made by 2:00 PM on Saturday, February 25, 2012. Ballot must be returned by 8:00 PM on Election Day (February 28, 2012).

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Counties, cities, and townships (Mich. Comp. Laws § 624g)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The State of Michigan must reimburse each county, city, and township for the cost of the presidential primary election (Mich. Comp. Laws § 624g).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary election as the fourth Tuesday in February (Mich. Comp. Laws § 613a).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: <http://michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1633---,00.html>.





# Mississippi

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 13, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 12, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-829-6786
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.ms.gov/elections_voter_info_center.aspx">www.sos.ms.gov/elections_voter_info_center.aspx</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE MISSISSIPPI PRIMARY

- This is an open contest held in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who participate in the presidential primary will be able to select other federal, state and local candidates for office.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. **In person:** May vote absentee in person until noon on March 10, 2012. **By mail:** Must be completed and returned by 5:00 PM on March 12, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Mississippi counties (Miss. Code. Ann. § 23-15-1087)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Election expenses are paid by the county board of supervisors (Miss. Code. Ann. §§ 23-15-1097; 23-15-301).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the second Tuesday in March (Miss. Code. Ann. § 23-15-1081).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results available online at: <http://www.sos.ms.gov/elections4.aspx>.



# Missouri

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>February 7, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	January 11, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-669-8683
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections">www.sos.mo.gov/elections</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	August 7, 2012

## ABOUT THE MISSOURI PRIMARY

- This is an open contest. The Republican Party will hold a presidential caucus beginning on March 17, 2012.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Starting six weeks prior to election on December 27, 2011. In person: Voting available until 5:00 PM on February 6, 2012. **By mail:** Ballot must be received by an election authority at or before the time fixed by law for the closing of the polls on Election Day (7:00 PM on February 7, 2012).

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Missouri counties (Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.770)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The costs of the presidential primary election are paid for by the State of Missouri (Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.785). The 2012 contest is estimated to cost the state about \$7 million.

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February (Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115-755).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/enrweb/>.



# Montana

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>June 5, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	May 5, 2012 (Election Day Registration available)
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	Open no earlier than 7:00 AM and close no later than 8:00 PM (hours vary)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-888-884-VOTE (8683)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.mt.gov/elections/Vote">www.sos.mt.gov/elections/Vote</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE MONTANA PRIMARY

- This primary does not fit the open/closed definitions. It is held in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who take part in the presidential primary will be able to select candidates for other federal, state and local offices.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- Montana is one of the few states in the nation with late registration, which permits electors who miss regular registration to register and vote in person at the county election office up until and during Election Day (with the exception of between noon and 5:00 PM on the day before Election Day).
- **Early Vote:** In person, no excuse absentee voting runs May 7 - June 4, 2012.
- **Absentee Vote:** Any registered voter applicable. Application may be requested by noon on day before Election Day: June 4, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Montana counties (Mont. Code. Ann. 13-1-301)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Election costs are paid for by the county (Mont. Code. Ann. § 13-1-302).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June (Mont. Code. Ann. §§ 13-1-107; 13-10-401).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- As election results come into the state office, they will be posted on the state website at: <http://sos.mt.gov/elb>.



# Nebraska

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>May 15, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 27, 2012 (by mail/3 <sup>rd</sup> person delivery assistance) May 4, 2012 (in person)
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM (MST) 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CST)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-888-727-0007
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov">www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE NEBRASKA PRIMARY

- This is a semi-open contest run in conjunction with the general primary. Voters who register with a political party affiliation will receive a ballot that includes state and local candidates for their party; those who register without a political party affiliation will be given a non-partisan primary ballot. Non-partisans may designate a party preference at the primary election and receive a partisan ballot for Senate and House congressional races.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no-excuse early voting runs April 10, 2012 - May 14, 2012. Last day to request an early voting ballot to be mailed is May 9, 2012. Contact your [County Clerk or Election Commissioner](#) for details.
- The Nebraska Secretary of State's office has a dedicated page on its website for assisting student voters: <http://www.sos.state.ne.us/elec/studentvoters.html>. They also have dedicated pages for military and overseas voters.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Nebraska counties (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-1201)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The cost of the election is paid for by the county (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 32-1201).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary as the first Tuesday after the second Monday in May (Neb. Rev. Stat. §32-401).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results are posted online at: [www.electionresults.sos.ne.gov](http://www.electionresults.sos.ne.gov).



# New Hampshire

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>January 10, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	Election Day Registration is Available
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	Open 6:00 AM – 11:00 AM Close 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Hours vary – contact local polling place for details
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-868-3703 603-271-3242
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.nh.gov/electionsnew">www.sos.nh.gov/electionsnew</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	September 11, 2012

## ABOUT THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY

- This is a semi-open contest. Last day for registered voters to change their party affiliation prior to the New Hampshire Presidential Primary was October 14, 2011.
- The New Hampshire Secretary of State's office offers information dedicated to assisting student voters: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/College%20Student%20Voting.pdf>. There is also information for military and overseas voters.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- N/A – New Hampshire offers Election Day registration

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- New Hampshire municipalities (N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 656:29)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The state pays for the expense of the ballots used in the election (N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 656:1).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- New Hampshire law states that the presidential primary election shall be held on the second Tuesday in March or on a date selected by the secretary of state which is 7 days or more immediately preceding the date on which any other state shall hold a similar election, whichever is earlier, of each year when a president of the United States is to be elected or the year previous. Said primary shall be held in connection with the regular March town meeting or election or, if held on any other day, at a special election called by the secretary of state for that purpose. The purpose of this section is to protect the tradition of the New Hampshire first-in-the-nation presidential primary. (N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. 653:9)

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results are posted online at: <http://www.sos.nh.gov/>.



## New Jersey

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>June 5, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	May 15, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-877-NJVOTER (658-6837)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.state.nj.us/state/elections">www.state.nj.us/state/elections</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

### ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY PRIMARY

- This is a semi-open contest held in conjunction with other elections. Voters who take part in the presidential preference primary will also be able to select other candidates for federal and local office.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** Vote by Mail
- **Absentee Vote:** No-excuse by mail voting is available from April 21 – June 4, 2012. Application deadline to obtain a mail-in ballot in person is 3:00 PM on June 4, 2012. By mail, applications must be received 7 days prior to Election Day (May 29, 2012).

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- New Jersey counties (N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:23-41)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The election is conducted at the expense of the state and counties (N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:45-1).
- Pursuant to P.L. 2001, Chapter 245, the State reimburses counties \$125.00 for each poll worker who has worked a full day and any janitorial costs incurred during the hours of 6:00 AM – 7:00 AM.

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- New legislation in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary as the Tuesday after the first Monday in June (N.J. Stat. Ann. § 19:2-1). This legislation moves the date of the presidential primary to coincide with the state primary, for an estimated cost savings of approximately \$12 million.

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.njelections.org](http://www.njelections.org).



## New Mexico

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>June 5, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	May 8, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM to 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-477-3632
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.voterview.state.nm.us">www.voterview.state.nm.us</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are the same date.

### ABOUT THE NEW MEXICO PRIMARY

- This is a closed primary. Voters will receive a ballot with candidates for federal, state and local offices according to their party affiliation.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no excuse early voting begins the third Saturday before the Election and continues until the Saturday before Election Day: May 8 – June 2, 2012.
- **Absentee Vote:** No information available.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Where a presidential primary election is held, New Mexico counties (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-15A-4)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- No information available.

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law requires either a presidential primary election on the date of the state primary, or another means for voters to express their presidential preference in accordance with political party procedures (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-15A-2)

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.sos.state.nm.us](http://www.sos.state.nm.us).



## New York

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	April 24, 2012
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 30, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM – 9:00 PM in New York City, and the counties of Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Putnam and Erie (remaining NY counties have polling place hours of 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-458-3453
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.elections.ny.gov">www.elections.ny.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	September 11, 2012 (Subject to a court action by the U.S. Dept. of Justice; may be subject to change.)

### ABOUT THE NEW YORK PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest. Voters will receive a ballot according to their party affiliation.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. **In person:** Completed ballots must be returned by April 23, 2012. **By mail:** Completed ballots must be returned by April 16, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- New York counties (N.Y. Election Law § 4-136)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Election expenses are paid for by the county (N.Y. Election Law § 4-136).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- New legislation in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary as April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (N.Y. Election Law § 8-100(1)(a)).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results will be posted online after county boards certify their results to the state in May. Results will be available at the following website: [www.elections.ny.gov](http://www.elections.ny.gov).





## North Carolina

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>May 8, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 13, 2012 Registration is also allowed at "one-stop absentee voting" from April 19 to May 5, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:30 AM - 7:30 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-522-4723
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.ncsbe.gov">www.ncsbe.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

### ABOUT THE NORTH CAROLINA PRIMARY

- This is a semi-closed primary. Voters vote in the party primary with which they are affiliated; unaffiliated voters may select one party primary in which to vote.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no excuse "One-Stop Absentee" voting is available to any registered voter from April 19 to May 5, 2012. Contact your local election office for one-stop voting locations.
- **Absentee Vote:** Deadline to request mail ballot is May 1, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- North Carolina counties (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-213.3)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Election expenses are paid for by the counties (N.C. Gen. Stat. § § 163-105).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary as the Tuesday after the first Monday in May (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-213.2).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.ncsbe.gov/content.aspx?id=69](http://www.ncsbe.gov/content.aspx?id=69).



# Ohio

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 6, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 6, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:30 AM - 7:30 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotlines:</b>	1-877-SOS-OHIO (767-6446) TTY (614)728-3295 Toll-free TTY (877) TTY-OHIO (889-6446)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.myohiovote.com">www.myohiovote.com</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No the presidential primary and the statewide primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE OHIO PRIMARY

- This is a semi-open contest.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **In Person Absentee Vote:** Ohio voters may cast absentee ballots in person prior to Election Day through their local county boards of elections. For the vast majority of voters, the early in-person voting period begins on January 31, 2011, and ends at 6:00 PM on the Friday before the election (March 2, 2012). (There are exceptions in law for [uniformed services and overseas voters](#) and for [voters hospitalized due to emergencies](#).) For more specific information about where and when to vote absentee, Ohio voters can contact their [county board of elections](#).
- **By Mail Absentee Vote:** Ohio voters who wish to vote absentee by mail may mail requests for absentee ballots to their county board of elections until noon on March 3, 2012. Voted absentee ballots can be returned in person to the county board of elections office no later than the close of polls on Election Day. If postmarked before Election Day and mailed to the board office, absentee ballots must be received no later than the 10th day after the election (March 16, 2012).

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Ohio counties, with direction from the Secretary of State

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

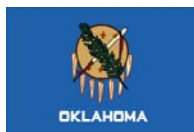
- Ohio counties

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- According to state law

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- A link with election results will be posted online at [www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov](http://www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov).



# Oklahoma

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 6, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 10, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	405-521-2391
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.state.ok.us/elections">www.state.ok.us/elections</a>
<b>Separate State Primary</b>	June 26, 2012

## ABOUT THE OKLAHOMA PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest. Only voters who are registered members of a recognized political party may vote for the party's candidates in primary and runoff primary elections.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** Eligible voters may cast an in person, no excuse ballot on these dates:

Friday, March 2, 2012: 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Saturday, March 3, 2012: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Monday, March 5, 2012: 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

- **Absentee Vote:** Deadline to apply for absentee ballot is 5:00 PM on February 29, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Oklahoma counties (Oklahoma Statutes, Chapter 26).

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Information not available.

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- New legislation in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary as the first Tuesday in March. The State Board of Elections may change the date of the election to coincide with a regional primary date, provided that it is not earlier (HB 1614, 2011).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at:  
[www.ok.gov/elections/The\\_Archives/Election\\_Results/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/elections/The_Archives/Election_Results/index.html).



# Oregon

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>May 15, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 24, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	Oregon votes by mail. County election offices are open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on Election Day (PST and MST time zones).
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-ORE-VOTE (673-8683)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.oregonvotes.org">www.oregonvotes.org</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are the same date.

## ABOUT THE OREGON PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest. Voters will receive a ballot according to their party affiliation. Election results will be certified on June 14, 2012.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- N/A – All mail election. Ballots will be mailed to long-term absentee voters (overseas and military) starting March 31, 2012. Ballots will be mailed to out-of-state voters starting April 16, 2012. Ballots will be mailed to all other voters from April 27 – May 1, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Oregon counties (Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. §246.200)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Election expenses are paid by the county (Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 246.250).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the third Tuesday in May (Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 254.056).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.oregonvotes.org](http://www.oregonvotes.org).



# Pennsylvania

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 24, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 26, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-877-VOTESPA (1-877-868-3772)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.VotesPA.com">www.VotesPA.com</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE PENNSYLVANIA PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest. Voters will receive a ballot according to their party affiliation.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Absentee eligibility must be verified. Deadline to request ballot is 5:00 PM on April 17, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Pennsylvania counties and municipalities (25 P.S. §§ 2642; 2880)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Election expenses are paid by the county (25 P.S. § 2645).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the fourth Tuesday of April (25 P.S. §§ 2862; 2753).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.electionreturns.state.pa.us](http://www.electionreturns.state.pa.us).



## Puerto Rico

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>Republican Primary is February 26, 2012 Democratic Primary is June 3, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	January 27, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
<b>Official Government Holiday:</b>	Yes
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	<a href="http://www.ceepur.org">www.ceepur.org</a>
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	787-758-3333
<b>Separate Primary Date:</b>	Yes, the presidential primary and the general primary will be held on different dates.

### ABOUT THE PUERTO RICO PRIMARY

- This is an open contest or caucus mechanism decided by the local national parties.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- Please visit [www.ceepur.org](http://www.ceepur.org) for details.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Puerto Rico State Elections Commission

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Public funds are appropriated for the cost of holding and conducting the presidential primary elections.

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- Presidential primary dates were established by law as a result of Act No. 4 of September 24th, 1979.

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Live election results posted online at: <http://www.ceepur.org>.



## Rhode Island

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 24, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 24, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM (Most, but not all, sites open at 7:00 AM. Check with municipality to confirm: <a href="http://sos.ri.gov/elections/resources/boards/">http://sos.ri.gov/elections/resources/boards/</a> . All polls statewide close at 8:00 PM.)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-877-462-8683 TTY number - 711
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.ri.gov/vic">www.sos.ri.gov/vic</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	September 11, 2012

### ABOUT THE RHODE ISLAND PRIMARY

- This is a semi-open contest. Registered Democrats may vote in the Democratic primary. Registered Republicans may vote in the Republican primary. Unaffiliated voters may vote in either primary.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** Deadline for mail ballot applications is April 3, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- The election is administered in accordance with party rules. Local boards of Canvassers must provide political parties with the use of polling places. The Secretary of State must prepare the ballot (R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 17-12.1-2; 17-12.1-14; 17-12.1-11).

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The State of Rhode Island bears the administrative cost of staging the presidential preference primary, including printing ballots, compensation for poll workers and the like.

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A 2011 law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the fourth Tuesday in April (See 2911, SB 399; R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-12.1-1).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.elections.ri.gov](http://www.elections.ri.gov).



## South Carolina

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>Republican Presidential Preference Primary is January 21, 2012</b> The South Carolina Democratic Party will not hold a publicly-conducted presidential primary in 2012. For more information on the party's 2012 presidential nominating process, visit <a href="http://www.scdp.org">www.scdp.org</a> .
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	December 21, 2011
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	803-734-9060
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.scvotes.org">www.scvotes.org</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	June 12, 2012

### ABOUT THE SOUTH CAROLINA PRIMARY

- This primary is an open contest. Please note: The South Carolina Democratic Party will be conducting its nominating event on different dates (see above).

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** **In person:** Complete application with local county voter registration office by 5:00 PM on January 20, 2012. **By mail:** Request an absentee ballot application online at [www.scvotes.org](http://www.scvotes.org), or contact your county voter office. Return application by 5:00 PM on January 17, 2012. Complete and return mailed ballot by 7:00 PM on January 21, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Under a State Supreme Court ruling in November 2011, county boards of election are required to conduct the January 21 Republican presidential primary.

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- State law requires the South Carolina State Election Commission and counties to conduct the presidential preference primary and provide for cost-effective measures in conducting the election (S.C. Code Ann. § 7-11-20).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- The date of the presidential primary election is determined by the political parties (S.C. Code Ann. § 7-11-20).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [http://www.scvotes.org/2010/09/08/election\\_results](http://www.scvotes.org/2010/09/08/election_results).

NOTE: South Carolina State Election Commission uses an online tool called Election Night Reporting (ENR) to display election results in multiple, detailed formats. A reporting area also allows for interactive report creation and the ability to download detailed reports.





## South Dakota

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>June 5, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	May 21, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM (CST AND MST Time Zones)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-888-703-5328
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sdsos.gov">www.sdsos.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

### ABOUT THE SOUTH DAKOTA PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest held in conjunction with the general primary. Voters will receive a ballot according to their party affiliation. Voters who take part in the presidential primary will be able to select other candidates for federal, state and local office. Voters will receive a ballot that corresponds to their political party affiliation. Independent registered voters are allowed to vote a Democratic ballot.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** In person, no excuse absentee voting available from April 20 – June 5, 2012.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- South Dakota counties (S.D. Codified Laws Chap. 12)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Election costs are paid for by the county (S.D. Codified Laws § 12-1-11).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June ((S.D. Codified Laws § 12-2-1; 12-5-3.11).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.sdsos.gov/elections](http://www.sdsos.gov/elections).



# Tennessee

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 6, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 6, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00-10:00 AM - 7:00 PM (Varies by county)
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-877-850-4959
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.tn.gov/sos/election/voterInfo.htm">www.tn.gov/sos/election/voterInfo.htm</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	August 2, 2012

## ABOUT THE TENNESSEE PRIMARY

- This is an open contest.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no excuse early voting available from February 15 – February 28, 2012. For details regarding times and early voting locations, contact local county election commission office.
- **Absentee/By Mail Vote:** A registered voter may request an application for by-mail ballot beginning ninety (90) days before the election and no later than February 28, 2012. To vote in the March 6 primary, the application must be received by February 28, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Tennessee counties (Tenn. Code. Ann. § 2-13-319)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Counties cover the cost of the election (Tenn. Code. Ann. § 2-13-206).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday in March before (Tenn. Code. Ann. § 2-13-205).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: <http://www.tn.gov/sos/election/results.htm#>.



# Texas

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 3, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 5, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-252-VOTE (8683)
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.votetexas.org">www.votetexas.org</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE TEXAS PRIMARY

- This is an open contest. Voters who participate in the presidential primary will be able to select other candidates for federal, state and local office.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no-excuse early voting takes place March 19 – March 30, 2012 (unless county offices close for Texas Independence Day state holiday; check local schedule).
- **Absentee Vote:** Available under certain circumstances. First day to apply for ballot by mail is February 3, 2012 (does not apply to FPCA). Application must be received by March 27, 2012. Completed ballot must be received by 7:00 PM on Election Day, or by the fifth day after Election Day if active duty military/overseas voter.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Texas counties (Tex. Elections Code Ann. § 191.005)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- State funds are used to pay the expenses of the presidential primary election (Tex. Elections Code Ann. § 191.006).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as April 3, 2012, per federal court order.

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/index.shtml](http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/index.shtml).



# Utah

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>June 26, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	June 11, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-995-VOTE
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.vote.utah.gov">www.vote.utah.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

## ABOUT THE UTAH PRIMARY

- This is a closed contest for registered Republicans only. Voters who participate in the presidential primary will also be able to select other candidates for federal, state and local office.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Absentee Vote:** In person, early voting available from June 12 - June 22, 2012. For regular absentee voting, the ballot application must be postmarked no later than June 25, 2012, and received in the office before noon on July 10, 2012. For overseas voters, the clerk should receive the application no later than June 22, 2012. Completed ballot must be received by the close of polls or if it is clearly postmarked before (not on) Election Day and received at the county clerk's office before the close of business on July 9, 2012.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Utah counties (Utah Code Ann. §§ 20A-9-802; 20A-9-403)

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- A western states presidential primary election is contingent upon legislative appropriation (Utah Code Ann. § 20A-9-802). Expenses for the regular primary election are paid by the county or the state (Utah Code Ann. § 20A-9-403).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election to coincide with a western states presidential primary election. A new law in 2011 states that if none is established, the presidential primary may be part of the regular primary election. The regular primary is held on the fourth Tuesday of June (Utah Code Ann. §§ 20A-9-802). 20A-9-403; SB 3004, 2011). According to state sources, holding the 2012 presidential primary and the general primary on the same day saved an estimated \$3 million.

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: [www.electionresults.utah.gov](http://www.electionresults.utah.gov).



# Vermont

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 6, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 29, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	Polls open no earlier than 5:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-439-8683
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.vermont-elections.org/elections1/voters.html">www.vermont-elections.org/elections1/voters.html</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	August 28, 2012

## ABOUT THE VERMONT PRIMARY

- This is an open contest.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** In person, no-excuse early voting available at town clerk offices from January 20, 2012 – March 5, 2012.
- **Absentee Vote: At Home Vote:** Deadline to request at home absentee ballot is 5:00 PM on March 5, 2012. **By Mail:** Mail absentee ballots available within 45 days prior to the election, beginning January 20, 2012. Completed ballot must be returned by 7:00 PM on Election Day.
- The Secretary of State's website also offers this page for college voters: [www.sec.state.vt.us/collegevoters.html](http://www.sec.state.vt.us/collegevoters.html).

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Vermont municipalities (Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 17§§ 2706; § 2455).

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- State of Vermont funds all ballots, absentee ballot envelopes and Official Return of Votes. Municipalities pay for election officials and postage for absentee ballots.

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday in March (Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 17, § 2701).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Vermont election results posted online at: [www.vermont-elections.org](http://www.vermont-elections.org).



# Virginia

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>March 6, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	February 13, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:00 AM - 7:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-800-522-9745
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sbe.virginia.gov">www.sbe.virginia.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	June 12, 2012

## ABOUT THE VIRGINIA PRIMARY

- The default is an open primary, unless there is a specific request from a political party to close the primary. Update 01/03/12: The Virginia Republican Party will require voters to sign a loyalty oath at the polling place to participate in the presidential primary.

## ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- Absentee Vote:** May obtain application for ballot online or through local voter registration office. Application must be completed and returned by 5:00 PM (EST) on February 28, 2012. Virginia also offers emergency absentee voting for limited circumstances.

## WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Virginia localities (Va. Code Ann. § § 24.2-103; § 24.2-544).

## HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The cost of the presidential primary election is paid by the Commonwealth (Va. Code Ann. § 24.2-545).

## HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday in March (Va. Code Ann. § 24.2-544).

## PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at:  
[www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Election\\_Information/Election\\_Results/Index.html](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Election_Information/Election_Results/Index.html).



## West Virginia

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>May 8, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	April 17, 2012
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	6:30 AM - 7:30 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	Yes
<b>Voter Hotline/Fraud Hotline:</b>	1-866-SOS-VOTE/1-877-FRAUD-WV
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/voter-information.aspx">www.sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/voter-information.aspx</a>
<b>Separate State Primary Date:</b>	No, the presidential primary and the general primary are held on the same date.

### ABOUT THE WEST VIRGINIA PRIMARY

- This is a semi-open contest.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** The regular period of early voting begins 13 days before the election and continues until three days before the election. Voting is available during regular business hours, plus, it is also available on any Saturday on or between the thirteenth and third days before the election. Check with the appropriate office for more information.

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- West Virginia counties (W. Va. Code §§ 3-1-23; 3-5-14)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- Expenses incurred in holding the election are paid by the county (W. Va. Code § 3-1-44).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- State law sets the date of the presidential primary election as the second Tuesday in May (W. Va. Code §§ 3-5-1; 3-5-3).

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: <http://apps.sos.wv.gov/elections/results/>.



## Wisconsin

<b>Presidential Primary Date:</b>	<b>April 3, 2012</b>
<b>Voter Registration Deadline:</b>	March 9, 2012 (Election Day registration also available)
<b>Polling Place Hours:</b>	7:00 AM – 8:00 PM
<b>Official State Holiday:</b>	No
<b>Voter Hotline:</b>	1-866-VOTE-WIS
<b>Voting Assistance Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.gab.wi.gov">www.gab.wi.gov</a>
<b>Separate State Partisan Primary Date:</b>	August 14, 2012

### ABOUT THE WISCONSIN PRIMARY

- This is an open contest. Voters who participate in the presidential primary may also select other candidates for county/local office. The presidential primary is being held on the same date as the spring nonpartisan election for judicial, county, municipal and school district offices.

### ABSENTEE/EARLY VOTING INFORMATION

- **Early Vote:** March 19 – March 30, 2012
- **Absentee Vote:** Requests must be made by 5:00 PM on March 29, 2012. Completed ballot must be received at polling station/local office by 8:00 PM on April 3, 2012 (Election Day).

### WHO ADMINISTERS THIS ELECTION

- Wisconsin municipalities ((Wis. Stat. § 7.15)

### HOW IS IT FUNDED

- The cost of the election is borne by municipalities (Wis. Stat. § 5.68).

### HOW IS THE DATE SET

- A new law in 2011 sets the date of the presidential primary election as the first Tuesday in April ((Wis. Stat. §5.02(21); SB 115, 2011). This move combines the presidential primary with the spring primary election for statewide offices.

### PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

- Election results posted online at: <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/results>.