

State Primaries & Caucuses: Open vs. Closed

“Closed” contests are states where only registered voters in the party can participate.

“Semi-open” contests are states where independents are allowed to vote in either party’s event.

“Open” contests are ones where all voters are free to participate in the primary or caucus of their choice. NOTE: These are generally states without registration by party.

State	Open	Closed	Semi-open
Alabama	●		
Alaska		●	
Arizona		●	
Arkansas	●		
California		●	
Colorado			●
Connecticut		●	
Delaware		●	
Florida		●	
Georgia	●		
Hawaii		●	
Idaho	●		
Illinois	●		
Indiana	●		
Iowa			●
Kansas			●
Kentucky		●	
Louisiana		●	
Maine			●
Maryland		● (a)	●(b)
Massachusetts			●
Michigan	●		
Minnesota	●		
Mississippi	●		
Missouri	●		
Montana	●		

Nebraska		●	
Nevada		●	
New Hampshire			●
New Jersey			●
New Mexico		●	
New York		●	
North Carolina			●
North Dakota	●		
Ohio	●		
Oklahoma		●	
Oregon		●	
Pennsylvania		●	
Rhode Island			●
South Carolina	●		
South Dakota		●	
Tennessee	●		
Texas	●		
Utah			●
Vermont	●		
Virginia	●		
Washington	●		
West Virginia		● (c)	● (d)
Wisconsin	●		
Wyoming		●	

Notes:

(a) – MD Democratic Primary is closed.

(b) –MD Republican Primary is semi-open.

(c) –WV Democratic Primary is closed.

(d) –WV Republican Primary is semi-open.

***Compiled 08/27/02 by the National Association of Secretaries of State**