

What's on the ballot in 2026 and WHY should I care?

Position	What They Do	Why Should I Care?
US House Representative (Congressperson)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sponsor or write new Laws or modify existing ones ● In charge of the Federal Budget (taxes, borrowing, spending) ● Oversight authority of the Executive Branch ● Can Impeach federal officials who break the law or their oath of office ● Elect the President in the case of an Electoral College tie 	<p>They</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vote on things important to me (Voting and Civil rights, Healthcare, Social Services, Immigration, Gun Safety, Abortion access, Family Leave, etc.) ● Help me if I have problems accessing money from Federal programs such as Social Security, Medicare, Veteran's benefits, etc. ● Hold public hearings so I have access to truthful information
PA Governor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implements laws passed by the PA legislature ● Appoints the PA "Secretary of State", the person in charge of our Elections in Pennsylvania ● Declares a State of Emergency during disasters or pandemics ● Commands the State's National Guard 	<p>He or she</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Has Veto power over bad legislation (such as dropping all gun licensing requirements, making abortion illegal even for incest, rape or the health of the mother, or eliminating Vote by Mail) ● Proposes the State budget, which includes public school funding, tax rates, gas taxes, etc. ● Controls Vaccine policies and mandates in PA
PA Lieutenant Governor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● President of the State Senate ● Chairs the state Board of Pardons ● Chairs the state Emergency Counsel 	<p>He or she</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reviews all pleas for criminal pardons in the state ● Establishes policy for managing emergencies in PA
PA State Senator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Works with the State House of Representatives to create and pass bills (laws) on Public Policy matters in PA ● Sets levels for PA spending ● Raises and lowers PA taxes ● Can override the Governor's Veto on legislation with a 2/3rds majority 	<p>They</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write or amend laws that impact my family and community, such as fair school funding, rules for police conduct, and ensuring clean water and air ● Authorize funding for public services such as Firefighters, Emergency Medical services, public schools, and Covid 19 grant relief
PA State House Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Works with the State Senate to create and pass bills (laws) on Public Policy matters that represent local concerns of constituents 	<p>They</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Help me access VA benefits, addiction treatment, housing, and mental health services ● Pass public health and safety laws

SEE BACK FOR VOTING INFORMATION

Prepared by Chester County Marching Forward



REGISTER TO VOTE HERE:



You can vote in Pennsylvania if you are:

- A U.S. citizen for at least 30 days before election day
- A resident of PA for at least 30 days before election day
- At least 18 years old on or before election day (you can register when you're 17)
- Convicted of a misdemeanor, or a convicted felon who has completed your sentence
- Registered to vote by the deadline for each election

2026 Voter Registration DEADLINES:

By **May 4** for the Primary election

By **October 20** for the General election

2026 ELECTION DATES

The PRIMARY Election is Tuesday May 19

- Registered Democrats and Republicans choose the candidates for each position on their ballot who will represent their Party in the General Election (each Party has their own ballot)
- In PA, voters who are registered as an INDEPENDENT cannot vote in a Primary election

The GENERAL Election is Tuesday November 3

- EVERY registered voter can vote for their favorite candidate, from any Party, for each position on the ballot (all voters use the same ballot)

TWO WAYS TO VOTE

1. Vote by MAIL

Go to www.vote.pa.gov to request a mail-in/absentee ballot before these DEADLINES:

- May 12 for the Primary
- October 27 for the General

The ballot will be mailed to you. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

2. Vote IN PERSON

Polls are open from 7am – 8 pm.

<https://www.pa.gov/services/vote/find-your-local-polling-place>