

Catto Ministry - Who, What, When and How to Vote

Voter's Guide for Pennsylvania Primary Election April 23, 2024

This guide focuses on the Primary election in Philadelphia including state-wide elections. Go to https://vote.phila.gov/ for information to register to vote and where to vote in Philadelphia, PA. There you will find important dates, who is on the ballot, information about mail-in ballots, polling places and the ballot questions.

For general information about registering to vote and voting in <u>Pennsylvania</u> go to www.vote.pa.gov

Important Dates for the 2024 Pennsylvania Primary Election

April 8, 2024: Last Day to Register or verify your registration status before the

Primary Election

April 16, 2024: Last day to apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot.

April 23, 2024: Last day for County Boards of Elections to receive completed mail-in

and absentee ballots (Must be received by 8:00 PM by postal mail or

by hand delivery or in a drop box)

April 23, 2024: Primary Election Day

MY MAIL-IN BALLOT WILL COUNT...

Follow these five steps --

STEP 1: I will follow the instructions and mark both sides of my ballot.

STEP 2: I will Seal my ballot in the secrecy envelope that says, "official election ballot."

Do **not** make any marks on this inner envelope.

STEP 3: I will Put the inner secrecy envelope in the pre-addressed outer return envelope.

STEP 4: On the outside of this return envelope, I will Sign and date using the same date

I filled out my ballot.

STEP 5: I will Return my completed ballot by 8pm on Election Day, April 23, 2024 to a drop box or take it to Room 142 Philadelphia City Hall

Here is the link and QR Code for all of the drop box locations:

https://vote.phila.gov/ballot-drop-off/?services=Official%20mail-in%20ballot%20drop%20box



Election Offices and Mail-in Dropoff Locations

vote.phila.gov

OR

YOU CAN MAIL YOUR BALLOT

It must arrive at City Hall on or before April 23, 2024 by 8 pm. Postage is prepaid.

Who's on the Ballot in Phila. and what is the responsibility of that Office?

For your personalized interactive guide, click on the link or QR code below, when prompted type your home address and then click on *research your ballot* to see *your* ballot and information on every candidate. [Prepared by the Committee of Seventy, a non-partisan organization]

Committee of 70 Voter Guide (seventy.org)





President of the United States

The President heads the federal executive branch of government; is Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces; and implements and enforces laws created by Congress. The President appoints the heads of federal agencies, federal judges, and ambassadors to other countries; can issue executive orders; and has unlimited power to grant pardons and elemencies for most federal crimes.

United States Senator

The United States Senator is a member of one of the chambers of the US Congress, the legislative branch of the federal government, with the primary responsibility to pass federal laws that affect the entire country and to approve the annual federal budget; and serves on various Senate committees. Senators have the power to confirm presidential appointments to federal courts, certain heads of federal agencies, and ambassadors to other countries. The Senate has the sole power to conduct impeachment trials, serving as judge and jury. Each state is represented by two senators for a total of 100 senators elected every six years.

Pennsylvania Attorney General

The Attorney General is Pennsylvania's top law enforcement official, with a wide range of responsibilities to protect and serve people and agencies. Responsibilities include prosecution of organized crime and public corruption; collection of all debts, taxes and accounts due the state; representation of Pennsylvania and its agencies in any action brought by or against them; and administers Pennsylvania's consumer protection laws. The Attorney General has a staff of several hundred prosecutors, investigators, and agents in offices across the state.

Pennsylvania Auditor General

The Auditor General is Pennsylvania's chief fiscal watchdog, who conducts two kinds of audits to ensure tax dollars are properly spent and not wasted or misused through fraud. The financial audits examine records and supporting documents to make sure the reported information is true and reliable, and that the funds are used as required by applicable law. The performance audits review compliance with legal requirements and look for ways to make programs and services run more effectively and efficiently.

Pennsylvania State Treasurer

The Pennsylvania State Treasurer is responsible for more than \$150 billion of the State's funds including the receipt and deposit of state monies, investment management, and oversight of all withdrawals and deposits from state agencies. The Treasurer uses an outside financial advisor for investments; and administers several programs, including the PA 529 College and Career Savings plans, the Keystone Scholars program, and the Unclaimed Property program.



United States Representative in Congress [in every District]

The US House of Representatives is one of the chambers of the US Congress of the legislative branch of the federal government, with the primary responsibility to pass federal laws that affect the entire country and to approve the annual federal budget. The Congressmember serves on various US House committees. The House of Representatives initiates all revenue bills and can impeach federal officials. The number of Congress members for each state depends on the size of the population. There are a total of 435 members elected every two years.

State Senator... [in odd number Districts]

The State Senate is one of the chambers of the legislative branch of state government. The Pennsylvania State Senate and the State House of Representatives pass laws and approve the annual state budget. Each State Senator helps people in their district to access state funded resources and confirms certain of the Governor's appointees to state agencies. There are fifty state senators elected every four years.

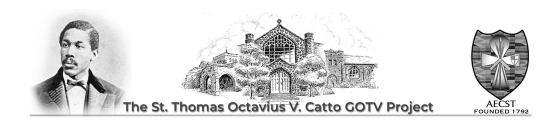
State Representative... [in every District]

The State House of Representatives is one of the chambers of the legislative branch of the state government. The Pennsylvania State House of Representatives and the State Senate pass laws and approve the annual state budget. Each State Representative helps people in their district to access state funded resources. There are 203 state representatives elected every two years.

Delegate to the Democratic or the Republican National Convention and Alternative Delegate to the Republican National Convention

A delegate is a person on the ballot in a Congressional district, who is elected to represent the voters at the Democratic or Republican National Convention. They will select the presidential nominee for their party for the General Presidential election. They are usually early supporters of a candidate, party activists or political leaders.

Each party has two similar categories of delegates. The Democratic party has "pledged" and "unpledged" delegates, and the Republican party has "bound" and "unbound" delegates. A candidate wins pledged or bound delegates based on the Presidential candidate's performance in the Primary. In the Democratic party, current elected officials, and party leaders or "superdelegates" are unpledged. The number of delegates differs between the parties, but both will have delegates representing 50 states, Washington, D.C., and U.S. territories. The Republican party has approximately 2,400 delegates and to win the Republican nomination a candidate must have at least 1,215 votes. The Democratic party has approximately 4,600 delegates and to win the Democratic nomination a candidate must have around 1,969 votes.



Philadelphia Ballot Question

Question: Should the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter be amended to require the City to provide for the indemnification and defense of registered community organizations in connection with claims made against them arising directly out of their lawful participation in the City's zoning variance process?

<u>Plain English Explanation of Ballot Question</u> - If you vote "yes", that means you approve requiring the City of Philadelphia to develop a process to help Registered community organizations "RCOs" pay the costs of defending against certain lawsuits. Rules about how land and buildings can be used and built are called zoning. RCOs are community groups that provide input on how those zoning rules are applied in their communities. Sometimes lawsuits are brought against RCOs related to their participation in the zoning process, which can be costly and limit community input.

Voting information for Delaware and New Jersey residents:

https://elections.delaware.gov/

- DE **School Board** Elections: May 14, 2024 in person voting and deadline to return absentee ballots by 8 pm
- DE **State Primary** Election: September 10, 2024 and deadline to return absentee ballots by 8 pm
- For more information to register to vote, request a mail-in ballot, Early Voting Period and important other deadlines and information go to https://elections.delaware.gov/

https://www.nj.gov/state/elections/vote.shtml

• NJ Deadline to register to vote in Primary Election: May 14, 2024

• NJ Deadline to request vote-by- mail ballot: May 28, 2024

• NJ Early Voting Period: May 29 – June 2, 2024

• NJ Primary Election Day: June 4, 2024

• NJ Deadline to return Vote by Mail Ballot:

- o Postmarked no later than June 4, 2024, and received by June 9, 2024
- Place in Drop Box or bring in person to the County Board of Elections office
 by 8 pm on June 4, 2024