

OUR IMPACT ON 2020



#wethevoters





Presidential Preference Election

presented by Amy B. Chan Clean Elections Commissioner Our country will elect our next President of the United States of America in 2020.

In a presidential election year, Arizona law requires the holding of a Presidential Preference Election.



Presidential Preference Election

16-241(A). Presidential preference election; conduct of election

A presidential preference election shall be held on the Tuesday immediately following March 15 of each year in which the President of the United States is elected

to give qualified electors the opportunity to express their preference for the presidential candidate of the political party indicated as their preference by the record of their registration.

No other election may appear on the same ballot as the presidential preference election.

ELECTION DATE	VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE	EARLY VOTING BEGINS
March 17, 2020	February 18, 2020	February 19, 2020



Purpose

What is a PPE?

- An opportunity for voters to declare their preferred candidate for their state party delegates to nominate as the official party candidate at the national convention.
- The state recognized political parties OPT into participating in the PPE. The parties notify the Secretary of State of their intention to participate, and the SOS notifies the counties of the participating parties.
- Why would a party opt in or opt out?
 - Participation is entirely up to the party. Parties with the incumbent have opted out of the PPE in prior years.

When is it?

- ARS 16-241 calls for a Presidential Preference Election to be held the first Tuesday after March 15.
- The Governor has the authority to move the PPE to a later date via a proclamation.
- March local election occurring if local jurisdictions are having an election – over lap and importance of being informed voter

Who Can Vote?

- Only voters that are registered with a participating political party can vote.
- 2020 PPE ONLY the Democratic Party is participating, which means ONLY Democratic Voters can vote in the PPE.

2020 PPE – Who Can Vote: Democratic Voter = ✓ Libertarian Voter = × Republican Voter = × Independent Voters (no party affiliation) =×

Who Can Vote – WHY?

1998: Arizona Voters passed a constitutional amendment allowing independent voters to vote in party primaries.

1999: Arizona Attorney's Office Opinion concluded that the provisions did not apply to the Presidential Preference Election <u>because under the law creating that</u> <u>election, it specifically indicated it was not a primary.</u>

"The presidential preference election is not denominated a "primary" election and, in fact, it differs significantly from a primary election. Unlike a primary election, the presidential preference election does not determine which candidate is placed on the general election ballot, nor do all parties that will have candidates on the general election ballot participate in Arizona's presidential preference election."

The Opinion went on to say that the Legislature could expand the PPE, but in the 20 years since, it has not.

https://www.azag.gov/sites/default/files/2018-06/I99-025.pdf



Voting Locations

Polling locations are **required** to be consolidated.

What this means for voters:

- There will be less voting locations than a regular election.
- Your voting location can change. Know where to go.

Consider:

- Registered Democrats = 1,185,612 (31.03%)
- AZ has high ballot by mail participation:
 - *In 2018 General Election, 79% of all ballots cast were ballot by mail

Candidates

Candidates can qualify for the ballot one of two ways:

- 1. Petitions, OR
- 2. Notice of Candidacy in 2 other states
- 3. NO WRITE-INS allowed
- 4. Filing period:
 - Filing begins: November 8, 2019
 - Filing ends: December 9, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.
- 5. No ballot rotation

(ballot order determined by lot)

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES	
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1	
DE LA FUENTE, ROQUE "ROCKY"	
STEINBERG, MICHAEL	
SANDERS, BERNIE	
O'MALLEY, MARTIN J.	
CLINTON, HILLARY	
HEWES, HENRY	

Election Results

- Tabulated by congressional districts
- No recounts
- Canvassing:
 - Counties canvass by March 27th
 - SOS canvasses by March 30th
 (certifies to the state party chair)



What Happens After the PPE?

- 1. State party conventions (to determine the delegates)
- 2. National conventions (delegates officially select their party's nominee for President of the United States
- 3. The nominee is placed on the general election ballot across the country

National Conventions:

- 1. Democratic National Convention = July 13-16, 2020 in Milwaukee, WI.
- 2. *Republican National Convention = August 24-27, 2020 in Charlotte, NC.
- 3. Green Party National Convention will be July 9-12, 2020 in Detroit, MI.
- 4. Libertarian Party National Convention will be May 21-25, 2020 in Austin, TX.

*By tradition, because Republicans currently hold the White House, their convention will be held after the Democratic National Convention.

What Happens After the PPE?

- Process for selecting delegates prescribed by each party's bylaws.
- PPE decides who the delegates vote for at the convention
 - Not to be confused with Presidential Electors (they come later in the General election!)
- Delegates <u>must cast their ballot</u> for the candidate who won the PPE in Arizona unless:
 - candidate is nominated by the convention
 - candidate releases delegate's obligation
 - candidate withdraws from the race
 - one round of voting has been held without an official nominee being selected
- After one of the above occurs, each delegate is free to vote as he/she chooses

Who Pays for it?

- Secretary of State reimburses counties
- Current appropriation is \$1.25 for each active registered voter registered on January 2, 2020
- State appropriated \$4m last year
- Cost estimate is \$7m for 1 party
- Counties & SOS seeking additional appropriation from the legislature in January 2020

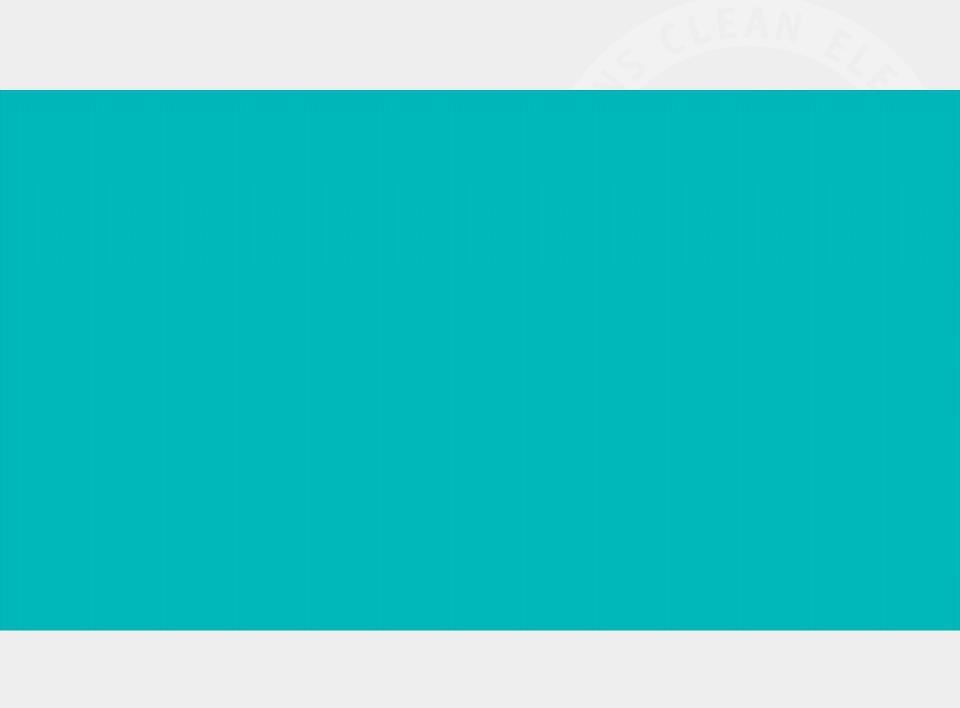
PPE vs. Other Elections

- Not an Open Primary election
 - Party voters only
 - Parties not required to participate
- Governor can move to a later date
- Candidates withdraw more often
- Results by Congressional District
- Consolidated voting locations required
- No:
- Other races on ballot
- Write-in candidates
- Rotation
- Recounts



Voter Education

REGISTE To Vote!



PPE – Vote Informed

Voter Dashboard

The easiest way for voters to get their customized voting info. Just enter your address, and we do the rest of the work.

Online Tools

- Website
- @AZCCEC = Twitter
- @AZCleanElections = FB & IG•



Biographies and statements from candidates in your area.

Polling Place or Voting Center Location Where to vote in-person.

County District Your County Board of Supervisors.

state legislature.

City District Your City Council member.

PPE – Important Dates

- March 17, 2020 Election Day
- February 18, 2020 Voter Registration Deadline
- February 19, 2020 Early Voting Begins
- March 6, 2020 Last Day to Request a Ballot by Mail
- March 11, 2020 Mail back your ballot
- March 13, 2020 Last day to vote early in person

Questions?



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