

Nevada's 2020 Primary Election will be All Mail-In Ballots



You can read the Secretary of State's press release at the end of this explainer.

What steps do you need to take to participate in Nevada's June 2020 primary election?

1. If you are not registered to vote, if you have a DMV issued driver's license or ID, log in to www.RegisterToVoteNV.gov. Include your correct address, party affiliation, and the language you prefer. A voter's Sample Ballot and mail-in ballot will be sent to that address in the language you prefer.
2. If you are already registered to vote, if you have a DMV issued driver's license or ID, log in to www.RegisterToVoteNV.gov and enter through Update My Existing Registration to update your address, language preference, active status, and/or your party affiliation. Once your status is set as active, your mail-in ballot will go automatically to the address associated with your registration.
3. If you are temporarily living out of state, but your residence is in Nevada, such as college students, log into www.RegisterToVoteNV.gov and set your address to where you would like to receive your ballot. This address is not your Nevada residence, but where you are now. Your ballot will be automatically sent to that address, no absentee ballot request is needed.
4. Nevada is a closed primary state, so if you wish to vote for candidates in partisan races (where candidates identify as belonging to a political party) you will need to affiliate with one of the parties. You can do so through the Update Your Existing Registration button at www.RegisterToVoteNV.gov
5. If you do not own a computer or a smartphone with internet access, you can register to vote by requesting a voter registration form through your county election department. You can also call your county election department to verify that your voter registration is active and your address is correct. In Clark County, you can call 702-455-8683.

All the county registrars and clerks are listed at:

<https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/voters/county-clerk-contact-information>

When your ballot arrives during the first week of May, follow all instructions for completing the ballot and place it in the postage-paid envelope. Do not write anything on your ballot besides the marks you will use to vote. Your ballot will be considered spoiled if it has additional words or markings. You will then sign the envelope on the back, on the outside. The signature must match the signature on your driver's license or ID or the signature on record with your county election department. You can check your signature through www.RegisterToVoteNV.gov by logging in through the Update Your Existing Voter Registration button, your signature is on the last page.

The voter may place the envelope in the mail to be delivered to the county election department or the voter may turn in the ballot at a ballot drop-off site in their county. Only authorized family members may mail or turn in a ballot for someone else. Nevada law prohibits anyone from gathering ballots from non-family members to turn in in-person.

If a voter's ballot does not arrive the first week in May or has a problem, the voter may go to the in-person voting site to vote their ballot, register to vote, or update their registration to affiliate with a political party. The location of the in-person voting sites and drop-off locations will be included with the ballot instructions.

All ballots must be dropped off or postmarked by election day, which is June 9th. If a voter's envelope has no signature or their signature does not match the voter's record, the voter will be contacted and may sign his/her ballot at an in-person voting site or other designated location for up to seven days after election day. Ballots postmarked by election day, will be accepted and counted up to seven days after election day.

Voters may verify that their ballots were counted after the election concludes, here:

<https://www.nvsos.gov/votersearch/index.aspx>

To reduce risk at the in-person voting sites, please register to vote or update your registration now and help your family and friends do the same. And follow all instructions when your ballot arrives.

Secretary Cegavske Announces Plan to Conduct the June 9, 2020 Primary Election by All Mail

Post Date:03/24/2020 3:58

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(Carson City, NV; March 24, 2020) – Nevada Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske, in partnership with Nevada’s 17 county election officials, announces today plans to conduct an all-mail election for the June 9, 2020 primary election. All active registered voters in Nevada will be mailed an absentee ballot for the primary election. No action or steps, such as submitting an absentee ballot request application, will be required by individual voters in order to receive a ballot in the mail. Voters will be able to mark their ballot at home and then return it by mail using a postage-prepaid envelope or by dropping it off in person at a designated county location. This announcement applies only to the June 9, 2020 primary election.

Secretary Cegavske seeks to reassure voters in Nevada that their health and safety while participating in voting is paramount to state and local election officials. “Because of the many uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the immediate need to begin preparations for the 2020 primary election, it became necessary for me to take action regarding how the election will be conducted,” said Cegavske. “Based on extensive conversations with Nevada’s 17 county election officials, we have jointly determined that the best option for the primary election is to conduct an all- mail election.”

In order to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, federal and state health officials have discouraged group gatherings. The training of thousands of poll workers who support Nevada’s large in-person voter effort was scheduled to begin next week. The majority of Nevada’s poll workers belong to groups that are at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19. In order to maintain a high level of access to the ballot, while protecting the safety of voters and poll workers, the decision to conduct an all-mail primary election was made.

Even though the majority of voters will be casting a mail ballot for the June 9, 2020 primary election, the high standard Nevada has set for ensuring the security, fairness, and accuracy of elections will still be met. Deputy Secretary of State for Elections Wayne Thorley said, “The priority of the Secretary of State’s Elections Division is to ensure every eligible Nevadan has the opportunity to safely vote in the primary election and that the integrity of the election is maintained. We are working with our 17 county election officials to implement the changes necessary to successfully administer this election.”

In order to accommodate same-day voter registration, as well as assist voters who have issues with the ballot that was mailed to them, at least one in-person polling location will be available in each county for the June 9, 2020 primary election. These polling locations will be set up to ensure the safety of voters and poll workers alike. Because in-person voting opportunities will be extremely limited for the primary election, Nevadans are encouraged to register to vote now and not rely on the same-day registration process. Voters are also encouraged to confirm that their voter registration information is up-to-date, including mailing address and political party affiliation. Visit www.RegisterToVoteNV.gov to register to vote online or make updates to your existing voter record.

Voters are reminded that absentee ballots must be dropped off in person by the close of polls on Election Day, or postmarked by Election Day. Ballots that are postmarked by Election Day and received no later than seven days after the election will be counted. Additionally, if a voter fails to sign the ballot return envelope or the voter’s signature does not match the one on file with the county election official, the voter will be contacted, and the voter will have up to the seventh day after the election to make the necessary correction. It is important to understand that these statutory deadlines will result in updating vote totals and election results for up to seven days after the election. Close races may remain undecided until all ballots are counted. All counties must certify the election results no later than 10 days after the election.

For more information about the June 9, 2020 primary election, please contact the Secretary of State’s Elections Division at (775) 684-5705 or nvelect@sos.nv.gov.