

## ARAB AMERICAN INSTITUTE

Primary Election Day: June 5, 2018  
 General Election Day: November 6, 2018  
 Polls are open: 7:00am - 8:00pm

**WHY SHOULD I VOTE?**

In the United States, it's your right to cast a ballot. Whether you are interested in school improvements, better roads, or lower taxes; whether your priority is immigration reform or loosening restrictions on small businesses; whether you're concerned about government accountability, environmental protection, or U.S. foreign policy, the ballot box is where you get to choose your city priorities, your state laws, and our federal policies.

**ELECTION DEADLINES**

Voter registration deadline for Primary: May 21, 2018  
 Mailed absentee ballot application deadline for Primary: May 29, 2018  
 Absentee ballot receipt deadline for Primary: June 5, 2018  
 Voter registration deadline for General: Oct. 22, 2018  
 Mailed absentee ballot application deadline for General: Oct. 30, 2018  
 Absentee ballot receipt deadline for General: Nov. 6, 2018

**HOW TO VOTE**

To find out if you are eligible to vote in California, for information on how to register to vote, to find your polling place, and to access online forms, please visit the Secretary of State's website at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections> or call 1-800-345-8683.

**DO I NEED AN ID TO VOTE?**

California State law does not require you to provide proof of identification to cast a ballot unless you are voting for the first time, mailed in your application or did not provide your driver's license number at the time of registration. In any case, it is advisable to bring a valid photo ID. Acceptable forms of identification include, but are not limited to:

- Driver's license or identification card of any state;
- Passport;
- Employee identification card;
- Identification card provided by a commercial establishment;
- Credit or debit card;
- Military identification card;
- Student identification card;
- Health club identification card;
- Insurance plan identification card; or
- Public housing identification card.

Other acceptable forms of identification can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2vCKkvA>.

**EARLY VOTING**

California does offer traditional in-person early voting, but early voting periods vary by county. Generally speaking, early voting begins twenty-eight (28) days before the election, and ends seven (7) days before. For specific information about early voting opportunities in your county, please contact your County Elections Office: <https://bit.ly/21rGsTH>.

Please also note: a new California law has expanded voting rights for registered voters. California's Voter's Choice Act gives voters a choice in casting their ballots by mail, expanding in-person early voting, or allowing voters to cast a ballot at any voting center within their county. For more information on the Act, and the five (5) currently participating counties, visit: <https://bit.ly/2rVYI5J>.

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## ABSENTEE VOTING

Voters who are unable to make it to the polls on Election Day can apply to cast their ballot by mail. Voters can apply to vote absentee or to become a permanent vote-by-mail voter by contacting their local County Elections Office, or by accessing the application online at <https://bit.ly/1pQ50rH>. Contact information for every County Election Office can be found here: <https://bit.ly/21rGsTH>.

Applications to vote by mail in the primary and general elections must be received no later than May 29 and Oct. 30, respectively. If voters need to apply for an absentee ballot after these dates, they must request one in-person at their County Elections Office. Completed absentee ballots must be postmarked no later than their respective election day, or voters can submit the ballot in-person by 8:00pm on election day. Learn more about absentee voting here: <https://bit.ly/1VkRM47>.

**RESOURCES** For more information on voting in your state please visit [www.aaiusa.org/california](http://www.aaiusa.org/california).