



# Top Reasons to Vote in the Primary

**Early Voting:** June 11–18, 2026    **Election Day:** June 23, 2026

## 1. The Governor is on the ballot. So are other state and local offices.

State offices are on the ballot, including the Governor, Attorney General, State Senators, and Delegates – all of whom make the laws you live under in Maryland and affect your taxes, schools, roads, and public safety. The decisions by people who hold state and local offices can sometimes impact your life more than federal offices.

## 2. Democracy requires that voters.....VOTE!

Typically, in Maryland, just over 25% of voters cast a ballot in the primary, meaning almost 75% of voters stay home. That means only a handful of Marylanders are choosing who sits in office. Your voice is important -- as important as any other citizen.

## 3. Primaries often decide who gets into office in November.

The primary is where candidates within the party compete to get onto the November ballot. Because most seats in Maryland are “safe seats,” whoever wins the primary will typically win the General election in the fall. So, if you often find yourself not liking the choices in November, vote the primary.

## 4. VOTE411.org makes it easy.

Learn what the candidates stand for by going to [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org) for non-partisan information from the League of Women Voters Maryland. You can also find information on the many ways Marylanders can vote, including by mail or in person at early voting or on election day (see other side).

## 5. You can influence the direction of your party.

Maryland’s “closed” primary means only those registered as Democrats may vote in the Democratic primary and only those registered as Republicans may vote in the Republican primary. There are many different voices within each party. Make sure your voice is heard.

**Don't let others choose for you. Vote the Primary.**



# Key Dates for Maryland's 2026 Primary

Maryland has a “closed” primary, meaning you must register as a Republican or Democrat to vote in that party’s primary. Unaffiliated voters may vote non-partisan primary races, like the Board of Education. Other parties (e.g. Green Party) are not on the primary ballot.

**Anytime**

## **Check Your Voter Registration**

Go to [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) and click on “check your registration.” Update it if your address has changed or if you want to change your party affiliation.

**June 2**

## **Deadline to register to vote in the primary**

Go to [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) and click on “register to vote.” You may also register at the Motor Vehicle Administration or at most Maryland government offices. You may also register and vote on the same day if you bring proof of identity (such as Maryland driver’s license or state-issued ID) and proof of address (such as paycheck, bank statement or utility bill).

**June 16**

## **Last Day to Request a Mail-In Ballot for Home Delivery**

Go to [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org), select “Maryland,” and scroll to “Absentee Ballot Process.” Any voter can request a mail-in ballot – no excuse is needed. Completed ballots can be returned by official drop box, the U.S. Postal Service, or at any polling place during early voting or on Election Day. Use [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) to find official drop box locations. **NOTE:** *If returning your ballot by mail, send it ASAP to ensure it’s postmarked by Election Day. USPS does not guarantee same-day postmarks.*

**Jun. 11–18**

## **Early Voting Period**

You can vote at any early voting center in your county, and polls are open daily from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m (including weekends). Enter your address at [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) to find early voting centers in your county.

**June 23**

## **Primary Election Day**

On Election Day, you must vote at your assigned polling place. Polls are open 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Find your assigned polling place by visiting [Vote411.org](https://Vote411.org) and entering your address to get personalized information.