

# U.S. election primaries and caucuses

Within each state, both Democrat and Republican parties select a presidential nominee through a ballot amongst the people of that state which harks back to the origins of the nation

## HOW IT WORKS: PRIMARY

**X** Statewide vote by secret ballot to select delegates to represent state at National Convention in July, where presidential candidate is chosen

## CAUCUS

Public gathering – attendance required. Format encourages open discussion and persuasion, favours candidates with motivated grassroots campaign



### Democrat Party

#### Show of hands

1. Non-viable candidates eliminated
2. Supporters re-align with remaining candidates
3. Delegates for National Convention chosen at state convention – selected in proportion to votes



Viability threshold



### Republican Party

#### Secret ballot

Delegates selected in proportion to statewide votes cast for each candidate

## STATE BY STATE

Primary

Caucus

Each person only permitted to cast vote in ballot for single party

### ● Closed

Registered members only

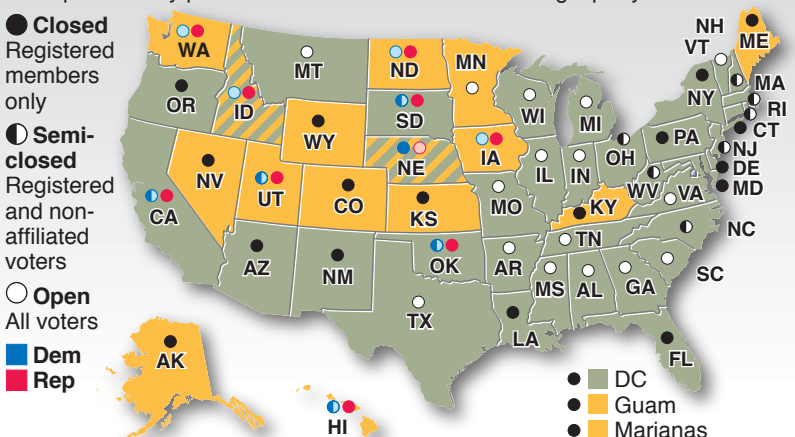
### ◐ Semi-closed

Registered and non-affiliated voters

### ○ Open

All voters

Dem  
 Rep



**Idaho:** Democrat primary, Republican caucus

**Nebraska:** Democrat caucus, Republican primary

Sources: RNC, DNC

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