

# Future Elections

## 2008 Primary and General Elections

In 2008, there will be two primaries. In February, the office of President will appear on the ballot. In August, the regular statewide primary will occur with federal, state and local partisan offices, and some nonpartisan offices. Local measures will also appear on the ballot.

In November, the top candidates who emerged from the primary will appear on the general election ballot.

- February 19, 2008 – Presidential Primary
- August 19, 2008 – State Primary
- November 4, 2008 – State & Federal General Election

## Partisan Primaries

A partisan primary is an election in which voters select political party candidates to appear on the general election ballot. In the State of Washington, voters are **not** required to pre-register with a political party before the primary; however, the courts have determined that voters may cast votes for candidates from only one political party. Voters may “pick-a-party” at the top of the ballot and vote only for candidates from the same party they have chosen.

### Voting in a Partisan Primary is as easy as 1-2-3.

1. Choose a party
2. Vote only for candidates within that party
3. Vote for nonpartisan contests and ballot measures regardless of whether a political party preference was chosen

## Presidential Primary

The date selected for Washington’s Presidential Primary is February 19, 2008. Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters January 30, 2008.

- Voters who participate in the Presidential Primary will be required to sign an oath that they have not participated in another party’s caucus process. Each political party receives a list of voters who sign the party oath.
- Political parties retain the authority to decide if they will use the Presidential Primary to allocate delegates to the national nominating conventions. The political parties may also use caucus results, or a combination of primary and caucus results.
- For 2008, the State Republican Party has determined that it will use the Presidential Primary to allocate 51% of its delegates. The remaining 49% of the delegates will be allocated based on caucus results.
- For 2008, the State Democratic Party has determined not to use the Presidential Primary to allocate its delegates. All of its delegates will be allocated in accordance with caucus results.
- Voters may participate in both a party caucus and the Presidential Primary so long as they participate on behalf of the same party.

## Political Party Caucus

A caucus is a meeting of members or supporters of a political party. Both major parties plan to hold their caucuses on Saturday, February 9, 2008, which is ten days before the Washington State Presidential Primary. The parties will invite voters to participate in the caucuses and will require participants to sign an oath declaring their party affiliation.

## Major Political Party Contacts

### Democratic Party

- Washington State Democratic Party  
615 Second Ave, Suite 580, Seattle, WA 98104 or  
PO Box 4027  
Seattle, WA 98194  
Phone: (206) 583.0664  
Fax: (206) 583.0301  
Website: [www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)  
Email: [info@wa-democrats.org](mailto:info@wa-democrats.org)
- Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee  
1971 Jackson Ave SE  
Port Orchard, WA 98366  
Phone (360) 698.6833  
Website: [www.kitsapdemocrats.com](http://www.kitsapdemocrats.com)  
Email: [kitsapdemocrat@yahoo.com](mailto:kitsapdemocrat@yahoo.com)

### Republican Party

- Washington State Republican Party  
Chairman: Diane Tebelius  
16400 Southcenter Parkway Suite 200  
Seattle, WA 98188  
Phone: (206) 575.2900  
Fax: (206) 575.1730  
Website: [www.wsrp.org](http://www.wsrp.org)  
Email: [comments@wsrp.org](mailto:comments@wsrp.org)
- Kitsap County Republican Party  
PO Box 141  
Silverdale, WA 98383  
(360) 308.9845  
Website: [www.kitsaprepublicans.org](http://www.kitsaprepublicans.org)