

Political Party Information

Major Political Parties

A Major Political Party is a political party where any statewide office received at least 5% of the total vote cast at the last preceding state General Election in an even numbered year. Washington State has two major political parties – Democratic and Republican.

Democratic Party

- Washington State Democratic Party
615 Second Ave, Suite 580, PO Box 4027, Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 583.0664 Fax: (206) 583.0301
Website: www.wa-democrats.org
Email: info@wa-democrats.org
- Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee
PO Box 27, Silverdale, WA 98383
Phone: (360) 698.6833
Website: www.kitsapdemocrats.com

Republican Party

- Washington State Republican Party
2840 Northup Way, Suite 140, Bellevue, WA 98004
Phone: (425) 460.0570 Fax: (425) 460.0571
Website: www.wsrp.org
Email: comments@wsrp.org
- Kitsap County Republican Party
PO Box 348, Port Orchard, WA 98366
Phone: (360) 308.9845
Website: www.kitsaprepublicans.org
Email: admin@kitsaprepublicans.org

Minor Political Parties

A Minor Political Party is any political party where no statewide office received more than 5% of the total vote cast at the last preceding state General Election in an even numbered year.

Socialism & Liberation Party

3180 Mission Street #29, San Francisco, CA 94110
Website: www.geocities.com/partyofcommons
Email: partyofcommons@yahoo.com

Libertarian Party of Washington State

10522 Lake City Way NE Ste C103, Seattle WA 98125
Phone: (206) 571.1946
Website: www.lpwa.org/voter/
Email: officemanager@lpwa.org

Constitution Party of Washington

10605 SE 240th St. PMB 135, Kent, WA 98031
Phone: (253) 854.6524
Website: www.constitutionpartyofwa.com
Email: contactus@constitutionpartyofwa.com

Green Party of Washington State

PO Box 1305, South Bend, WA 98586
Phone: (360) 875.0205
Website: www.wagreens.us
Email: info@wagreens.us

Political Contribution Limits

- State law sets contribution limits on donations to legislative, state executive, and judicial office candidates as well as bona fide political party and caucus political committees.
- Anyone who donates more than a total of \$25.00 in monetary and in-kind contributions must be identified by name and full address. Occupation, employer name, city, and state are required for contributions of more than \$100.00.

Contact Information

Washington State Public Disclosure Commission
Phone: (360) 753.1111 or toll free at (877) 601.2828
Email: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov or website: www.pdc.wa.gov



How is the United States President Elected?

Presidential Primaries and Caucuses

The Democratic and Republican parties hold a Presidential Primary or caucus in every state (Washington State's was held in February) for voters to elect delegates to represent the candidate of their choice at their party's regional, statewide, and national conventions.

National Party Conventions

At the national party conventions in August and September, delegates elected by their states' party members vote for the candidate they represent. The candidate with the most delegate votes is announced as the party's official presidential nominee. The nominee then announces his or her vice-presidential running mate. The Democratic National Convention was held August 25-29 in Denver, Colorado. The Republican National Convention was held September 1-4 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

General Election

The presidential nominees of the major parties, minor parties, and independent candidates appear on the November 4th General Election ballot.

Electoral College Votes

The Electoral College is a body of 538 popularly elected representatives selected by political parties who formally select the President and Vice-President of the United States. The number of electors is equal to the number of Senators and Representatives in the United States Congress in each state. Whichever presidential ticket receives the most popular votes in a state wins the Electors of that state. On December 15, 2008 each state's electors meet in their respective state capitols and cast their electoral votes.

Congress Counts the Electoral Votes & the Presidential Inauguration is Held

On January 6, 2009, Congress meets in joint session and counts the electoral votes. In order to be elected, a candidate must receive a majority (at least 270) of the electoral votes. The winner is declared. On January 20, 2009, Inauguration Day, the elected President and Vice-President are sworn into office in front of the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C.