



FEDERAL SECTION

Unit 1	The American Revolution	4
Unit 2	Declaration of Independence.	5
Unit 3	The Articles of Confederation	6
Unit 4	The Constitutional Convention	7
Unit 5	The Bill of Rights	10

LEARNING AID:

Timeline of Constitutional Events	11
---------------------------------------------	----

Unit 6	The Strengths of the Constitution	12
Unit 7	The Preamble and a Look Ahead.	13
Unit 8	Summary of the U.S. Constitution	14

LEARNING AID:

Three Branches of Government Chart	16
----------------------------------------------	----

Unit 9	Legislative Branch	17
Unit 10	Lawmaking Process	21

LEARNING AID:

Legislative Branch Fact Sheet.	24
----------------------------------------	----

Unit 11	Other Duties of Congress.	25
---------	-----------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

Division of Power	27
-----------------------------	----

Unit 12	Congress and the States.	28
Unit 13	Executive Branch	29
Unit 14	The President's Cabinet	31

Unit 15	The Electoral College	33
---------	---------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

Executive Branch Fact Sheet	34
---------------------------------------	----

Unit 16	Presidents and Elections.	35
Unit 17	Judicial Branch.	37
Unit 18	Judicial Review.	39

LEARNING AID:

Judicial Branch Fact Sheet	38
--------------------------------------	----

Unit 19	Checks and Balances.	41
Unit 20	Changing the Constitution and Other Information	43

Unit 21	The American Flag.	44
---------	----------------------------	----

Unit 22	The Federal Budget and the Constitution	45
---------	------------------------------------------------------	----

Unit 23	The American Economy and the U.S. Constitution	46
---------	-------------------------------------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

U.S. Constitution Outline	47
-------------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

Review Questions: Federal Section.	49
--------------------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

Federal Section Self-Test	51
-------------------------------------	----

OHIO SECTION

Unit 24	Ohio Constitution and Government	54
Unit 25	Ohio and the Northwest Ordinance	56

LEARNING AID:

Ohio Geography and Seal Exercise.	57
-------------------------------------------	----

Unit 26	Overview of the Ohio Constitution	58
---------	------------------------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

State Government Fact Sheet	61
---------------------------------------	----

Unit 27	State Legislative Branch	62
Unit 28	State Lawmaking Process	64

LEARNING AID:

How A Bill Becomes Law in Ohio.	66
-----------------------------------------	----

Unit 29	State Executive Branch	67
Unit 30	State Judicial Branch.	69
Unit 31	Voting and Elections	71

Unit 32	Local Government.	73
Unit 33	Financing State and Local Government.	75

LEARNING AID:

Ohio Section Outline.	76
-------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

Review Questions - Ohio Section	78
-------------------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

Ohio Section Self-Test.	79
---------------------------------	----

REFERENCE:

Constitution Vocabulary.	81
----------------------------------	----

LEARNING AID:

Name Your Government Officials	84
------------------------------------------	----

Ratification

The convention adjourned on September 17, 1787, with 39 of the 55 delegates signing the new document. The fight for ratification has begun. The Constitution would take effect once it was approved by nine of the thirteen state legislatures.

The battle was a bitter one. The Federalists supported the Constitution. Leading Federalists Hamilton, Jay, and Madison published the *Federalist Papers*. These papers were essential in convincing people that the Constitution was of value. The *Anti-Federalists* fought against the Constitution but were not successful.

On June 21, 1788, the Constitution took effect when New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify it. The remaining four states joined by 1790. The Federalists and Anti-Federalists continued their battle over the Constitution and became two separate political forces under the new government.

On January 7, 1789, the United States, having recently adopted its Constitution, held its first presidential election. Only white men who owned property voted. They choose electors who, in turn, voted for the candidates. As it did in 1789, the United States still uses the Electoral College system established by the U.S. Constitution.

Our First President

As expected, George Washington won the election and was sworn into office on April 30, 1789, as the first president of the United States and the “Father of Our Country.” Washington was a Virginia landowner who had led the patriotic forces in the war against the British. His accomplishments matched his popularity.



George Washington

Washington was a delegate to both Continental Congresses. He was unanimously named both as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War and as president of the Constitutional Convention that drafted the Constitution.

Washington finished first with 69 votes, followed by his fellow Federalist John Adams of Massachusetts, whose 34 votes propelled him into the vice presidency. (Before the ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804, the candidate who received the most electoral votes became president while the runner-up became vice president.)

Citizenship and Becoming President

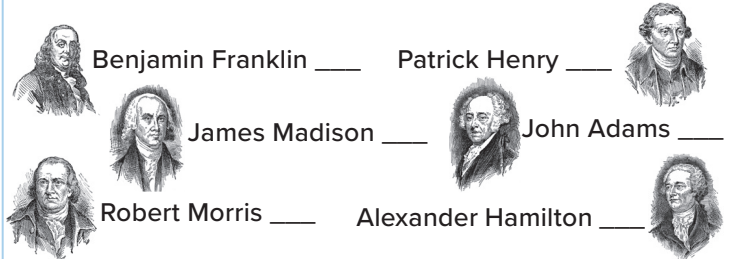
The members of the Constitutional Convention envisioned a president born in the good, old United States of America. In Article 2, Section 1, they wrote that “No person except a natural-born citizen... shall be eligible to the office of president.” The convention delegates did not want to take the chance of a foreign country sending someone to run for our highest political office. Immigrants can become citizens, thus becoming *naturalized* citizens. But naturalized citizens cannot become president; only natural-born citizens are eligible.

QUESTIONS

TRUE OR FALSE? Write a **T** or **F** in the space provided.

- ___ 1. Six states had to approve the Constitution before it was effective.
- ___ 2. The Federalists were against the Constitution.
- ___ 3. The authors of the Constitution wrote a document that was easily adapted to change.
- ___ 4. The small states wanted each state to have the same number of representatives.
- ___ 5. The Constitutional Convention adopted the Virginia Plan.
- ___ 6. Fortunately, the Constitution outlawed slavery.
- ___ 7. The Electoral College showed that the Constitutional Convention trusted the people.
- ___ 8. The New Jersey Plan suggested only one house of Congress.
- ___ 9. The New Jersey Plan favored the small states and the Virginia Plan favored the large states.
- ___ 10. Each state gets the same number of votes in the Electoral College.
- ___ 11. Article 2 of the U.S. Constitution includes a provision that only “natural-born” citizens are eligible to become president.
- ___ 12. Immigrants can become citizens.

MATCH THE PERSON TO THE STATEMENT. Write the letter of the statement that matches the person.



- a. First Vice President b. Submitted Virginia Plan
- c. NY Delegate & Federalist d. Financier of the Revolution
- e. “Smelt a Rat” f. Oldest Delegate at Convention

SHORT ANSWER / FILL IN THE BLANKS

- 1. Write a definition of democracy. _____
- 2. Number of the amendment that changed the way we elect U.S. senators. _____
- 3. Name three of the original 13 colonies. _____
- 4. The Constitutional Convention adjourned on what date? _____
- 5. How many states had to ratify the Constitution before it went into effect? _____

Listed below is a sampling of the events that led to America's independence and the adoption of a new constitution. You will find the years and the significant events that happened during that time.

1763 - 1765
Protests Against
British Rule



England decides on a program of taxation and control of the colonies. The American colonists begin organized protests against British rule. Patriotic groups such as the *Sons of Liberty* are formed. Laws such as the *Quartering Act*, *Stamp Act*, and *Sugar Act* anger the colonists, who are forced to pay unjust taxes and provide supplies to British troops.

1770 - 1773
Uprisings in
Boston



Colonists reduce their boycott of British goods when they withdraw all of the *Townshend Act*, except the tax on tea. *Boston Massacre* (March 5, 1770) occurs when an angry crowd of citizens surrounds a group of soldiers, causing them to open fire. With the American colonists and merchants still angry over British tax policies, an uprising called the *Boston Tea Party* occurs (December 16, 1773).

1774
First Continental
Congress



In response to the Boston Tea Party, the Parliament passes several acts to punish Massachusetts. Twelve of the 13 colonies name delegates to *The First Continental Congress*. On September 5th, they convene at *Carpenters Hall* in Philadelphia to deal with Britain's actions.

1775
The American
Revolution



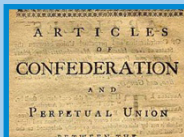
When the Americans learn the British plan to seize their guns and ammunition, *Paul Revere* is sent to alert the countryside and gather the *Minutemen*. An unidentified shot triggers the Battle at Lexington. This starts the *American Revolution* and also leads to another famous battle, *Bunker Hill*. In May, the *Second Continental Congress* meets in Philadelphia.

1776
The Declaration
of Independence



On July 4th, The Second Continental Congress adopts the *Declaration of Independence* (written by *Thomas Jefferson* and committee). The Declaration was debated by 56 courageous men and signed at *Independence Hall*. A few days later, church bells are rung across Philadelphia to call people to the first public reading of the Declaration.

1777 - 1781
The Articles of
Confederation



After considerable debate and alteration, the *Articles of Confederation* were adopted by the Continental Congress on November 15, 1777. However, the document was not fully ratified by the states until March 1, 1781. This document served as the United States' first constitution. In October of 1781, British forces surrender at Yorktown.

1787 - 1788
The Constitution
is Ratified



On May 14th, 1787, *The Constitutional Convention* met in Philadelphia. Here the delegates reviewed and approved the *Constitution*. In 1788, nine states ratified the Constitution, and it is put into effect (the remaining four states will ratify by 1790). America prepares to operate under this new document.

1789
Our New
Government



On March 4th, the new federal government is inaugurated in New York. In April, the first House of Representatives is organized. *George Washington* is elected the first president on April 6th. He is inaugurated on April 30th. On September 25th, the first 10 amendments (*Bill of Rights*) are adopted by Congress.

QUESTIONS

PUT THE EVENTS IN ORDER. For each question group, write the numbers **1, 2, or 3**, to indicate which event happened first, second, and third.

Group 1. Boston Massacre _____, Adopted Declaration of Independence _____, Washington becomes president _____

Group 2. Articles of Confederation _____, Boston Tea Party _____, Constitution ratified by nine states _____

Group 3. England sets taxation policy for colonies _____, Constitutional Convention _____, Battle of Bunker Hill _____

Group 4. Paul Revere alerts colonists _____, Stamp Act is law _____, First House of Representatives organized _____

Group 5. Bill of Rights adopted _____, First Continental Congress _____, Declaration is read to the public _____

Group 6. Second Continental Congress meets _____, Sons of Liberty forms _____, American Revolution ends _____

THE CONSTITUTION SETS UP THREE BRANCHES

Article One Legislative Branch *make the laws*



Senate

100 members,
2 from each state

House

435 members,
based upon state
population

Agencies that provide support services:
Government Printing Office, The Library
of Congress, The General
Accounting Office, etc.

Article Two Executive Branch *enforce the laws*



The President

Vice President

Agencies that
provide services:
Nat'l Security
Council, Executive
Office of the
President, etc.

Article Three Judicial Branch *interpret the laws*



The Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals

District courts and all other courts

The Cabinet (15 departments)

Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of Defense

Department of Education

Department of Energy

Department of Homeland
Security

Department of Health and
Human Services

Department of Housing
and Urban Development

Department of Interior

Department of Justice

Department of Labor

Department of State

Department of
Transportation

Department of Treasury

Department of Veterans
Affairs

Perhaps the most prolonged debate at the Constitutional Convention concerned the method of selecting the president. An early suggestion was to give this power to Congress. But that would have destroyed the idea of the separation of powers. How could we have three branches of government, each checking the other if the legislative branch (the Congress) picked the head of the executive branch (the president)?

The writers of the Constitution also weren't ready to give the selection of the president to the people or the "common man." So they wrote a compromise into Article 2, Section 1 of the Constitution. The compromise set up a system of electors to select the president. These electors came to be known as the *Electoral College*, but the Constitution itself does not mention the term "Electoral College."

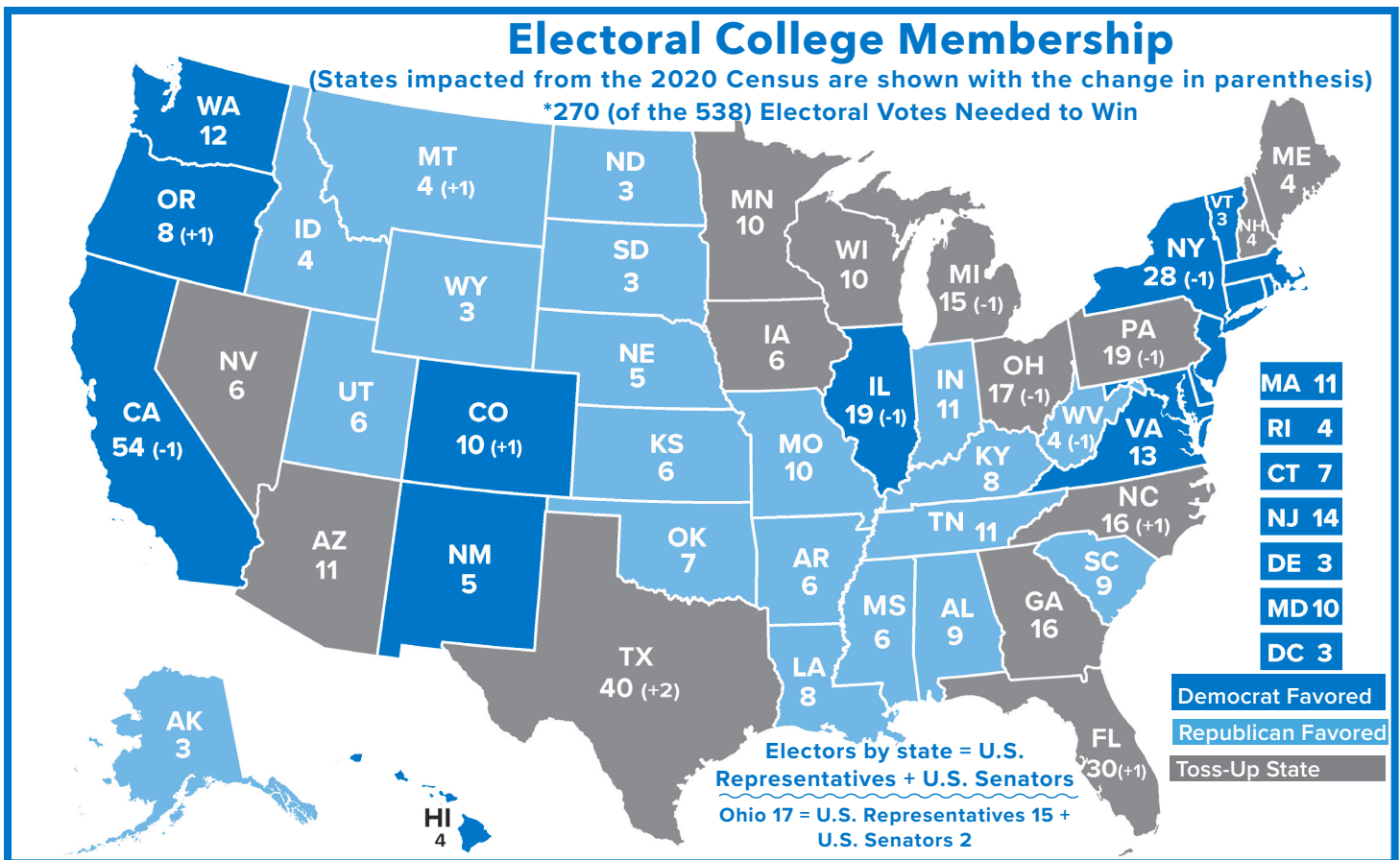
This unique election method was modified by the 12th and 23rd Amendments. Before 1961, the voters in Washington, D.C., didn't get to vote for the president at all. This was not considered fair in the capital of our country. The 23rd Amendment was added in 1961, giving three electoral votes for Washington, D.C. That made a total of 538 electors (electoral votes for each state equals the number of representatives plus two for the senators). A majority of 270 or more would be necessary to select the president. The map below shows the distribution of the electoral votes based on the 2010 reapportionment and will reflect additional changes from the 2020 census.

To summarize, if a candidate gets the most popular (people) votes in the state, the "electors" will then cast their votes the same way. All the electoral votes for the state (except for Maine and Nebraska) will go to the winner of the state. The writers of the Constitution also thought that the Electoral College gave states with a small population more equal weight in the presidential election.

One of the problems political scientists see in the Electoral College is that it allows a person to be elected president who has not won the popular vote in the country. In our growing beliefs in the power and rights of democracy in our nation, that could be a problem. Because all the electoral votes of a state go to the candidate who wins the election in that state, whether the candidate wins by a single vote or a million votes, it is possible to be elected president without having the most votes.

That has not happened very often, but it did occur in 2000 when George W. Bush became president and again recently in the 2016 election. Donald Trump became president even though Hillary Clinton won a majority of the popular votes. And, because this has happened so recently, Americans are debating the Electoral College's pros and cons. Since a change in the electoral vote would require a constitutional amendment, the change will not come quickly. Supporters of the current system say that it has served the nation well and forces candidates to gain broad geographic support rather than concentrating only on large metropolitan areas.

continued



The following test will help you prepare for your final Constitution test. It has questions similar to ones you will find on your final. It is suggested you write your answers on a piece of paper so you can take the test multiple times. You will find the correct answers at the bottom of Page 53.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Write the letter of the correct answer in the space provided.

1. _____ The president may serve how many terms? a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
2. _____ What is NOT a rule of the flag code?
a. worn flags should be thrown in trash c. should be displayed on national holidays
b. should be in the front of a parade d. exact likeness should not be used in ads
3. _____ How many amendments have been added to the Constitution? a. 10 b. 21 c. 27 d. 41
4. _____ How many years is the president's term of office? a. 2 b. 4 c. 6 d. 9
5. _____ What is the age requirement to become president? a. 18 b. 21 c. 35 d. 45
6. _____ After a bill has gone through both houses of Congress successfully, it is sent to:
a. the President c. the Speaker of the House
b. the States d. the Supreme Court
7. _____ Which amendment gave women who are citizens the right to vote in all elections?
a. 17th b. 19th c. 22nd d. 27th
8. _____ How many U.S. senators come from each state? a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
9. _____ Each state receives at least _____ representative(s) in the U.S. House of Representatives.
a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
10. _____ Who may veto a bill proposed by Congress?
a. the President of the United States c. the Vice President
b. the Secretary of State d. all Cabinet members
11. _____ The president of the Senate is:
a. the President of the United States c. the Secretary of State
b. the Speaker of the House d. the Vice President
12. _____ Which of these rights is NOT an unalienable right from the Declaration of Independence?
a. liberty b. education c. pursuit of happiness d. life
13. _____ The Declaration of Independence was written largely by:
a. Hamilton b. Washington c. Jefferson d. Adams
14. _____ The national budget is presented annually to Congress by the:
a. the Vice President c. the Secretary of State
b. the Governors d. the President
15. _____ There are how many branches of government? a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
16. _____ The president takes the oath of office on:
a. January 4th b. January 20th c. November 7th d. September 5th
17. _____ In our First Amendment, which is NOT a "freedom"?
a. freedom of the press c. freedom of speech
b. freedom of employment d. freedom of religion
18. _____ The vote of what group really decides who will be president?
a. Electoral College c. United Nations
b. popular vote by the people d. House of Representatives
19. _____ What is described in Article 1, Section 8, of the Constitution giving Congress broad powers to write laws about new situations?
a. war power b. insight clause c. elastic clause d. inventional clause
20. _____ Which body has the power to borrow money?
a. Congress c. Executive Branch
b. Supreme Court d. State Legislatures

continued



Great Seal of Ohio

Below is a reproduction of the official *Great Seal of the State of Ohio*. In an attempt to reign in the design of the seal, the Legislature officially adopted Ohio's modern version in 1967, modifying it again in 1996.



Research the "Great Seal" and answer the following questions:

1. How many sunrays are on the seal and why? _____
2. What is the crop shown and what does it represent? _____
3. What do the 17 arrows represent? _____
4. What is the name of the river on the seal? _____

Ohio Facts and Statistics

Entered Union	March 1, 1803	Origin of Name	"Beautiful River"	Current Constitution	1851
State Motto	"With god, all things are possible"	State Nickname	"The Buckeye State"	State Population	11,780,017
Federal Representation	15 - US Representatives, 2 - US Senators, 17 - Electoral votes	Land Area	44,825 square miles	Top 5 Largest Cities	Columbus, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Toledo, Akron
Tourism Slogan	"Find it Here"	No. of Counties	88	State Capital	Columbus
State Portal	ohio.gov	State Tree	Ohio Buckeye	State Song	"Beautiful Ohio"
State Flower	Red Carnation	State Bird	Northern Cardinal	State Animal	White-Tailed Deer

GEOGRAPHY AND MAP EXERCISE

1. Circle the highest point in Ohio. What is the elevation? _____
2. On the map, identify the Ohio River (with an "O"), Lake Erie (with a "L") and Grand Lake (with a "G.")
3. Identify the five largest cities in Ohio by placing the numbers **1 - 5** on the cities location.
4. On the map, identify all the states that border Ohio. _____
5. On the map, identify the location of your hometown and indicate the spot with a star.
6. Name two Ohio cities that are on the shore of Lake Erie. _____
7. What city hosts the state capital? _____

In a democracy, a citizen is responsible for the government under which he or she lives. By voting and staying informed on the issues, he or she participates in the business of government. With every freedom we enjoy, there are also corresponding duties. We must perform these duties, such as voting, if we expect to enjoy our freedom.

Voting is a constitutional right. Early in American history, only white men over the age of 21 could vote. Then it took two constitutional amendments, one in 1870 and the other in 1920, to give Black people and women the right to vote. Then, when Americans 18 and older were in the military fighting in wars, people began to think that if young people were old enough to die for their country, they were indeed old enough to vote. In 1971, the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave 18-year-olds the right to vote, and so did the state of Ohio.

Primary Elections

Primaries are elections held before the general election to elect one candidate from a specific political party (usually Republican or Democratic) to represent that party in the general election. *Partisan* means running with an established political party. There are many political parties in Ohio, including Democratic, Republican, Libertarian, Reform, and U.S. Taxpayers. *Nonpartisan* means having no party affiliation.

Voting at Age 17

Ohio and 22 other states allow 17-year-olds to vote in primaries if they are 18 by the November election. This group is allowed to vote in primaries for federal and statewide offices. Advocates say the change allows youth to develop voting habits early, a key to ensuring they turn into lifelong voters. Critics have questioned whether teens are engaged enough to cast meaningful votes. What do you think?

Primary elections are usually held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May in even-numbered years. In odd-numbered years, they are held on the date provided for by the municipal charters. Ohio was forced to add a second primary election in August 2022. The races for Ohio House and Senate seats were pushed back from the regular May primary because of disagreements over new district maps. After the Ohio Supreme Court rejected four sets of legislative district maps as unconstitutional, a federal court ordered the state to implement the third set of invalidated maps for a special August primary and for the November general election.

General Elections

The most publicized elections in Ohio are the *general elections*. They are *biennial* elections. That is, they are held every two years in even-numbered years. The Ohio gubernatorial election is held every four years. Ohio residents also vote for the President of the United States in every other general election. The next presidential election will be in 2024 (then 2028). President Biden will

be eligible to run, as he will have served only one term of the maximum two terms.

Recently there have been discussions for Ohio to join the 13 states that have made Election Day a holiday. Experts have said that the United States has a low voter turnout because elections are held on a work day, imposing a significant burden on students and hourly workers who cannot take time off to vote.

Other Types of Ohio Elections

Other types of Ohio elections include judicial, township, municipal, school, village, park district, and some other miscellaneous elections. Many of these occur on the same schedule as the state and federal elections. The dates are established by law. Watch your media sources for elections that may be affecting your local area.

election	when held in Ohio
Primary Elections	first Tuesday after the first Monday in May (in 2022, a second primary was added in August because of disagreements over district maps from the 2020 census)
General Elections	first Tuesday after the first Monday in November
Presidential Primary Election	first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each presidential election year
Special Elections	first Tuesday after the first Monday in August

Voting Options in Ohio

There are three voting options in Ohio:

1. **Vote-by-Mail:** You can vote before Election Day by applying for a vote-by-mail ballot. Military and overseas voters can also vote this way. This is also called “absentee voting” and allows voters to cast their vote without going to their official polling place on Election Day.
2. **Vote Early In-Person:** Anyone registered to vote can come to their county’s board of elections office and vote at the scheduled times. You will need to provide one of the acceptable forms of identification.
3. **Vote on Election Day:** Anyone registered to vote in Ohio can vote at their assigned polling location between 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. You will need to provide one of the acceptable forms of identification.

Voting Requirements

In Ohio, like any state, a citizen must obey the election laws. They also must meet the requirements that have been set up by those laws. You can vote if you are:

- at least 18 years old on Election Day for general elections (see note regarding voting at age 17)
- a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days before the election
- a United States citizen
- not in prison for a felony conviction
- not declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court
- not claiming the right to vote in another state