

American State-Centric Election System

Offices, Schedule, Election System, and Nominating Methods

Office	Schedule	Election System	Nomination Methods
President			
	Every 4 years 2000, 2004, 2008, etc.	Plurality each state Electoral college majority	Most states, primary elections National party convention
Congress			
House of Representatives	Every 2 years 2006, 2008, 2010, etc.	435 SMD Plurality	Most states, primary elections Plurality, most states with primaries
Senate	6 year terms 1/3 every 2 years 2006, 2008, 2010, etc.	2 for each 50 states Plurality	Same as House of Representatives
States			
	Every 4 years Usually in “midterm” election		
	State-wide offices State legislature 2 or 4 year terms	Most states, plurality SMD plurality	Same as House Representatives
Municipalities			Varies by state
	Many are “nonpartisan” 2 or 4 year terms Each on own schedule	At-Large and SMD Plurality	