
Definitions

<i>Congress</i>	A term used to describe the United States Senate and House of Representatives.
<i>County Office</i>	A public office that is filled by a vote of the registered voters in all or part of one or more counties. County offices include District Attorney, Sheriff and County Commissioner.
<i>District Office</i>	A public office filled by a vote of the registered voters within a particular district of the state. District offices include Governor's Councillors, State Senators and State Representatives.
<i>Election</i>	An event during which registered voters choose people to fill public offices and vote on ballot questions, where applicable.
<i>Federal Office</i>	A public office filled at state elections, held in November of even numbered years, by a vote of the registered voters throughout the state or within a particular district of the state. Federal offices include United States Representative.
<i>Nomination Paper</i>	An official document which must be circulated for the signatures of registered voters and thereafter be properly filed before a candidate's name may be printed on the ballot.
<i>Non-party Candidate</i>	A candidate who is not enrolled in any political party and who files nomination papers to appear directly on the November general election ballot. Such a candidate is sometimes referred to as an "unenrolled," "independent," "minor party," or "political designation" candidate.
<i>Party Candidate</i>	A candidate who is an enrolled member of a recognized political party. Currently there are three recognized political parties in Massachusetts—Democratic, Republican, and Libertarian.
<i>Primary</i>	An election in which registered voters nominate party candidates: Democratic, Republican, and Libertarian. The names of the winning Democratic, Republican, and Libertarian candidates will appear on the November general election ballot.
<i>Statewide Office</i>	A public office filled by a vote of the registered voters throughout the state. Statewide offices includes Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Treasurer and Receiver General, and Auditor.
<i>Unenrolled</i>	A term used to describe a registered voter who is not enrolled in any political party and who is often referred to as "independent." An unenrolled voter must run for office as a "non-party candidate" (see above).