



#### **Elections Overview:**

The summer of elections continues on, with the next state-wide election occurring on August 16th, 2022. This election will be the pick-one Primary Election for State and National offices, as well as the ranked-choice Special General Election to fill the interim seat of the late Congressman Young. Voters will be able to cast their ballot absentee (by mail or electronically), early in-person, or in person on Election Day. Voters will be able to vote in both the Primary Election and the Special General Election on the same ballot.

#### What you will find in this toolkit:

- 1. Information on the structure of the August 16th Election
- 2. Candidate information and sample ballots
- 3. Information for Division of Elections offices/other resources
- 4. Important voting dates and deadlines
- 5. Information on how to apply for an absentee ballot, or return an absentee ballot
- 6. Information on ranked-choice voting
- 7. Graphics to visualize the election or share with your family and friends

As you prepare for the August 16th Election, here are a few key things to note:



- 1. The pick-one Primary Election and the ranked-choice Special General Election will follow the new open primary and ranked-choice voting system, voted into law in 2020. This means that for the August 16th pick-one Primary, all candidates will appear on the same ballot for each race, regardless of their party affiliation. Voters will choose one candidate for each race to move ahead to the November 8th General Election.
- 2. For the August 16th ranked-choice Special General Election, the top vote-securing candidates from the June 11th pick-one Primary will be listed. Voters will select which candidates they would like to rank, from their favorite to their least favorite. This election will be located **on the back of the ballot**.

Overview of the August 16th Election from the Division of Elections: https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/primaryelectioninformation.php

#### **August 16th Election Timeline:**

July 17th, 2022: Voter Registration Deadline and Deadline to update voting address

July 19th, 2022: Absentee Ballots begin to be sent to voters

August 1st, 2022: Early in-person, Special needs, and Electronic voting begins

August 6th, 2022: Deadline to request an absentee, by-mail ballot (5pm, AKDT)

August 15th, 2022: Deadline to request an absentee, electronic ballot (5pm, AKDT)

August 16th, 2022: Pick-one Primary and ranked-choice Special General Election Day

- In-person voting will be available at polling locations from 7am to 8pm
- Electronic ballots must be returned by this date (8pm, AKDT)
- By-mail absentee ballots must be **postmarked in Anchorage** by Election Day. If you are voting by mail from outside of Anchorage, please turn in your ballot early

November 8th, 2022: General Election Day

#### What will the ballot look like?

As mentioned above, there will be two parts to the August 16th Election. The first will be a pick-one Primary election, to determine which candidates for State and National Offices will advance to the General Election in November. This election will be on the FRONT of the August 16th Ballot, and will have the races for:

1. United States Senator



- 2. United States Representative
- 3. Governor/Lieutenant Governor
- 4. State Senator
- 5. State Representative

Voters will pick one candidate for each race on the front of the ballot. To learn more about who will be running in each pick-one Primary race, check out the Division of Elections Candidate List: <a href="https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/candidatelistprim.php#">https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/candidatelistprim.php#</a>

The second part of the August 16th Election will be the Special General Election to fill the late Congressman Young's seat for the remainder of his term (January, 2023). The four candidates set to advance to the Special General Election were initially former Gov. Sarah Palin, Nick Begich, Al Gross and former Rep. Mary Peltola (Yup'ik), but it was shared that Al Gross ended his campaign. Voters will rank the remaining candidates in their order of preference, from 1st to 3rd. This election will be located on the BACK of the August 16th Ballot.

Curious what the ballot will look like? The Division of Elections has sample ballots available for each house district, here:

https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/sampleballots 2022primary.php

Checklist for voting in the August 16th El	ection:
Make sure you are registered to yote	or that your voting address is undated

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	Make a plan of how you will cast your ballot - in person, early in-person, or absentee
	Learn more about the candidates running for office
	Make sure you cast your ballot on or before Election Day!
	Encourage your friends and family to vote

#### 1. Registering to vote:

The deadline to register to vote in the August 16th Election is **July 17th, 2022**. Registering to vote, or updating your voting address, is quick and easy.

Check/Update your voter registration address here: <a href="https://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov/">https://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov/</a>

#### How can you register to vote?

There are three ways to register to vote: Online, with a paper form, or in-person.

a. Register to vote online:



- i. Complete this online form using your driver's license or state ID card <a href="https://voterregistration.alaska.gov/">https://voterregistration.alaska.gov/</a>
- b. Register to vote through a paper form:
  - i. Print and fill out this paper form: <a href="http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/forms/C03.pdf">http://www.elections.alaska.gov/doc/forms/C03.pdf</a>
  - ii. Attach a copy of a form of personal identification. You MUST do this to register. Identification/proof of address can be proved from:
    - 1. Current and valid photo identification
    - 2. Driver's license
    - 3. Passport
    - 4. State identification card
    - 5. Birth certificate
    - 6. Hunting and Fishing license
  - iii. The paper form can be returned by mail, fax, or email to a Regional Elections Office:

#### Juneau - Region 1 Elections Office

(Southeast, Prince William Sound, Kodiak, Kenai Peninsula)

Email: electionsr1@alaska.gov

**Phone; Toll-free:** (907) 465-3021; (866) 948-8683 **Fax; Toll-free:** (907) 465-2289; (855) 977-3591

Office Location:

9109 Mendenhall Mall Rd, Suite 3 Juneau, Alaska 99801-7136

**Mailing Address:** 

P.O.Box 110018

Juneau, AK 99811-0018

Regional Supervisor:

Lauri Wilson, lauri.wilson@alaska.gov

Fairbanks - Region 3 Elections Office

(Fairbanks, Interior, Eastern Mat-Su, Valdez)

Email: electionsr3@alaska.gov

**Phone; Toll-free:** (907) 451-2835; (866) 959-8683 **Fax; Toll-free:** (907) 451-2832; (855) 977-3594

Office Location/Mailing Address:

675 7th Avenue, Suite H3 Fairbanks, AK 99701-4542

Regional Supervisor:

**Anchorage - Region 2 Elections Office** 

(Municipality of Anchorage)

Email: electionsr2@alaska.gov

**Phone; Toll-free:** (907) 522- 8683; (866) 958-8683 **Fax; Toll-free:** (907) 522-2341; (855) 977-3592

Office Location/Mailing Address:

2525 Gambell Street, Suite 100 Anchorage, AK 99503-2838

**Regional Supervisor:** 

Jeffery Congdon, jeffery.congdon@alaska.gov

**Nome - Region 4 Elections Office** 

(Northern, Western, and S. West, Aleutian Chain)

Email: electionsr4@alaska.gov

**Phone; Toll-free:** (907) 443-5285; (866) 953-8683 **Fax; Toll-free:** (907) 443-2973; (855) 242-2973

Office Location:

Sitnasuak Building

214 Front Street, Suite 130

Nome, AK 99762



Jeremy Johnson, jeremy.johnson@alaska.gov

**Mailing Address:** 

P.O.Box 577

Nome, Alaska 99762-0577

**Regional Supervisor:** 

Shannon "Rena" Greene, rena.greene@alaska.gov

Mat-Su - Region 5 Elections Office

(Matanuska-Susitna Borough)

Email: electionsr5@alaska.gov

**Phone; Toll-free:** (907) 373-8952; (844) 428-8952 **Fax; Toll-free:** (907) 373-8953; (855) 977-3593

Office Location/Mailing Address:

Matanuska-Susitna Elections Office North Fork Professional Building 1700 E Bogard Road, Suite B 102

Wasilla, AK 99654-6565

Regional Supervisor:

Julie Husmann, julie.husmann@alaska.gov

Language Assistance Program!

Email: samantha.mack@alaska.gov

**Phone; Toll-free:** (907) 275-2333; (866) 954-8683 **Fax; Toll-free:** (907) 522-2341; (855) 977-3592

Office Location/Mailing Address:

Language Assistance Program Region 2 Elections Office 2525 Gambell Street, Suite 100 Anchorage, AK 99503-2838

**Elections Language Compliance Manager:** 

Samantha Mack, samantha.mack@alaska.gov

- c. Register to vote in person at:
  - i. Division of Elections Office (see addresses above)
  - ii. A City of Borough Clerk's office
  - iii. A Division of Motor Vehicles office (DMV)
  - iv. A public assistance agency
  - v. A US Armed Forces Voter Assistance Office
  - vi. A Legislative Information Office

#### 2. What are the different ways to cast a ballot?

Once you have registered to vote, updated your voter registration, or confirmed your voter registration address, it is time to decide HOW you will cast your ballot.

There are three different ways that you can safely and easily cast your voted ballot in the August 16th Election:

- 1. Apply for an Absentee Ballot (by-mail or electronic/fax) and return your ballot on or before Election Day
- 2. Vote early at an in-person early voting location
- 3. Vote in-person on Election Day



### How to request and vote with an absentee ballot:

1. Request your by-mail absentee ballot online or download/complete the paper form

By-mail ballots will begin being mailed to voters on **July 19th**. The deadline to apply for an absentee, by-mail ballot is **5pm AKDT on August 6th**.

2. Return your application online or by sending your application to the Absentee Office by mail, fax, or email. This must be done by **August 6th at 5pm AKDT.** 

Address: Absentee and Petition Office

2525 Gambell Street, Suite 105

Anchorage, AK 99503-2838

Toll Free Fax: (855) 677-9943

Office Email: akabsentee@alaska.gov

Office Phone: (907) 270-2700

#### How to cast your absentee ballot:

By-mail absentee ballots will arrive in the mail as a voting packet. Ballots must be postmarked in Anchorage by August 16th, Election Day. If you are voting from outside of Anchorage, please return your ballot before August 16th! To return your ballot via the mail:

- 1. Vote your ballot following the instructions provided
- 2. Place your ballot inside of the provided secrecy sleeve. Then place that secrecy sleeve into the provided return mailing envelope
- 3. SIGN THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR BALLOT
- 4. PROVIDE YOUR VOTER IDENTIFIER (birthday, last 4 digits of your social security number, etc.)
- 5. HAVE A WITNESS SIGN AND DATE YOUR ENVELOPE
- 6. Seal your envelope and apply your postage. Place your ballot in the mail before Election Day (August 16th) or have it postmarked by Election Day.

For more information from the Division of Elections, check out the absentee instructions here: <a href="https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/votingbymail.php">https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/votingbymail.php</a>



Voters can also request to vote absentee online, by electronic transmission/fax. Applications for electronic voting are open from **August 1st to August 15th, at 5pm AKDT.** Online applications can be found here: <a href="https://absenteeballotapplication.alaska.gov/">https://absenteeballotapplication.alaska.gov/</a>

#### How to cast an electronic transmission/fax ballot:

- 1. Log into the online system and vote your ballot
- 2. Download your voted ballot, and print your ballot
- 3. Download and print your Voter Certificate and Identification sheet
- 4. Sign and date your Voter Certificate and Identification sheet and provide at least one identifier
- 5. Return your ballot by mail or by fax by 8pm on August 16th, Election Day

**By mail:** print your secrecy sleeve and return mailing envelope. Fold your ballot inside the secrecy sleeve, and place it inside of your return envelope with the Voter Certificate and Identification sheet. Make sure all three are included inside the return envelope! And have the envelope postmarked on or before August 16th

**By fax:** Follow the instructions provided on how to fax back your ballot. Make sure that you also fax your completed Voter Certificate and Identification Sheet! All three must be received by fax before 8pm on August 16th

For more information from the Division of Elections, check out their website, here: <a href="https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/votingbyonline.php">https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/votingbyonline.php</a>

#### Voting early-in person:

Voters can also vote before Election Day, in person, at an early voting location. **Early in-person voting begins August 1st.** Early, in-person voting locations will be open Monday through Friday, and for limited hours on weekends. Hours will depend on location. Special needs voting and language assistance services are available at all in-person polling locations.

For the initial list of early in-person voting locations, check out the Division of Elections website, here: <a href="https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/avolocationsp.php">https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/avolocationsp.php</a>

Additional locations will be added soon!



### Voting in-person on Election Day:

In-person polling locations will be open from 7am to 8pm on August 16th, Election Day. Please make sure to check if your polling location has changed due to the 2020 Census. Polling locations can be checked online here: https://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov/

Special needs voting and language assistance services are available at all in-person polling locations. Additional information about voting in-person on Election Day can be found on the Division of Elections' website, here:

https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/votingatthepollsonelectionday.php

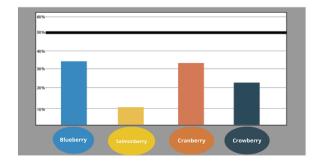
#### **Ranked-Choice Voting:**

On the back of the August 16th ballot will be Alaska's first ranked-choice voting election: the Special General Election to fill the late Congressman Young's seat until his term ends in January of 2023. The three candidates remaining in this race, former Governor Sarah Palin, Nick Begich, and Mary Peltola (Yup'ik), will be listed for this election. Voters will decide which candidate they will choose as their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice for Congressman Young's replacement.

## What is ranked-choice voting?

Ranked-choice voting is a voting system where a voter ranks the candidates running for office from their first choice (favorite) to their last choice (least favorite). Votes are counted like any other election - each voter has one vote, and 100% of that vote will go toward their first choice candidate.

However, if no candidate secures over 50+1% of the vote during the initial round of counting, a second round of counting will occur. The candidate with the least amount of votes from round 1 will be eliminated, and voters who chose that person will have their vote go towards their second choice candidate instead. This process is repeated until one candidate has won the majority.







Ranked-choice voting may seem like a confusing system, but the truth is that we rank things in our daily lives all of the time!

**Example**: Let's say I want to make akutaq (Inuit ice cream). I open up my freezer to select what berry I would like to use. My first choice would be salmonberries, because I think they taste the best. However there's a chance that I don't have enough left. In that case, I would also be happy with blueberry akutaq, so I would choose them second. If I was out of salmonberries and blueberries, I would look for Cranberries third, because cranberry Akutaq is also good.

If choosing a berry was a ranked-choice election, here is what my ballot would look like based on my ranking:

RANKED CHOICE VOTING								
INSTRUCTIONS: VOTE BY RANKING CANDIDATE OF YOUR CHOICE  Rank as many or as few candidates as you like  Completely fill in nomore than one oval for each candidate or column  For your list choice, fill in the oval in the 1st choice column  For your 2nd choice, fill in the oval in the 3rd choice column  For your 3rd choice, fill in the oval in the 3rd choice column  If you make a mistikacy ou can ask for a new ballot.								
Favorite berry to harvest								
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice			
Blueberry	0		0	0	0			
Cranberry	0	0		0	0			
Crowberry	0	0	0		0			
Salmonberry		0	0	0	0			
Write-In:	0	0	0	0	0			

# Here are some additional resources to learn about ranked-choice voting and the August 16th Election:

- 1. Ranked-choice voting training from NPACF
  <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vllveAToD3rYI9XinwSMuE-M\_KpsOGw3/view?usp=sh">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vllveAToD3rYI9XinwSMuE-M\_KpsOGw3/view?usp=sh</a>
  <a href="mailto:aring">aring</a>
- Ranked-choice voting training slide deck
   <a href="https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jq4OnzEV2PGXPNHOXznID73hZ2hEH69HjUiOgl1Zd\_Y/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1jq4OnzEV2PGXPNHOXznID73hZ2hEH69HjUiOgl1Zd\_Y/edit?usp=sharing</a>
- 3. Practice ranked-choice voting election with explanation after you cast your vote! https://app.rankedvote.co/elections/21016/Agutak/21600/vote
- 4. Divisions of Elections Ranked-choice voting webpage <a href="https://www.elections.alaska.gov/RCV.php">https://www.elections.alaska.gov/RCV.php</a>
- 5. The Sightline Institute Ranked-choice voting resource page <a href="https://www.sightline.org/introduction-to-ranked-choice-voting/">https://www.sightline.org/introduction-to-ranked-choice-voting/</a>



#### Frequently Asked Questions about Ranked-Choice Voting:

1. Does my vote get split among all of the candidates that I rank?

No! Your vote stays whole (one voter = one vote) during the entire counting process. 100% of a voter's vote will go toward their 1st choice candidate. A person's vote will only be fully transferred (again, one voter = one vote) to their second choice candidate if their first choice candidate is eliminated.

2. If my first-choice candidate gets eliminated, does this mean my vote won't count?

Not at all! By ranking a 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place candidate, voters are ensuring that they still have a vote even if their 1st choice is eliminated. This allows a voters' voice to continue to be heard during all possible rounds of vote counting.

3. What if I only want to vote for one candidate?

Voters are still able to choose only one candidate. However if voters only choose one candidate, and that candidate is eliminated, their vote will end, and they will not have a vote in the following rounds of counting.

4. Will I have to vote more than once?

Voters will only have to vote one time on the August 16th Ballot (front and back). On this ballot, they will rank all of the candidates at once.

5. Does it hurt my first choice candidate to rank 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choice candidates on my ballot?

Not at all! 100% of your vote will go toward your first choice candidate. Your vote will only be redistributed to your second choice candidate if your first choice candidate is eliminated.

### Have more questions about ranked-choice voting?

1. Reach out to the Native Peoples Action Community Fund Team

NPA Facebook Page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/nativepeoplesaction">https://www.facebook.com/nativepeoplesaction</a>

NPA Website: <a href="https://nativepeoplesaction.org/contact-us/">https://nativepeoplesaction.org/contact-us/</a>

Contact your local Divisions of Elections Office:

https://www.elections.alaska.gov/Core/contactusandsitemap.php



## Why is voting important?

Each day, we all work to protect traditional ways of life whether we realize it or not. This work unfolds through the way we care for our children, in the way we prepare our meals, in the way we enjoy the changing of seasons, and in the way that we seek to be present for our communities. It is the belief of NPA/CF that our communities hold the knowledge of how to create a world where our lands and waters and people are healthy and safe. It is our responsibility to share this knowledge - All of us must use our voices to uplift our cultures, traditions, and ways of life, and identify and enact better solutions to policies and systems that threaten and harm our ways of life. **This means showing up to vote!** Whether at the voting booth, or through the mail for this Special Election. Imagine how much different life in Alaska could be if we had 100% of our people voting.

#### **Additional Helpful Links:**

Division of Elections - main information page

Information on becoming an election worker: https://www.elections.alaska.gov/election-workers

Division of Elections - Elections Calendar

Division of Elections - <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u>

Division of Elections - Early in-person voting locations

Division of Elections - Regional Elections Offices



### **Graphics to Share:**

## JULY 17

## DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE & UPDATE YOUR VOTING ADDRESS

YOU CAN CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION ONLINE THROUGH THE DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

REGISTER OR UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION ONLINE, IN PERSON, OR BY MAIL!

PRIMARY ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER
#GOTNV #OURVOTEOURVOICE #AKVOTES



## AUGUST 1

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING, ELECTRONIC
VOTING AND SPECIAL NEEDS VOTING
BEGINS FOR PRIMARY ELECTION

CHECK OUT YOUR LOCAL EARLY VOTING LOCATION, OR APPLY TO VOTE ELECTRONICALLY ONLINE

PRIMARY ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER
#GOTNV #OURVOTEOURVOICE #AKVOTES



## AUGUST 6

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ABSENTEE
BY-MAIL BALLOT APPLICATIONS. GET
YOUR ABSENTEE APPLICATIONS IN TO
VOTE EASILY FROM HOME!

APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT ONLINE, BY MAIL, OR IN PERSON TO HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD

PRIMARY ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER
#GOTNV #OURVOTEOURVOICE #AKVOTES



## AUGUST 15

DEADLINE TO REQUEST AN ELECTRONIC BALLOT APPLICATION – 5PM AKDT

VOTE SAFELY FROM HOME BY APPLYING FOR & SUBMITTING AN ELECTRONIC BALLOT APPLICATION!

WWW.ELECTIONS.ALASKA.GOV/CORE/VOTINGBYFAX.PHP

PRIMARY ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER #GOTNV #OURVOTEOURVOICE #AKVOTES





## AUGUST 16

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
POLLS OPEN
FROM 7AM-8PM

PRIMARY ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER
#GOTNV #OURVOTEOURVOICE #AKVOTES



## AUGUST 16

ELECTION DAY!
ALL BALLOTS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY 8PM

BY-MAIL BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY THIS DATE - GET THEM IN EARLY!

PRIMARY ELECTION DATES TO REMEMBER
#GOTNV #OURVOTEOURVOICE #AKVOTES



