



TOWN OF STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Office of Election Officials

Town Clerk · Town Moderator · Supervisors of the Checklist

TO: Registered Voters, Town of Stratham

FROM: Stratham Election Officials

RE: State Primary Election — September 8, 2026

Coming in September — State Primary Election

The State Primary election is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026. Voters who wish to participate are encouraged to review the information below.

- **June 2, 2026:** Deadline for registered voters to change party affiliation. (*RSA 654:34, IV; RSA 654:34-a*)
 - Party registration changes may be made at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours or at the Supervisors of the Checklist-mandated sessions. See the schedule below.
-

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is a State Primary election?

The State Primary is the election in which the two major political parties each select their nominees to appear on the general election ballot. Democrats and Republicans will choose their respective candidates for the following offices: United States Senate, United States Congress, Governor, Governor's Council, State Senate, State Representatives, and County officials. The nominees selected in the State Primary will appear on the **November 3, 2026, General Election** ballot.

Q: What are the official political parties in New Hampshire?

At this time, the officially recognized political parties in the State of New Hampshire are the **Democratic Party** and the **Republican Party**. Under New Hampshire law, a political organization qualifies as an official party if it received at least 4 percent of the total votes cast for governor or United States Senate in the preceding general election. (*RSA 652:11*)

Q: Who is allowed to vote in the State Primary?

Registered Democrats may vote using a Democratic ballot. **Registered Republicans** may vote using a Republican ballot. Registered **undeclared voters** may select either a Democratic or a Republican ballot on Primary Election Day.

Please note: when an undeclared voter accepts a party's ballot, they are **automatically registered as a member of that party**. Undeclared voters who do not wish to remain registered with that party may **switch back to undeclared status before leaving the polling place** on Election Day by completing a card or signing a list provided by the Supervisors of the Checklist. (*RSA 654:34, V*)

Voters registered with any other affiliation or party not recognized under RSA 652:11 are not eligible to vote in either major party's primary.

Q: I cannot remember how I am registered. How do I find out?

Your party registration may be verified through the New Hampshire Secretary of State's online voter portal:

1. Visit: <https://app.sos.nh.gov/Public/PartyInfo.aspx>
2. Enter your First Name, Last Name, and Date of Birth.
3. Enter the security code displayed on the screen, then click **SEARCH**.
4. The results page will confirm your registration status and party affiliation.

You may also contact the Stratham Town Clerk's office directly to verify your registration status.

Q: If I am a registered Democrat, may I vote in the Republican primary? Or vice versa?

No. Registered Democrats may only vote in the Democratic primary. Registered Republicans may only vote in the Republican primary. However, registered voters who wish to change their party affiliation prior to the primary may do so before the June 2, 2026, deadline — see below for available sessions. Only registered **undeclared voters** may choose which party's primary ballot to use on Election Day.

Q: I wish to change my party registration. How do I do so?

Party registration changes must be submitted to the Town Clerk or Supervisors of the Checklist no later than the end of the day **June 2, 2026**. No party affiliation changes are permitted between the first Wednesday in June (June 3, 2026) and the day before the State Primary (September 7, 2026). *(RSA 654:34, IV; RSA 654:34-a)*

Q: When and where may I change my party registration?

Party registration changes may be made at the **Stratham Town Clerk's office during regular business hours** — no appointment is required. *(RSA 654:34-a)*

In addition, the Supervisors of the Checklist will hold the following statutorily required sessions:

Supervisors of the Checklist — Mandated Sessions: *(RSA 654:32)*

- **May 2, 2026** (Saturday), 9:00–9:30 a.m. — Municipal Center
- **June 2, 2026** (Tuesday), 7:00–7:30 p.m. — Municipal Center

At these sessions, party registration changes, additions, and corrections to the checklist may be made. The June 2 session is the **final opportunity** to change party registration before the blackout period begins.

Q: What identification is required to change my party registration?

Please bring a valid photo identification, preferably your Driver's License.

Q: I am registered as undeclared. What happens if I choose a party ballot on Primary Election Day?

When an undeclared voter selects a party's ballot at the primary, they are **automatically registered as a member of that party**. However, before leaving the polling place on Election Day, undeclared voters may sign a list when exiting the polls to **return to undeclared status**. The Supervisors of the Checklist will make this list available at the polling place for this purpose. *(RSA 654:34, V)*

Q: I am a registered Democrat or Republican. Can I change my party registration on Primary Election Day?

No. Voters who are already registered as members of a party **may not change their registration on Election Day**. The party change blackout period runs from the first Wednesday in June (June 3, 2026) through the day before the primary (September 7, 2026). Party changes must be completed by **June 2, 2026**. *(RSA 654:34, IV)*

Q: I am not currently registered to vote. How do I register?

New voter registrations will be accepted during the **May 2 and June 2** sessions with the Supervisors of the Checklist. Registration is also available through the Town Clerk's office. *(RSA 654:8)*

Voters may also register at the polls on Primary Election Day, though registering in advance is encouraged to reduce wait times. *(RSA 654:7-a)*

New voter registration requires documentary proof of: (1) **United States citizenship**, (2) **age** (18 years or older on Election Day), (3) **domicile** in Stratham, and (4) **identity**.

See the following questions for acceptable documentation. *(RSA 654:12; HB 1569, eff. Nov. 2024)*

Q: What qualifies as proof of citizenship for voter registration?

To register to vote in New Hampshire, applicants must provide **documentary proof** of United States citizenship. Acceptable documents include:

- **U.S. birth certificate**
- **U.S. passport or passport card**
- **Naturalization papers** (for naturalized citizens)
- Other proof of citizenship issued by the United States Department of State

Important — name must match: If your name has legally changed (e.g., through marriage, divorce, adoption, or court order) and your citizenship document reflects a prior name, you must also present **proof of the legal name change** showing both your prior name as it appears on the citizenship document and your current legal name as it appears on the voter registration application. A marriage certificate, divorce decree, adoption papers, or court order approving your name change will typically satisfy this requirement.

Note: A New Hampshire Real ID-compliant driver's license is **not** acceptable as proof of U.S. citizenship.

If you have questions about whether your documentation qualifies, please contact the Town Clerk's office prior to your registration session. *(RSA 654:12, I(a); HB 1569, eff. November 2024)*

Q: What qualifies as proof of domicile for voter registration?

Acceptable documentation may include, but is not limited to:

- A New Hampshire driver's license or state-issued identification card listing your current address
- A current utility bill, bank statement, or government document showing your name and address
- Evidence of renting or leasing a residence at that address
- Evidence of purchasing a residence at that address
- Enrollment of a dependent child in a local public school serving that address

If you have questions about whether your documentation qualifies, please contact the Town Clerk's office prior to your registration session. (RSA 654:1; RSA 654:7; RSA 654:12)

Q: What are the penalties for providing false information when registering or voting?

Under New Hampshire law, knowingly or purposely providing false information when registering to vote or voting is a **Class A misdemeanor**, with a maximum sentence of imprisonment not to exceed one year and a fine not to exceed \$2,000. (RSA 659:34)

APPLICABLE NEW HAMPSHIRE STATUTES

Applicable New Hampshire Statutes	
RSA 652:11	<i>Definition of official political party (must receive at least 4% of votes cast for governor or U.S. Senate in the preceding general election)</i>
RSA 654:7	<i>Voter registration form and requirements</i>
RSA 654:7-a	<i>Election Day registration at the polling place</i>
RSA 654:12	<i>Determining qualifications of applicant; documentary proof of citizenship, age, domicile, and identity required; affidavits no longer accepted (HB 1569, eff. Nov. 2024)</i>
RSA 654:15	<i>Party registration for voters newly added to the checklist</i>
RSA 654:32	<i>Supervisors of the Checklist session for party registration changes (Tuesday before the first Wednesday in June, 7:00–7:30 p.m.)</i>
RSA 654:34, IV	<i>Blackout period: no party affiliation changes from the first Wednesday in June through the day before the state primary</i>
RSA 654:34, V	<i>Undeclared voters who choose a party ballot in the primary may return to undeclared status before leaving the polling place</i>
RSA 654:34-a	<i>Application to the Town or City Clerk for party affiliation changes</i>
RSA 654:8	<i>Application to supervisors for voter registration; local deadlines vary by community</i>

This notice is issued by the Stratham Election Officials in accordance with applicable New Hampshire statutes. Voters with questions are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk's office. This document does not constitute legal advice.