



Official Republican Party of Virginia Convention Voting Instructions

The 2021 Republican Party of Virginia Statewide Convention will use a voting method called Ranked Choice Voting to nominate our candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General. Every voter gets a vote in each round. Every voter has only 1 vote in each round of voting, but if your highest ranked choice is eliminated, in the next round your next highest choice will receive your vote.

Mark only 1 candidate per column, 1 candidate per row.

Step 1

Circle your 1st choice candidate for Governor:

GOVERNOR (Rank up to 7 candidates)	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice
William H. Harrison	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Thomas Jefferson	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
James Madison	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
James Monroe	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Zachary Taylor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
John Tyler	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
George Washington	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Step 2

Rank the other candidates according to your preference: 2nd, 3rd and so on. Mark a different candidate for each choice.

GOVERNOR (Rank up to 7 candidates)	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice
William H. Harrison	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Thomas Jefferson	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
James Madison	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
James Monroe	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Zachary Taylor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
John Tyler	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
George Washington	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Step 3

Repeat this process for the Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General Nominations. Return your ballot when it is completed.

Once your ballot has been submitted, you are free to depart the polling site. Your ballot will be securely stored and transported to Richmond for a hand count with results announced only after the manual tabulation is complete.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is this voting method being used?

Under the rules of the Republican Party of Virginia and Robert's Rules of Order, when a convention is chosen as the means of nomination, ranked choice voting is a preferred method when in-person voting is not possible.

How does this method work?

Voters rank the candidates according to their preferences. When ballots are counted, if no single candidate earns more than 50% of the total vote statewide (after giving weight to each delegation's relative voting strength), the candidate with the fewest first choice preferences is eliminated. For the next round, the ballots favoring the eliminated candidate are then redistributed to the next highest ranked candidate on each ballot. This process is repeated until a candidate in each contest earns a simple majority of the votes.

Do I have to rank all of the candidates?

No. Your ballot is counted as long as the candidates you have ranked have not been eliminated in subsequent rounds.

What if I give all of my preferences to just one candidate? Will my ballot still be counted?

Yes. Your ballot will be counted as long as that candidate still qualifies for subsequent rounds of counting. If that candidate is eliminated during counting, your ballot will no longer be counted because there are no remaining preferences. This is similar to leaving an in-person convention after the first round of voting.

Is there a strategy for ranking candidates?

No. You should mark your preferences honestly. As long as your first choice remains a viable candidate in each round of counting, your vote goes to him or her. Put another way, **your highest ranked choice will be voted every round until that candidate wins or is eliminated.** Only if your first choice fails to proceed to a subsequent round of counting will your second-choice preference be considered. This is similar to an in-person convention where a given candidate does not advance to a second round, in which case that candidate's supporters will then choose from among the remaining candidates.