



**NEW MEXICO ASIAN FAMILY CENTER (NMAFC)
2020 General Elections Voter and Ballot Guide**



Time-off to Vote: Employers must grant employees up to two hours paid leave to vote, unless polls are open two hours before or three hours after regular working shift. The employer may designate the hours to be taken, but it may not include lunch or rest hours.



Voters with language assistance need: Any person of your choice may assist you if you need language assistance, except your employer, an agent of the employer, an officer or agent of your union, or a candidate whose name is on the ballot.

Voters with disabilities: You may request assistance in voting at the polls if you are blind, physically disabled, unable to read or write or a member of a language minority.

The Intimate Partner Violence Survivor Suffrage Act was created to protect qualified electors who are certified participants in the Confidential Substitute Address Program. This program enables participants of the confidential substitute address program to partake in NM elections without having their address unnecessarily comprised. The vote would be cast through a mailed absentee ballot. A random identifier and verification code will be issued prior to an election. The identifier will serve in the place of the required voter identification and the verification code will be used instead of the voter's signature.

For a **specific sample ballot**, go to <https://voterportal.servis.sos.state.nm.us/WhereToVote.aspx>.

For **2020 General Election Factsheets** in English and 11 Asian languages, visit <https://advancingjustice-aajc.org/election2020>.

Voter Hotline provides bilingual assistance on voting and the elections in English and 8 Asian languages: 1-888-API-VOTE (1-888-274-8683) or <https://advancingjustice-aajc.org/hotline>.



Federal Elected Positions

United States President: heads the executive branch of the federal government. Serves for four years with a two-term maximum.

- Has the power to veto (reject) bills passed by Congress; Congress can overturn a veto with a two-thirds majority vote.
- Serves as the Commander-in Chief of the armed forces.
- Appoints federal judges and makes lifetime appointments to the Supreme Court.
- Proposes the federal budget for approval by Congress.

United States House of Representatives: There are 435 members of the US House of Representatives. All seats in the House are up for re-election every two years. The number of

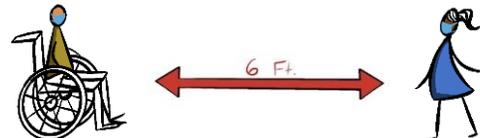


representatives from each state is based on population. Currently New Mexico has three representatives.

- Makes and passes federal laws.
- Decides amount of money spent on federal programs in yearly budget.
- Determines federal tax guidelines.
- Can propose changes to the Constitution.
- Has the power to declare war.

United States Senate: There are 100 members of the US Senate, each serving a six-year term. Each state elects 2 senators.

- Approves the president's appointments to important positions, including the US Supreme Court and all federal courts, and the Cabinet (advises the president).
- Makes and passes federal laws.
- Decides amount of money that will be spent on federal programs in yearly budget.
- Determines federal tax guidelines.
- Can propose changes to the Constitution.
- Power to declare war.



New Mexico Statewide Elected Positions

New Mexico Public Regulation Commission: Regulates utilities, telecommunications, insurance, and transportation industry. The state is divided into five districts. Each district elects one commissioner every four years and they are elected in staggered terms.

- Regulates natural gas, electric, telephone, insurance, transportation, water, and sewer companies in New Mexico.
- Regulates and ensures safe transport of oil and gas through NM pipelines.

New Mexico State Senate: The state is divided into 42 State Senate districts and each district elects one senator. Senate seats are elected during presidential election years.

- Enacts state laws in areas such as state taxes, education, childcare, and conservation of natural resources.
- Shares budget-making responsibilities with the governor.
- With a three-fifths vote, can compel the governor to open a special session for state emergencies.

New Mexico House of Representatives: There are 70 State House districts. Each district elects one representative. All State House seats are up for election every two years.

- Enacts state laws in areas such as state taxes, education, childcare, and conservation of natural resources.
- Shares budget-making responsibilities with the governor.
- With a three-fifths vote, can compel the governor to open a special session for state emergencies.



New Mexico Justice of Supreme Court: The highest court and court of last resort in the state of New Mexico with five justices, who serve eight-year terms.

- Oversees the entire NM Judiciary.
- Responsible for the appointment & oversight of over 40 committees, boards, & commissions.
- Responsible for the admission and regulation of attorneys and judges.

New Mexico Justice for the Court of Appeals: has jurisdiction over the entire state of NM and has ten judges who serve eight-year term. Hears appeals from all the district courts, magistrates, and municipal courts (including the metropolitan court).

New Mexico Constitutional Amendment and Bond Questions

- **Constitutional Amendment 1:** Proposing to Amend the Constitution of New Mexico to provide that the Public Regulation Commission consist of three members appointed by the Governor from a list of professionally qualified nominees submitted to the Governor by a nominating committee as provided by law and that the commission is required to regulate public utilities and may be required to regulate other public service companies.
- **Constitutional Amendment 2:** Proposing to amend article 20, section 3 of the Constitution of New Mexico to permit the adjustment by law of terms by non-statewide elected officers and to standardize the date an officer begins to serve.
- **Bond A:** Authorizing the sale and issuance of \$33.3 million in bonds for senior citizen facilities improvements construction and equipment acquisition.
- **Bond B:** Authorizing the sale and issuance of \$9.7 million in bonds for public library improvements.
- **Bond C:** Authorizing the sale and issuance of \$156.3 million in bonds for public higher education institutions, special public schools, and native tribal schools capital improvement and acquisition.

Local Elected Positions



The following offices are decided by voters in a specific district, area, or city

County Commission: Three or five elected members who together head county government. Commissioners are elected by residents in specific districts every four years and at least one seat is up for election every two years.

- Approves annual county budget.
- Oversees county provision of metropolitan services like county health clinics, public housing, and libraries.
- Appoints individuals to fill vacancies within the New Mexico State Legislature.

District Attorney: The state is divided into 13 judicial districts. District Attorneys are elected every four years by members of the district.



- Screens, files, and prosecutes all criminal cases and some civil cases.
- Has discretion about which cases to pursue and how to pursue them.
- Providing victim advocacy services to victims of crimes.

County Clerk: is elected every four years

- Serves as chief election officer responsible for the administration of election in the county.
- Recorder of the county, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.
- Serves as the clerk of the probate court.
- Responsible for miscellaneous duties including those of notary public, administration of oaths, certification of acknowledgements, declarations, instruments and protests.

County Treasurer: Serves as the state's accountant, managing and investing state money, and is elected every four years.

- Serves as New Mexico's banker.
- Invests the state's short-term funds.
- Sits on boards and commissions, including the State Investment Council, which manages the Land Grant Permanent Fund.

