

Tulsa World - What's on the Nov. 5 election ballot in the Tulsa area

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Now is the time for Oklahomans to make sure they can vote and to make sure they know what they'll be voting on. Find out how to register to vote, view sample ballots, find your precinct and see upcoming election dates.

With the Nov. 5 general election just 30 days away, now is the time for Oklahomans to make sure they can vote and to make sure they know what they'll be voting on.

The U.S. presidency, of course, will be at the top of the ballot. Perhaps of more local immediacy, though, will be the election of Tulsa mayor, three city councilors, a county commissioner, a county clerk and several area legislators.

Statewide, Oklahomans will elect a new corporation commissioner, vote on two state questions and decide whether to retain three state Supreme Court justices, three court of criminal appeals justices and six court of civil appeals judges. But first, Oklahomans have to make sure they're registered.

Friday is the deadline to register for the Nov. 5 election. That can be done at local election boards or, for those with an Oklahoma driver's license and a signature on file with *Service Oklahoma*, online at okvoterportal.okelections.gov.

Registration by mail is also available, but given the short turnaround time, online or in person is recommended at this juncture.

Even those who believe they're registered are encouraged to check their status on the Oklahoma Voter Portal, just to be sure they haven't unknowingly or inadvertently been dropped from the rolls.

In the past two years, the State Election Board has deleted 240,122 registered voters from the rolls, 83,700 of whom were purged because of voter inactivity.

Oklahoma voters might be surprised to find five presidential candidates on their ballots. In addition to Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Kamala Harris will be Libertarian Chase Oliver and independents Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Chris Garry.

Kennedy is no longer campaigning, while Oklahoma is reportedly the only state in which Garry will appear on the ballot.

The two state questions are state constitutional amendments referred to the people by the Legislature. Explanations of both are provided below.

Unlike most states, Oklahoma does not directly elect appellate judges. Instead, vacancies are filled through a nomination process involving an independent commission, the governor and the state Senate. Judges then come up for a retention vote on a regular cycle.

An organized campaign has been launched to not retain the three state supreme court justices on this year's ballot, apparently on the grounds that they were appointed by Democratic governors.

Dates to know this election year

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5. The last day to register to vote in the election is Friday, Oct. 11. The deadline to request a mail-in absentee ballot is Monday, Oct. 21. Early in-person voting is Oct. 30-31 and Nov. 1 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The hours for Saturday, Nov. 2, are 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The locations for early voting are at the current Tulsa County Election Board, 555 N. Denver Ave., and the future Tulsa County Election Board, 12000 Skelly Drive.

Here is an overview of what is on the ballot depending on where you live. Names are in ballot order.

Statewide races

- President: Chase Oliver (Libertarian), Donald J. Trump (Republican), Kamala D. Harris (Democrat), Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (independent), Chris Garryty (independent)
- Corporation Commissioner: Chad Williams (Libertarian), J. Brian Bingman (Republican), Harold Spradling (Democrat)
- Oklahoma Supreme Court retention: Noma D. Gurich, Yvonne Kauger, James E. Edmondson
- Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals retention: William J. Musseman, Scott Rowland, David B. Lewis
- Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals retention: James R. Huber, Timothy J. Downing, Thomas E. Prince, Robert "Bobby" Bell, E. Bay Mitchell III, Brian Jack Goree
- State Question 833: A proposed constitutional amendment to allow creation of special taxing districts to finance infrastructure, primarily in residential housing development
- State Question 834: Reiterates current law that only citizens of the United States may vote in Oklahoma

Congressional

- CD 1: Incumbent Kevin Hern (Republican), Dennis Baker (Democrat), Mark David Garcia Sanders (independent)
- CD 2: Incumbent Josh Brecheen (Republican), Brandon Wade (Democrat), Ronnie Hopkins (independent)
- CD 4: Incumbent Tom Cole (Republican), Mary Brannon (Democrat), James Stacy (independent)
- CD 5: Incumbent Stephanie Bice (Republican), Madison Horn (Democrat)
- Tulsa County
- Commission District 2: Lonnie Sims (Republican), Sarah Gray (Democrat)
- Clerk: Incumbent Michael Brandon Willis (Republican), Don Nuam (Democrat)
- City of Tulsa (nonpartisan)
- Mayor: Monroe Nichols, Karen Keith

- City Council District 2: Anthony Archie, Stephanie Reisdorph
- City Council District 7: Incumbent Lori Decter Wright, Eddie Huff
- City Council District 9: Carol Bush, incumbent Jayme Fowler

Legislative

There are 43 legislative races statewide. About a dozen are in the Tulsa area:

- Senate District 3 (Adair County line west to Tulsa County line): Republican Julie McIntosh, independent Margaret Cook. McIntosh defeated incumbent Blake Stephens in the primary.
- Senate District 25 (SE Tulsa and Tulsa County, including Bixby): Republican Brian Guthrie, Democrat Karen Gaddis
- Senate District (SW Broken Arrow, east Tulsa): Republican Christie Gillespie, Democrat Bob Willis
- Senate District 35 (midtown Tulsa): Democratic Incumbent Jo Anna Dossett, Republican Dean Martin
- Senate District (west Tulsa, west Jenks, most of Sand Springs, a little of Tulsa): Republican Aaron Reinhart, independent Andrew Nutter. Reinhardt defeated incumbent Cody Rogers in the primary.
- Senate District 39 (south Tulsa): Republican incumbent Dave Rader, Democrat Melissa Bryce
- House District 12 (most of Wagoner County, but not Wagoner, southeast Broken Arrow): Republican Mark Chapman, Democrat Crystal LaGrone
- House District 16 (most of Okmulgee County, west edge of Muskogee County, southeast Tulsa County): Republican incumbent Scott Fetgatter, Democrat Rosie Lynch
- House District 66 (Sand Springs, Skiatook, southwest Osage County): Republican incumbent Clay Staires, Libertarian Kenneth Blevins
- House District 70 (midtown Tulsa): Democratic incumbent Suzanne Schreiber, Republican Bradley Banks
- House District 74 (Owasso): Republican Mark Vancuren, independent Aaron Brent
- House District 79 (SE Tulsa): Democratic incumbent Melissa Provenzano, Republican Paul Hassink
- House District 98 (NE Broken Arrow, far east Tulsa): Republican Gabe Woolley, Democrat Cathy Smythe

How to register

Voter registration in Oklahoma is available online, in person or by mail. Special accommodations are available for military personnel and citizens living overseas. Go to oklahoma.gov/elections or contact a county election board for details. Deadline to register is 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11.