Party Affiliation or Changing Party Affiliation Fact Sheet
Primary Election, May 20, 2014

Beginning in 2011, a State law went into effect that allows a voter to participate only in the primary election of the political party for which he or she is registered, unless a party notified the Secretary of State in writing that the political party elects to allow additional voters (i.e., unaffiliated voters and/or voters registered with another party) to participate in that party's primary election. (See Idaho Code 34-904A.)

For the 2014 Primary Election

- Registered Republicans may vote the Republican Primary Election Ballot along with the Non-Partisan ballot.

- Registered Democrats, Republicans, Constitution Party, or Libertarian Party members, and voters not affiliated with any party (unaffiliated voters) may vote the Democratic Ballot along with the Non-Partisan Ballot.

Unaffiliated Voters (voters currently registered with no party preference)

An "unaffiliated" voter may select a political party affiliation up to and including Election Day.

- Before Election Day the unaffiliated elector may file a signed form with the county clerk.
- On Election Day an unaffiliated elector may affiliate with a party when signing the poll book.
- The absentee ballot request form can also be used for an unaffiliated voter to select a party.

The voter will be given the appropriate ballot for the voter's party affiliation and ballot choice. The party choice will be recorded in the statewide voter registration system with the voting history.

Changing Party Affiliation

March 14, 2014 is the last day for an elector currently registered with a party to change his or her party affiliation or become "unaffiliated." This can be done by filing the Idaho Political Party Affiliation Declaration Form with the County Clerk for the Primary Election.

Election Day Registration (voter not currently registered to vote)

Electors who register to vote on Election Day may select a political party preference when they register by marking their choice on the Idaho Voter Registration Form

Absentee Ballot Requests and Party Affiliation

- An unaffiliated elector may affiliate with a party on the Application for an Absentee Ballot request form. The elector's party preference will be recorded in the statewide voter registration system with the voter history.

- An elector that is affiliated with a political party may not change his or her party affiliation on the Application for an Absentee Ballot request form but must file the Idaho Political Party Affiliation Declaration Form with the County Clerk prior to March 14, 2014.

- Electors who request an absentee ballot will receive the appropriate ballot based on their party affiliation.