## AAP Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellowship Trainees Advocacy Campaign

**Attention pediatricians!** Presidential primary season has arrived and the nation’s children and your profession need you to vote. For more information on how to register to vote, go to [vote411.org](http://vote411.org) or contact your local board of elections.

### Full Presidential Primary/Caucus Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>(R) First Day of Primaries</th>
<th>(D) First Day of Primaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>(R) March 13</td>
<td>(D) March 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>(R) March 6</td>
<td>(D) April 9-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>(R) February 28</td>
<td>(D) March 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>(R) May 22</td>
<td>(D) May 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>(R) June 5</td>
<td>(D) June 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>(R) February 7</td>
<td>(D) March 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>(R) April 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
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<td>(D) April 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>(R) January 31</td>
<td>(D) May 5</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Idaho</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
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<td>(R) March 10</td>
<td>(D) April 14</td>
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<td>Kentucky</td>
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<td>(D) May 22</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
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<td>(D) March 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
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<td>(D) June 5</td>
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<td>Ohio</td>
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<td>Oregon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
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<td>(D) June 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>(R) March 6</td>
<td>(D) March 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>(R) April 3</td>
<td>(D) April 3</td>
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<td>Utah</td>
<td>(R) June 26</td>
<td>(D) March 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>(R) March 6</td>
<td>(D) March 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>(R) March 6</td>
<td>(D) canceled¹</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>(R) March 3</td>
<td>(D) April 15</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>(R) May 8</td>
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<td>Wisconsin</td>
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<td>(D) April 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>(R) March 6-10</td>
<td>(D) April 14</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** (D) Democrat; (R) Republican. Shaded boxes represent caucuses, non-shaded are primaries.

¹ Texas primaries are likely to be delayed until May 29 because of current redistricting litigation.

² Only President Obama qualified to run and was declared the winner.

Primaries and caucuses are an opportunity to become familiar with each party’s presidential candidates and their positions. Some states only hold primaries, some only hold caucuses, and others use a combination. Primaries are run by state and local governments, while caucuses are private events run by the political parties. Primaries and caucuses are staggered between January and June before the general election in November.

A state's primary or caucus is typically an indirect election: instead of voters selecting a particular person running for President, it determines how many delegates each party’s national convention will receive from their state. These delegates then select their party's presidential nominee, and each party determines how many delegates each state receives. Along with delegates chosen during the primaries and caucuses, state delegations to both the Democratic and Republican conventions also include “unpledged” delegates, who are usually current and former elected officeholders and party leaders and can vote for whomever they want. Rules vary state to state on the allocation of pledged and unpledged delegates.

**SOMSRFT Advocacy Campaign:**
[www2.aap.org/sections/ypn/advocacy/voteforkids.html](http://www2.aap.org/sections/ypn/advocacy/voteforkids.html)

State and Local Elections: Connect with your AAP Chapter ([www2.aap.org/member/chapters/chaplist.cfm](http://www2.aap.org/member/chapters/chaplist.cfm)) to get ongoing alerts and information on state-level child health advocacy and campaign/election activity.

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