

# What is Ranked Choice Voting?

Ranked Choice Voting is the ranking of candidates by preference. It is often used for single-winner elected positions. Voters select candidates in their preferred order, instead of simply voting against the candidate with whom the voter disagrees. In Salt Lake City, voters will be able to rank up to 10 candidates.

**Want to see how it works? Check out this video:**



## Contact Us

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**Election Day  
November 2, 2021**

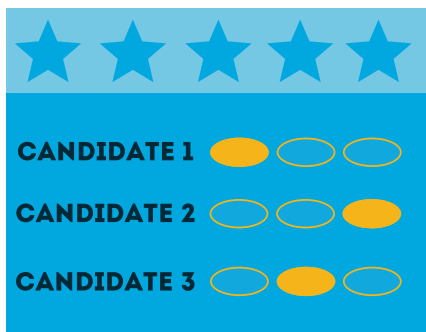
**RANKED  
CHOICE  
VOTING**

**Salt Lake City  
Recorder's Office**

# How does RCV work?

Ranked Choice Voting sorts the preferred candidates by number of votes within the same round. If everyone's round one first choices are counted and no one reaches above the 50% threshold, then the candidate with the least first choice votes is eliminated. Voters who voted for that candidate as their first choice will have their vote transferred to their second choice. Then the votes as a whole will be re-calculated to see if those second-choice votes becoming first choice votes adjusts the rankings. The tabulation rounds continue until a candidate receives over the 50% threshold, then that candidate will be considered the winner.

Ballots are printed with the candidates' names listed and have up to 10 ranking positions; voters rank the candidates by filling in the bubble in the appropriate column with the preferred ranking.



You can view samples of RCV ballots provided by the Salt Lake County Clerk's Office on [www.slc.gov/rcv](http://www.slc.gov/rcv)

# Why Ranked Choice Voting?

Ranked Choice Voting has been promoted as an option providing an equitable and fiscally responsible approach by voters, election administrators and candidates because the ranking provides a broader option for the voter to select from as their designated representative. Additionally, Ranked Choice Voting often saves municipalities money due to no Primary Election.

For candidates and voters, during an election where Ranked Choice Voting is the method selected, a candidate must reach out to all voters in order to see first, second and third choice support. Candidates may talk about their issues and their opponent's issues.

This process often results in candidates conducting more civil campaigns by addressing the issues and working to appeal to a broader spectrum of voters, as they actively seek second and third choice support from initial supporters of other candidates.



## Important dates:

- **August 10-17\*** Declaration of Candidacy period
- **August 18** List of Candidates on the City Recorder's and County Clerk's website
- **September 3\*\*** Candidate profiles on State Website
- **October 11 (week of)** Vote-by-mail ballots begin to be mailed
- **October 22** Voter registration deadline
- **November 2** General Election

*\*between the hours of 8am and 5pm, excluding weekends and holidays*

*\*\*More information can be found on [www.vote.utah.gov](http://www.vote.utah.gov)*