

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number: \_\_\_\_\_

<p>According to the Constitution, a person has to be at least 35 years old, and be a born citizen of the United States if they want to run for president.</p>	<p>Once a person decides to run, they may want to join a party or group of people with similar beliefs. The two main parties are Republicans and Democrats. This makes fundraising easier.</p>
<p>There are other people (candidates) that decide to run so people of a particular party vote on the person they like the best. This is called a primary election.</p>	<p>Each state has their primary election at a different time, but the presidential primary always starts in the state of Iowa. Candidates will usually debate one another so people can decide who they want as their candidate for the party.</p>
<p>During the primary season, candidates will continue to raise money to support their run for office. The money is used to finance trips, ads on TV, and to pay the staff of the candidate.</p>	<p>In order to win, candidates will usually point out differences they have about specific issues. Some candidates will also run negative ads on TV.</p>
<p>When a candidate wins a state, they also win a certain amount of points/votes. Many candidates will drop out of the race if they haven't won within the first three primary elections.</p>	<p>Once there is a clear person/candidate the party decides on, they'll be considered the nominee. They will also pick a person to be their running mate who would then become the vice president if they were elected.</p>

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<p>Once the nominees are chosen, each candidate will campaign and fund raise around the country.</p>	<p>Presidential candidates will campaign the most in "swing" states (states where the population is divided about the two candidates). They also run the majority of their ads in these states as well.</p>
<p>The two candidates will debate one another about specific issues, and be on TV for interviews. This is done to show people where the two candidates are different.</p>	<p>On the first Tuesday in November, citizens around the country will vote for the person they want to be president.</p>
<p>Each state is worth a certain amount of votes in the electoral college. Some states are worth more than others. A candidate must win at least 271 electoral votes in order to be president.</p>	<p>If a candidate wins, they'll have to wait until January 20th before being sworn in to be president.</p>