

The U.S. Electoral System

Elections in the United States are conducted through a decentralized system administered primarily by state governments. This means that election procedures such as voter registration rules, ballot design, and polling processes can vary from one state to another. Despite these differences, federal laws establish baseline protections for voting rights and election integrity.

Presidential elections are conducted through the Electoral College, a mechanism in which voters technically select electors who then vote for the president. This system reflects a compromise between direct popular voting and selection by Congress, and it remains a distinctive feature of American political institutions.