

How to Register:

Register online or print mail-in voter registration form [here](#).

Deadline to register: August 22nd, 8pm

Already registered? Confirm your registration [here](#).

How to Vote

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| <i>In person on election day:</i> When: September 1st, 7am- 8pm Find your polling place | <i>In person early voting:</i> When: August 22nd - August 28th Cambridge early voting locations and hours will be posted here one week before the election. Early voting hours and location elsewhere in MA can be found here one week before the election. | <i>Voting by mail:</i> Due to COVID-19, all registered MA voters are able to vote by mail Applying for mail-in ballot: When: application must be received by August 26th, but submit your application ASAP <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you are already registered to vote, you should have received a ballot application in the mail• You can download the mail-in ballot application here• Mail, email, or fax application to your local election office (find contact info here and see below for contact information for Cambridge) Returning mail-in ballot: When: ballots must be received by September 1st at 8PM <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ballots will be sent to you with pre-addressed envelopes with postage• In Cambridge, drop-boxes will also be available for ballot return. Locations TBD (check for updates here). |
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Cambridge Election Office Contact Information:

- Email: elections@cambridgema.gov
- Mail: Cambridge Election Commission, 51 Inman Street, Cambridge, MA 02139
- Fax: 617-349-4366

Want to get more involved:

Sign up on the [MITvote Interest Form](#) if you would like to receive reminders about voting deadlines and voting-related events, or are interested in helping to register voters in your community and plan voter turnout efforts with MITvote

[Join the External Affairs Board](#) of the GSC if you're generally interested in political advocacy

Primary Candidate Information for Cambridge Ballots:

MA has a semi-closed primary. If you are registered with a party, you must vote in that party's primary. If you are not registered with a party, you can vote in any party's primary.

Note: This voter guide focuses only on **contested races in select Cambridge and Somerville districts** where many graduate students live. To determine which races will be on your ballot, and for a complete list of candidates and elections, **find your sample ballot [here](#)**.

If you have feedback on this voter guide, please email gsc-eab-state@mit.edu.

Democratic PrimarySenate

| | Climate Change | Immigration | Higher Education | Other |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| Ed Markey (Incumbent) More info: edmarkey.com Select endorsements: Sunrise Movement, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, The Boston Globe , Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Cory Booker, Senator Chuck Schumer, Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. | Chair of the Senate Climate Task Force Introduced the Green New Deal, a proposed legislation package designed to tackle climate change and economic inequality | Supports the SECURE Act, which provides a pathway for TPS recipients to apply to be a permanent resident Publicly against termination of DACA | Opposes cuts to federal research grants Supports free in-state college tuition and capping student loan interest rates at lowest possible rate Supports student debt cancellation as part of COVID relief package | [Healthcare] Supports Medicare for All [Law enforcement] Introduced resolution to abolish qualified immunity [Gun Safety] Led efforts that resulted in \$25 million towards gun violence research |

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| See full list here . | Against the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement More information on past legislation on energy can be found here | Introduced the Immigration Enforcement Moratorium Act, which would suspend deportations of noncitizens during the COVID-19 pandemic | Introduced the RISE Act, which provides COVID relief funding for research workforce and institutions | |
| Joe Kennedy III More info: https://kennedyforma.com/ Select endorsements: Representative John Lewis, Senator Krysten Sinema. Check here for new updates , including additional endorsements. | Supports the Green New Deal Supports decarbonization of electricity, vehicles, and buildings, and investment in clean, sustainable infrastructure Against the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement | Advocates for decriminalizing migration and creating streamlined pathways for citizenship Supports strong protections for Dreamers and TPS recipients | Supports legislation to cancel student debt for the majority of Americans Introduced Graduate Students Saving Act (2019), that allows graduate students to put fellowship earnings in retirement savings accounts | [Healthcare] Supports Medicare for All [Communities of Color] Introduced STEM Gateways Act to expand access to STEM education for students of color |

Governor's Council, Sixth District (provides advice and consent on gubernatorial appointments, pardons and commutations, and warrants for the state treasury; [more info](#))

Terrence Kennedy (D) (Incumbent): “Terry will continue to ensure that [judicial nominees] have the qualifications and temperament necessary to both guarantee fairness to a defendant, as well as to provide an environment where real justice can be forthcoming for the victims of crime and their families.” ([more info](#))

Helina Fontes (D): “Helina works directly with individuals impacted by mental health, addiction, incarceration and other traumatic life events. Under her leadership, her program promotes and supports recovery, which enables the persons served to remain and reintegrate into their communities. She will bring this experience to the Governor’s council, which is responsible for vetting and approving judicial nominations and appointments, commuting sentences, and appointing probation and parole board officers.” ([more info](#))

State Senate Democratic Primary - 2nd Middlesex District

| | Climate Change | Police Reform | Affordable Housing |
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| Patricia D. Jehlen (Incumbent) More info: https://www.patjehlen.org/ | <p>Introduced amendments on fossil fuel divestment and air quality improvements, particularly in communities close to major roadways (see more here)</p> <p>Supports efforts that lead to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and redirecting collected taxes towards green infrastructure and public transportation</p> | <p>Talked about the need for radical rethinking of policing, criminal justice, and protecting the public</p> <p>Supports The Reform, Shift + Build Act, which creates police certification, training standards for deadly force, bans choke-holds, and restricts military-grade weaponry. The bill also establishes a fund that would invest directly in communities impacted by over-policing and mass incarceration</p> | <p>Advocate of increased affordable housing; supports measures that increase affordability standards for such developments (more units at more affordable prices)</p> <p>See recent floor speech on affordable housing.</p> |
| Gary Fisher More info: https://garyfisher2020.org/ | <p>Supports cutting major sources in carbon emissions in big cities like Boston</p> <p>Supports expansion in public transportation to reduce vehicular emissions</p> | <p>Talked about the need for police reform in Massachusetts</p> | <p>Supports rent stabilization. See details of his proposed plan here.</p> |

Republican Primary

Senate

| | Climate Change | Immigration | Higher Education | Other |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Shiva Ayyadurai More info: https://shiva4senate.com/ | Believes in climate change, but points out that there is scientific debate on exactly how much is man-made. Identifies that pollution is one of the key threats to the environment | Supports “secure borders that safeguard our citizens and those who came here legally” | Students should be allowed to default on student debt loans Supports restructuring higher education, taxing universities to fund “real skills-based education” | MIT alumni (PhD, BE) Proposed Citizen Science Act, requiring all data from all taxpayer funded research be made immediately publicly available [COVID-19] Does not support social distancing measures or mandatory masks |
| Kevin O’Connor More info: https://www.kocforsenate.com/ | Supports federal energy policy that strives for sustainability, renewability, and self-reliance. Also points out that the clean earth strategy must incorporate international agreements Identifies that climate change is real, but is against the Green New Deal, arguing that it would stifle innovation and adversely impact the economy | Supports strong borders, and strong, enforceable immigration law. Against sanctuary cities, and called for an end to them | Universities should be responsible for partially forgiving student debt in certain instances | [Law enforcement] Opposes defunding the police; supports qualified immunity [Infrastructure] Will make new infrastructure legislation a top priority |

