

# SECRETARY OF STATE

#WTF is the Secretary of State?

The Secretary of State (or commonly referred to as SOS) oversees all statewide elections which is arguably their biggest task. Since our Constitution says that states manage their own elections, the SOS is the deciding factor for how and if Montana has elections that are accessible, secure, and fair.

The SOS also maintains state records and distributes important government information to businesses and nonprofits. They serve 4 year terms.

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Why does it matter?

The SOS determines the rules of engagement in our elections. So, you already have the right to vote if you are 18 or over, a US Citizen, and have been residing in Montana for at least 30 days before the election. BUT the SOS decides how accessible that right is. For example, do you have to show ID before you vote and what IDs are accepted? Can you vote by mail or at the polls? Is your polling location within driving distance from where you live? Can you register to vote online? These are all questions to be decided by the Secretary of State's office.

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Why vote in this race?

The SOS quite literally defines how accessible our elections are and determines how easy (or difficult) it is for you to have your voice heard. If you care about preserving voting rights and making it easier and safer to vote, this is your race!