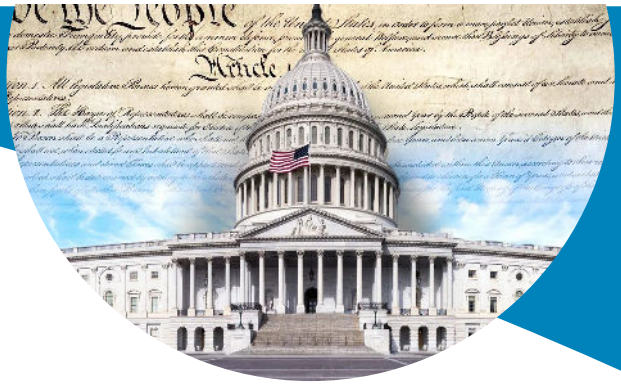




Why Vote At Every Level of Government?

You can vote for elected officials at all levels of government as well as statewide propositions and local measures. Voting at every level of government allows us to shape the laws and policies that determine the conditions of our lives.

At the **federal level**, leaders like the President and Members of Congress make decisions that impact the whole country, such as:

- Laws about health care, like the Affordable Care Act, Medicare and Medicaid
- Laws that can help people have enough food to eat, like WIC, SNAP and free and reduced-price school lunches
- Spending on national defense and the military
- Policies about immigration and border control
- Federal tax rates and how that tax money is spent

At the **state level**, leaders like the governor or state lawmakers make decisions that affect the whole state, including:

- Laws about health care, like Medi-Cal (e.g., what services are covered or what the eligibility requirements are)
- Laws about food security, like CalFresh (e.g., influence some aspects of the eligibility requirements, create state plans and choose simplified reporting systems)
- Services available for people experiencing homelessness
- State tax rates and laws

At the **local level**, leaders like mayors or city council members make decisions about your town or city:

- Fixing roads and sidewalks
- Keeping parks clean and safe
- Funding local schools and libraries
- Hiring police officers and firefighters
- Minimum wage and local taxes