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See your sample ballot and find out where you vote

The state primary is Aug. 10. If you live in Hennepin County, you can see what your sample ballot looks like and find your polling place on the Hennepin County website – [www.hennepin.us/elections](http://www.hennepin.us/elections) – under “Voting/Sample Ballots/Where to vote.”

Taking a look at your ballot ahead of time is a good idea – it speeds up the process once you’re in the voting booth. (How many times have you gotten to the part of a ballot with a slate of people you know nothing about?) If you see races you’re not familiar with, you can find out more information – for example, in your local newspaper’s voters’ guide – before you go to vote.

The front of the primary ballot shows candidates for state and federal office. You do not actually elect candidates in the primary – you select nominees from the major political parties, who go on to compete in the general election Nov. 2. Candidates are listed on your ballot in three columns, by party. You can vote only for candidates of one party. You cannot “cross over” to vote for more than one party in more than one column. If you vote for candidates of more than one party, your votes in that section of the ballot will not be counted.

Be sure to check the back of your ballot – in some areas of the county there also are nonpartisan offices on the back of the ballot for city, county and school board offices.

The Hennepin County website includes other information on elections and voting. You also can call your local city clerk or the Hennepin County Elections Division – 612-348-5151.

– 30 –

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