

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIk16F9ICTk>

The US. **election** takes place on November 8th, 2016. By the **end of the night**, there **will be** a new president **of** the United States. But, a lot **happens** before that. **Both** Democrats and Republicans **need to pick** their candidates for president. This **process** is called the primary election. The primary election **voting** usually takes place between January and June **in the year of** the presidential election. There are **lots of** Republicans **running**, including billionaire business man Donald Trump. The Democrat **side** is **dominated** by Hillary Clinton.

The first states **to vote in** the primary election are Iowa and New Hampshire. They will **cast their ballots** in early 2016. Iowa is a **caucus state**. That means, on election night, voters **gather** in hundreds of **town hall** meetings to openly **make their choice**. It was once a **common** way of nominating a presidential candidate but only **takes place** in a **fifth** of the US states today. New Hampshire has a more **typical** election. Voters go into a **polling booth**. The winners of the Democrat and Republican **primary** elections **will be the** candidates in the 2016 race. They then **select** a **running mate** to be their vice president. Both Republicans and Democrats then **hold conventions** where they **officially announce** their presidential candidates.

Then, it's a final **sprint** to election day. The election is usually decided **in a series of** swing states, where the **population** often **change their** party allegiance. Each state is worth a **certain number of** electoral college votes **based on population**. The candidate with the most votes wins. Then, it's time for a **victory speech** and some sleep - Obama: "At this **defining moment**, **change** has come to America" - and a new job in the White House.