



Ranked Choice Voting for Colorado
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PRESS RELEASE

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310-Neutral RCV Organization Offers Clarity

"RCV for Colorado supports the use of Ranked Choice Voting in the General Election as called for by Initiative 310. However, we are concerned that 310 uses plurality voting in the primary, which we do not support. Overall, therefore, we take a neutral position on 310 as a whole." Linda Templin, Executive Director Ranked Choice Voting for Colorado.

310 Overview

June Primaries: Top-Four All-Candidate Primary

- The primaries use “pick-one” ballots
- Top-four vote-getters advance to the general election regardless of party affiliation.

Top-Four All-Candidate Primary History:

- Used twice. Alaska 2022 and 2024.

November General Election: Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)

- The general election uses “ranked” ballots
- The candidate with a majority of the support wins.
- The first-choice votes are counted. If a candidate has a majority, they win.
- If no candidate has an outright majority, an instant runoff is tallied. The candidate with the fewest first-choice votes is eliminated. Those ballots are counted for the voters second-choice. The process repeats until one candidate has a majority.

RCV History:

- RCV was first used in the USA in 1915 (Ashtabula, Ohio) and has been used in hundreds of local races since then.
- Maine started using RCV for state and federal offices in 2018. Alaska started in 2022.
- In Colorado, RCV is defined as using an “Instant Runoff Voting.”

- Colorado has over a decade of RCV experience, most recently in Boulder 2023.

What we know about RCV as used in Colorado:

- The same equipment for RCV as for plurality races.
- Contest results are announced on the same timeline as plurality races.
- A Risk Limiting Audit (RLA) was run on the Boulder 2023 Mayoral race.
- Voters say that RCV is easy (90%).
- Voters are satisfied with their voting experience (77%)

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