

Caucus	Primary	Convention	Petition
A group of like minded people who meet to select the candidates they will support in an upcoming election	An election held within a party to pick that party's candidates for the general election	Local districts select delegates to represent them at a higher level meeting where the nominee is chosen	Candidates collect a specified number of signatures from voters to qualify for the general election

Runoff Primary	
A primary in which the top two vote-getters in the first direct primary face one another	
When is it held?	A few weeks later

Path to Elected Office	
Nominating Candidates	Electing Candidates
Self-Announcement	Elections administered by state and local governments
Caucus	Some federal oversight
Conventions	Citizens vote by mail or at polling place
Direct Primary (open, closed)	Paper ballots and electronic voting in use
Petition	

Campaign Spending-no one really knows how much money is spent on political campaigns in the United States, the presidential campaign consumes the largest share of campaign dollars (2008 \$2.5 billion), spending depends on the office involved, the candidates and whether he/she is the incumbent or the challenger, the nature of the opposition, and much more-including, not least, the availability of campaign funds

Factors that Shape Public Opinion-family, school, occupation, race, gender, place of residence, mass media, peer groups, opinion leaders, and historic events

How did events of 1960 and 1970s affect public opinion?-those years were highlighted by a number of traumatic events, the assassinations of John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., and Robert Kennedy, this period also included the civil rights movement and the Vietnam War with all of the protests, violence, and strong emotions that accompanied both of those chapters in this nation's life, the era ended with the Watergate scandal and the near-impeachment and subsequent resignation of President Richard Nixon, those years of turmoil and divisiveness produced a dramatic decline in the American people's estimate of their government-and most especially in their evaluation of its trustworthiness

Interest Group-private organization whose members share certain views and work to shape public policy

Term	Session
Two year period of time during which Congress meets	Period of time during which, each year, Congress assembles and conducts business