



What Do Down Ballot Offices Do?

Most Coloradans know what the President, our Governor, or US Senator does but aren't as familiar with the duties of other state-wide and local elected offices. Use these quick descriptions to educate yourself and others so they understand the **importance of each office** and voting for Democrats up and down the **entire ballot**.

CU Board of Regents – Staggered Presidential & Mid-Term Years

Members of the CU Board of Regents oversee the Colorado University system's budget, set tuition rates, hire the CU President and establish the University's priorities. Republicans have held the majority of CU Regents since 1940. Their districts are the same as the Congressional Districts plus two At-Large Seats.

We believe the Board of Regents should work to improve funding and make higher education affordable for all.

State Board of Education – Staggered Presidential & Mid-Term Years

Members of the State Board of Education are responsible for overseeing the state's K-12 education system, including administering funding and setting standards for our children. Their districts are the same as the Congressional Districts.

We believe the Board of Education should reverse our educational system's underfunding, alleviate causes of teacher shortages, improve student underperformance, and make sure that every Coloradan has the opportunity to receive a quality education that leads to a good job and successful life.

District Attorney – Presidential Years

District Attorneys are elected from each of the 22 Judicial Districts in Colorado. They serve 4 year terms and are the chief Prosecutor over the District Attorneys office in the District. They have broad discretion in setting priorities that pertain to victim services, juvenile justice, treatment, diversion, sentencing length, racial disparities in prison, addition, mental health, and whether or not to pursue the death penalty.

We believe District Attorneys should consider alternatives to prison, restorative justice, and diversionary options, where appropriate and have a responsibility to address over-incarceration and disparate outcomes of people of color and role of poverty in access to representation.

Colorado Attorney General – Mid-Term Years

Colorado's Attorney General is the state's top law enforcement official, responsible for making sure Colorado laws are being obeyed, and protecting Colorado from harmful policies at the federal level. The Attorney General has wide latitude to pick and choose which legal actions are pursued.

We believe the Attorney General should protect our civil rights, hold accountable irresponsible corporations that do wrong by Colorado, and protect our state against federal intrusions on issues like immigration and marijuana legalization.

Colorado Secretary of State – Mid-Term Years

The Secretary of State of Colorado is responsible for managing Colorado's elections, which includes overseeing voter registration, administering campaign finance laws, registering political lobbyists and corporations, and overseeing charitable giving.

We believe the Secretary of State should work to make sure all eligible voters can register and vote, protect voters' information, and ensure transparency in campaign finance.

Colorado State Treasurer – Mid-Term Years

The Colorado State Treasurer is responsible for managing the state's coffers, making investment decisions in the state's bank account, and sitting on boards that affect public pensions, Medicaid, and the Colorado University system. We believe the State Treasurer should protect our tax dollars from risky investment activity and protect retirees from attempts to privatize or cut pensions.



County Commissioner* - Staggered Presidential & Mid-Term Years

County Commissioners determine local resources and implementation for human services, county open space, county roads, and county jails. County Commissioners can contract for acquisition of land or to provide ambulance services. They develop programs for seniors and low-income people and can adopt county ordinances. We believe human services, health care, and open space should be managed with efficiency and transparency.

County Clerk* - Mid-Term Years

County Clerks are responsible for the administration of elections in Colorado. They oversee marriage licenses, record real estate titles, and record automobile title and registration. We believe County Clerks should ensure free, fair and accessible elections, maintain transparent real estate and title records, and ensure marriage equality is recognized in Colorado at the local level.

County Assessor* - Mid-Term Years

County Assessors are responsible for the evaluation of residential and commercial property in the county for purposes of assessing and collecting property taxes. We believe County Assessors should ensure fair and transparent evaluations of property that results in affordable housing, school funding, business, and county budgets.

County Treasurer* - Mid-Term Years

County Treasurers are responsible for billing and collecting county property taxes. County Treasurers collect and account for funds and are responsible for how local funds are invested and where they bank. We believe County Treasurers should ensure transparency, accountability, and local dollars are invested in a way that reflects our Colorado values.

County Sheriff* - Mid-Term Years

County Sheriffs are the primary local law enforcement in unincorporated areas of the state. Sheriffs issue crime alerts, investigate crimes, operate Conceal Carry Permits for firearms, run fingerprinting, carry out victim notification, and evictions. We believe County Sheriffs should prioritize community safety over political allegiance to the gun lobby.

Municipal Races – Odd Year Elections - Staggered

Municipal leaders make city laws, decide the city budget, have input on growth, development, public spaces, transportation, recreation, police, fire, tax rates, permits, zoning, bike trails – and more! We believe city leaders can have a profound impact on union jobs, Climate Change, oil & gas development, criminal justice, community development and cultural vision of a city.

Local School Board Races – Odd Year Elections – Staggered

Local school boards hire Superintendents, determine how local education budgets will be spent in the district, hear the concerns of local parents, and make key decisions about how a given school district will meet the needs of their students. We believe local school boards make the most personal, local and critical decisions that impact the education of all children in the district.

RTD Board Races – Staggered Presidential & Mid-Term Years

RTD (Regional Transportation District) is governed by 15 Board members, elected in even years in districts A – O. These positions determine the routes, cost and access to public transportation within the RTD service area. They oversee major construction projects, including Park-N-Rides and parking lots.

We believe RTD Board positions matter to ensure affordable access to public transportation for all riders and must ensure good access to people with disabilities. Mass transit is a critical for people to get to work and a big piece needed to addressing climate change.

***Every county is different in Colorado. There will be local variations.**