Ranked-Choice Voting



What is ranked-choice voting?

Widely used by several municipal and state governments, as well as various member organizations, to determine a majority winner, ranked-choice voting relies on voters ranking all candidates on the ballot by preference. If no single candidate receives the necessary majority of first-choice votes, the candidate receiving the smallest number of first-choice votes is eliminated, and the second-choice votes of the eliminated candidate's ballots are redistributed among the remaining candidates. This process will repeat until a candidate has secured a majority of all votes.

It's efficient

Holding runoff elections can stretch out elections for several additional weeks. A ranked-choice voting system condenses the calendar and delivers a majority vote winner

It's cost-effective

At our EMC, a single election costs about \$50,000 to conduct. Each runoff could cost an additional \$50,000. Ranked-choice voting delivers an immediate majority vote winner and eliminates any need for runoffs. It's a more cost-effective use of member resources.

It's fair

It assures that the candidate with the highest number of high-ranking votes wins the election. It also allows any number of potential candidates to participate in the process, while following state rules requiring directors to be elected to the board through a majority vote.

How does ranked-choice voting work?

Voters must rank all candidates by preference.

Votes are tallied by preference until a winner by majority is reached.



