

Commonwealth of Kentucky

2026 Election Guide



[Image by Whitney
Westerfield]

Michael G. Adams



Secretary of State Welcome



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
MICHAEL G. ADAMS

Dear Kentucky Voters:

Continuous improvement of our elections necessitates continuous revision of our election laws, which in turn obliges us to keep you apprised of these changes. Thus, our decision to yet again republish Kentucky's election laws in a new edition.

As of this writing in 2025, Kentucky has done six times in six years what no other state in that time has done once: enact bipartisan legislation to make it both easier to vote and harder to cheat. Kentucky drew national attention and praise for its conduct of elections during the 2020 pandemic, and not content to rest on its laurels, continues to lead on voter access and election integrity.

In too many other areas, Kentucky has been content with stagnation. We are at the bottom in education, and at the top in domestic violence and animal cruelty. May the spirit, optimism and goodwill that prompted us to improve our elections spread to improving Kentuckians' quality of life across the board.

In 2024, I was awarded the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for my work on your behalf. Having been elected by you to serve in this position, for the maximum time the Kentucky Constitution permits me to do so, is an honor I treasure even more.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Adams



kysecofstate



ky_secofstate



@kysecstate

1025 CAPITAL CENTER DRIVE
SUITE 201
FRANKFORT KY 40501



(502) 564-6490
FAX: (502) 564-5657
WEBSITE: www.sos.ky.gov

Kentucky Election Guide



Kentucky Voter Bill of Rights

VOTER'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

- 1.) Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.
- 2.) Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
- 3.) Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
- 4.) Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
- 5.) An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.
- 6.) Instructions to follow when voting.
- 7.) Vote free from coercion or intimidation by election officers or any other person.
- 8.) Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

VOTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Each voter in this state should:

- 1.) Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.
- 2.) Maintain with the County Clerk a current address.
- 3.) Know the location of his or her polling place(s) and hours of operation.
- 4.) Bring photo identification to the polling place.
- 5.) Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
- 6.) Respect the privacy of others.
- 7.) Report any problems or violations of election laws to the Election Fraud Hotline at 1-800-328-VOTE (8683).
- 8.) Ask questions if needed.
- 9.) Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling place.

Important Dates

April 4, 2026 - Mail-in absentee request portal open

April 20, 2026 - Last day to register to vote for the primary election

May 5, 2026 - Last day to request mail-in absentee ballot

May 14, 2026 - Early in-person absentee voting (Hours vary by county)

May 15, 2026 - Early in-person absentee voting (Hours vary by county)

May 16, 2026 - Early in-person absentee voting (Hours vary by county)

May 19, 2026 - 2026 Primary Election Day - Hours of Voting: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., prevailing time. At 6 p.m., the Precinct Sheriff goes to the end of the line and stays there until everyone in front of him/her has voted. Anyone in line by 6 p.m. is given the opportunity to vote.



Become a Poll Worker

Our free and fair elections depend on Kentuckians taking the initiative to play an active role. The Commonwealth of Kentucky is calling on civic-minded individuals to work the polls.

Registered Independents, Democrats and Republicans can all serve!

To participate:

- You must be a registered voter and a resident of the county in which you wish to work.

- You must be 18 years old (or turn 18 by the General Election).

Poll workers earn money for their service! Amount depends on the county.

To sign up for consideration, scan the QR Code below:

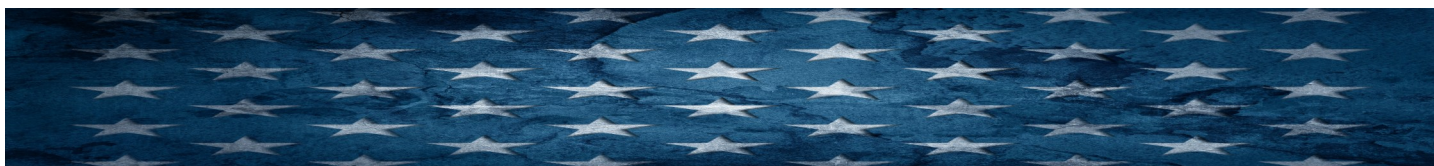


Voting Equipment

- The State Board of Elections certifies voting machines that can be sold in Kentucky. Voting machines are purchased by the county fiscal court.
- Every polling location has a voting machine accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- For a detailed listing of voting machines by county, please visit elect.ky.gov.
- The County Board of Elections has the discretion to choose which voting

equipment to use, as long as the requirements of state and federal law are met.

- Voting equipment that tabulates or aggregates votes used in official results is prohibited from connecting to any network, including the Internet, or communicating with any device external to the voting system. It is a felony to connect a voting machine to the internet.



Ways to Vote

There are several ways for a Kentucky citizen to vote. You can:

- Vote in person on Election Day.
- Vote in person early absentee the Thursday, Friday or Saturday before Election Day (no excuse needed!).
- Vote excused absentee by mail.
- Vote excused, in-person absentee .

In addition, there are provisions for Military and Overseas Voters. If there are problems at your polling place, you can vote a provisional ballot. Please visit govote.ky.gov to request an absentee ballot or check your voter status.

REPORTING VOTER INTIMIDATION AND OTHER UNLAWFUL CONDUCT

Voter intimidation is defined under the law as the use of threats, coercion or attempts to intimidate for the purpose of interfering with the right of another person to vote or to vote for the person of their choosing. Voter intimidation can include physically blocking polling places, disrupting or interrogating voters, spreading false information about voting requirements and procedures. This list is not exhaustive.

If you witness voter intimidation or other unlawful conduct at the polls, we recommend the following steps:

- Inform a precinct officer at the voting location, who will work to resolve any problems and call county election officials and/or local law enforcement if needed. However, if you or anyone else is in immediate danger, call 911 first and then inform a poll worker if possible.
- Document what you see as much as possible, including the who, what, when and where of the incident (keeping in mind the prohibited action of photographing a voter within the voting room).

Report the incident to the Election Fraud Hotline at 1-800-328-VOTE (8683). We will follow up with county election officials and federal, state or local law enforcement entities if needed.



Kentucky's Photo ID Law

Kentucky law requires that voters present a photo ID to verify identity prior to signing the electronic poll book and casting a ballot.

WHAT IS CONSIDERED A VALID PHOTO ID TO VOTE?

“Proof of identification” is defined in KRS 117.011(18), as amended. A valid ID to vote, is a document issued by:

- The United States or the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- The United States Department of Defense, a branch of the uniformed services, the Merchant Marines, or the Kentucky National Guard;
- A public or private college, university, or postgraduate technical or professional school located within the United States;
- Any city government, county government, urban-county government, charter county government, consolidated local government, or unified local government, which is located within this state,

If the document contains: 1. The name of the individual to whom the document was issued; and 2. A photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued.

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE OR CAN'T GET A PHOTO ID?

Kentucky law provides a free state-issued ID card for individuals who are at least 18 and do not have a valid driver's license.

In addition, voters who cannot obtain a photo ID can sign an Oath (stating reason for inability to obtain photo ID) and present one of the following non-photo IDs:

- Social Security Card;
- Any ID issued by a county in KY that's been approved by the State Board of Elections and shows voter's name;
- Any ID card with both the voter's photograph and name;
- Any food stamp ID card, electronic benefit transfer card, or supplemental nutrition assistance card issued by KY that shows voter's name; or



Information to Know

Electioneering

- No person shall electioneer at any polling place that is being used as a voting location on the day of any election, as established in KRS 118.025, or on any of the days that in-person absentee voting is conducted at that location, or within a distance of one hundred (100) feet of any entrance to a building in which voting is conducted if that entrance is unlocked and is used by voters on any primary or election day or on any of the days that in-person absentee voting is conducted
- No person shall electioneer within the interior of a building or affix any electioneering materials to the exterior or interior of a building where the county clerk's office is located, or any building designated by the county board of elections and approved by the State Board of Elections for any time voting is being conducted in the building. KRS 117.235

Who is allowed in the Voting Room?

- Precinct Election Officers
- Voters
- Anyone assisting a voter
- Voting machine technicians
- A minor child accompanying a voter
- Duly appointed challengers
- Law enforcement officers
- Representatives conducting mock elections

Media in the Voting Room

Members of the news media may be in the voting

room for the limited purpose of filming the voting process. The media MAY NOT, however, conduct interviews with voters inside the voting room, record the identity of voters, or otherwise disrupt the voting process.

Voter Assistance

Voters with a physical disability, blindness or inability to read English may request voting assistance at the polls on Election Day. An employer, an employee's agent or an officer or agent of a union MAY NOT assist a voter. You may apply for permanent voting assistance.

Challengers

Each county political party may designate up to 2 challengers in each precinct in the county. Non-partisan candidates may designate 1 challenger.

- Challengers must receive training
- Challengers may question the eligibility of a voter for the following reasons: is not a duly registered voter; is not a resident; is a convicted felon, is not the persons he/she claims to be.
- Challengers shall not: speak directly with a voter being challenged; electioneer, handle election material, attempt to intimidate or harass any voter or precinct election officer; behave in a manner to disrupt activities; attempt to interfere with the election.



Federal - Elected Officials

United States Senator

Hon. Mitch McConnell

DC Office:

(202) 224-2541

Bowling Green Office

(270) 781-1673

Fort Wright Office

(859) 578-0188

Lexington Office

(859) 224-8286

London Office

(606) 864-2026

Louisville Office

(502) 582-6304

Paducah Office

(270) 442-4554

United States Senator

Hon. Rand Paul

DC Office:

(202) 224-4343

Bowling Green Office

(270) 782-8303

US House of Representatives

First District

Hon. James Comer

DC Office:

(202) 225-3115

Tompkinsville Office

(270) 487-9509

Paducah Office

(270) 408-1865

Madisonville Office

(270) 487-9509

Second District

Hon. Brett Guthrie

DC Office:

(202) 225-3501

Bowling Green Office

(270) 842-9896

Owensboro Office

Radcliff Office

Third District

Hon. Morgan

McGarvey

DC Office:

(202) 225-5401

Louisville Office

(502) 582-5129

Louisville Office

(502) 933-5863

Fourth District

Hon. Thomas Massie

DC Office:

(202) 225-3465

La Grange Office

(502) 265-9119

Northern KY Office

(859) 426-0080

Fifth District

Hon. Harold “Hal”

Rogers

DC Office:

(202) 225-0940

Hazard Office

(606) 439-0794

Prestonsburg Office

(606) 886-0844

Somerset Office

(606) 679-8346

Sixth District

Hon. Garland “Andy”

Barr

DC Office:

(202) 225-4706

Lexington Office

(859) 219-1366



State - Elected Officials

Constitutional Officers

Governor

Andy Beshear

Kentucky State Office Building
501 High Street
2nd Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-2611
www.governor.ky.gov

Lieutenant Governor

Jacqueline Coleman

Berry Hill Carriage House
700 Louisville Road
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-2611
www.ltgovernor.ky.gov

Attorney General

Russell Coleman

1024 Capital Center Drive
Suite 300
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 696-5300
www.ag.ky.gov

Secretary of State

Michael G. Adams

1025 Capital Center Drive,
Suite 201
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-4075
www.sos.ky.gov

Auditor of Public Accounts

Allison Ball

209 St. Clair Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-5841
www.auditor.ky.gov

Treasurer

Mark Metcalf

1050 U.S. Hwy. 127 S, Room 100
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-4722
www.treasury.ky.gov

Agriculture Commissioner

Jonathan Shell

105 Corporate Drive
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 573-0282
www.kyagr.com



Elected Leadership - Senate & House

State Senate

A senator must be at least 30 years old, a citizen of Kentucky, and must have lived in the state at least six years immediately preceding an election. A senator must live in the district for at least one year prior to election. Senators are elected for four-year terms, with half the Senate elected every two years.

Senate President: **Robert Stivers**

President Pro Tempore: **David P. Givens**

Majority Floor Leader: **Max Wise**

Majority Caucus Chair: **Robby Mills**

Majority Whip: **Mike Wilson**

Minority Floor Leader: **Gerald A. Neal**

Minority Caucus Chair: **Reginald Thomas**

Minority Whip: **David Yates**

State House

A representative must be at least 24 years old, a citizen of Kentucky, and must have lived in the state for at least two years and in the district for one year prior to election. Representatives are elected for two-year terms, with the entire House elected every two years.

Speaker of the House: **David W. Osborne**

Speaker Pro Tempore: **David Meade**

Majority Floor Leader: **Steven Rudy**

Majority Caucus Chair: **Suzanne Miles**

Majority Whip: **Jason Nemes**

Minority Floor Leader: **Pamela Stevenson**

Minority Caucus Chair: **Al Gentry**

Minority Whip: **Lindsey Burke**

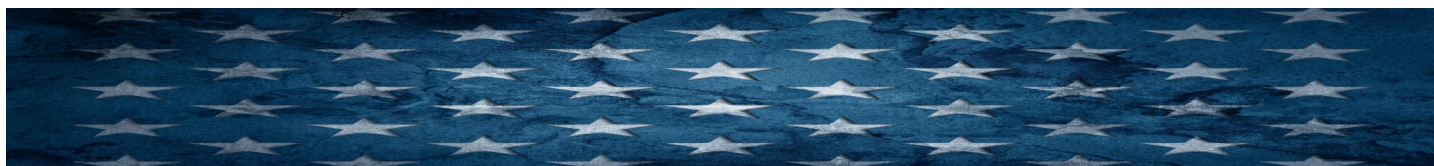


County Clerk Offices

COUNTY	COUNTY CLERK	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Adair	Lisa Greer	270-384-2801	lisa.greer@ky.gov
Allen	Sarah Constant	270-237-3706	sarah.constant@ky.gov
Anderson	Jason Denny	502-839-3041	jason.denny2@ky.gov
Ballard	Katie Mercer	270-335-5168	katie.mercer@ky.gov
Barren	Helena Birdwell	270-651-3783	helena.birdwell@ky.gov
Bath	Roger. Coyle	606-674-2613	roger.coyle@ky.gov
Bell	Debbie Gambrel	606-337-6143	debbie.gambrel@ky.gov
Boone	Justin Crigler	859-334-2108	justin.crigler@ky.gov
Bourbon	Cynthia Santana Wilson	859-987-2142	cynthia.wilson@ky.gov
Boyd	Kevin Johnston	606-739-5116	kevin.johnston@ky.gov
Boyle	Casey McCoy	859-238-1110	casey.mccoy@ky.gov
Bracken	Jennifer Free	606-735-2952	jennifer.free@ky.gov
Breathitt	Becky Curtis	606-666-3800	becky.curtis@ky.gov
Breckinridge	Jared K. Butler	270-756-2246	jared.butler@ky.gov
Bullitt	Kevin Mooney	502-543-2513	kevin.mooney@ky.gov
Butler	Sherry E. Johnson	270-526-5676	sherrye.johnson@ky.gov
Caldwell	Jennifer Watson Hale	270-365-6754	jennierl.hale@ky.gov
Calloway	Antonia D. Faulkner	270-753-3923	antonia.faulkner@ky.gov
Campbell	Jim Luersen	859-292-3885	jim.luersen.ky.gov
Carlisle	Becky Martin	270-628-3233	becky.martin@ky.gov
Carroll	Danielle Maiden Kinman	502-732-7005	danielle.kinman@ky.gov
Carter	Mike Johnston	606-474-5188	mike.johnston@ky.gov
Casey	Casey Davis	606-787-6471	casey.davis@ky.gov
Christian	Melinda A. Humphries	270-887-4111	melinda.humphries@ky.gov
Clark	Michelle S. Turner	859-745-0280	michelles.turner@ky.gov
Clay	Beverly Craft	606-598-2544	beverly.craft@ky.gov
Clinton	Nathan Collins	606-387-5943	nathan.collins@ky.gov
Crittenden	Daryl K. Tabor	270-965-3403	carolyn.byford@ky.gov
Cumberland	Bryan Morgan	270-864-3726	bmorgan@ky.gov
Daviess	Leslie McCarty	270-685-8434	leslie.mccarty@ky.gov
Edmonson	Kevin Alexander	270-597-2624	kevin.alexander@ky.gov
Elliott	Jennifer R. Carter	606-738-5421	jennifer.carter@ky.gov
Estill	Kimberly Charles	606-723-5156	kimberly.charles@ky.gov
Fayette	Susan Lamb	859-255-8683	slamb@fayettecountyclerk.com
Fleming	Jarrold R. Fritz	606-845-8461	jarrod.fritz@ky.gov
Floyd	Chris D. Waugh	606-886-3816	chris.waugh@ky.gov
Franklin	Jeff Hancock	502-875-8702	jeff.hancock@ky.gov
Fulton	Naomi Jones	270-236-2727	naomi.jones@ky.gov



Gallatin	Christina Clark McEntire	859-567-5411	christina.mcentire@ky.gov
Garrard	Kevin Montgomery	859-792-3071	kevin.montgomery@ky.gov
Grant	Colton Simpson	859-824-3321	colton.simpson@ky.gov
Graves	Kim Gills	270-247-1676	kim.gills@ky.gov
Grayson	Charlotte Willis	270-259-3201	charlotte.willis@ky.gov
Green	Jessica Baker	270-932-5386	jessicar.baker@ky.gov
Greenup	Andrew Imel	606-473-7394	andrew.imel@ky.gov
Hancock	Trina Ogle	270-927-6117	trina.ogle@ky.gov
Hardin	Brian D. Smith	270-765-6762	brian.smith@ky.gov
Harlan	Ashley Sullivan	606-573-3636	ashley.sullivan@ky.gov
Harrison	Linda Barnes	859-234-7130	linda.barnes@ky.gov
Hart	Felicia Shelton	270-524-2751	feliciaj.shelton@ky.gov
Henderson	Renesa Abner	270-826-3906	renesa.abner@ky.gov
Henry	Shanda E. Archer	502-845-5705	shanda.archer@ky.gov
Hickman	James S. "Jimbo" Berry	270-653-2131	jimbo.berry@ky.gov
Hopkins	Keenan Cloern	270-821-7361	keenan.cloern@ky.gov
Jackson	Donald "Duck" Moore	606-287-7800	donald.moore@ky.gov
Jefferson	Bobbie Holsclaw	502-574-6100	elections@jeffersoncountyclerk.org
Jessamine	Johnny M. Collier	859-885-4161	johnny.collier@ky.gov
Johnson	Sallee Conley Holbrook	606-789-2557	sallee.conley-holbrook@ky.gov
Kenton	Gabrielle "Gabe" Summe	859-392-1620	gabrielle.summe@ky.gov
Knott	Maurica Cornett "Reci"	606-785-0870	maurica.cornett@ky.gov
Knox	Mike Corey	606-546-3568	mike.corey@ky.gov
Larue	Rhonda Metcalf	270-358-3544	rhonda.metcalf@ky.gov
Laurel	Joe "Tony" Brown, II	606-864-5158	tony.brown@ky.gov
Lawrence	Chris Jobe	606-638-4108	chris.jobe@ky.gov
Lee	Kim Noe	606-464-4115	kimberlya.noe@ky.gov
Leslie	Onzie Sizemore	606-672-2193	onzie.sizemore@ky.gov
Letcher	Winston Meade	606-633-2432	winston.meade@ky.gov
Lewis	Leslie A. Collier	606-796-2311	leslie.collier@ky.gov
Lincoln	Nancy Jackson	606-365-4570	nancyp.jackson@ky.gov
Livingston	Sonya Williams	270-928-2162	sonya.williams@ky.gov
Logan	Stacy Watkins	270-726-6061	stacy.watkins@ky.gov
Lyon	Lori Duff	270-388-2331	lori.duff@ky.gov
McCracken	Jamie Huskey	270-444-4702	jamie.huskey@ky.gov
McCreary	Eric Haynes	606-376-2411	eric.haynes@ky.gov
McLean	Carol Eaton	270-273-3082	carol.eaton@ky.gov
Madison	Kenneth R. Barger, Jr.	859-624-4703	kenny.barger@ky.gov
Magoffin	Renee Arnett-Shepherd	606-349-2216	renee.shepherd@ky.gov
Marion	Chad G. Mattingly	270-692-2651	chad.mattingly@ky.gov
Marshall	Crissy Greer	270-527-4740 or 4743	crissy.greer@ky.gov



Martin	Susie Skyles	606-298-2810	karen.skyles@ky.gov
Mason	Stephanie G. Schumacher	606-564-3341	stephanie.gallenstein@ky.gov
Meade	Susan Masterson	270-422-2152	susan.masterson@ky.gov
Menifee	Krystal Chapman	606-768-3512	krystal.chapman@ky.gov
Mercer	Chris Horn	859-734-6310	chris.horn@ky.gov
Metcalfe	Shannon Fields	270-432-4821	shannon.fields@ky.gov
Monroe	Brandi Kirkpatrick Birge	270-487-5471	bkirkpatrickbirge@ky.gov
Montgomery	Chris Cockrell	859-498-8700	chris.cockrell@ky.gov
Morgan	Randy Williams	606-743-3949	randy.williams2@ky.gov
Muhlenberg	Crystal Smith	270-338-1441	crystal.smith@ky.gov
Nelson	Jeanette Sidebottom	502-348-1829	jeanette.sidebottom@ky.gov
Nicholas	Martha Moss	859-289-3730	martha.moss@ky.gov
Ohio	Bess T. Ralph	270-298-4423	bess.ralph@ky.gov
Oldham	Amy Alvey	502-222-0047	amy.alvey@ky.gov
Owen	Laurel P. Stivers	502-484-2213	laurel.stivers@ky.gov
Owsley	Austin Bowling	606-593-5735	Austin.bowling@ky.gov
Pendleton	Rita M. Spencer	859-654-3380	rita.spencer@ky.gov
Perry	Wayne Napier	606-436-4614	wayne.napier@ky.gov
Pike	Darrell Pugh	606-432-6211	darrell.pugh@ky.gov
Powell	Jackie Everman	606-663-6444	jackie.everman@ky.gov
Pulaski	Tim Price	606-679-2042	tim.price@ky.gov
Robertson	Joanie Jolly	606-724-5212	joanie.jolly@ky.gov
Rockcastle	Danetta Ford Allen	606-256-2831	danetta.allen@ky.gov
Rowan	Elwood Caudill	606-784-5512	elwoodj.caudill@ky.gov
Russell	Patti Glover	270-343-2125	patti.glover@ky.gov
Scott	Rebecca M. Johnson	502-863-7875	rebeccam.johnson@ky.gov
Shelby	Tony Harover	502-633-4410	tony.harover@ky.gov
Simpson	Austin L. Johnson	270-586-8161	austin.johnson@ky.gov
Spencer	Lynn Hesselbrock	502-477-3215	lynn.hesselbrock@ky.gov
Taylor	Mark Carney	270-465-6677	mark.carney@ky.gov
Todd	Cynthia "Cindy" O'Bryan	270-265-9966	cynthia.O'bryan@ky.gov
Trigg	Carmen Finley	270-522-6661	carmen.finley@ky.gov
Trimble	Tina Browning	502-255-7174	tina.browning@ky.gov
Union	Garrick Thompson	270-389-1334	garrick.thompson@ky.gov
Warren	Lynette Yates	270-843-5306	lynette.yates@ky.gov
Washington	Brett Filiatreau Barry	859-336-5425	brett.barry@ky.gov
Wayne	Heather Piercy	606-348-5721	heather.piercy@ky.gov
Webster	Valerie Newell	270-639-7006	valerie.franklin@ky.gov
Whitley	Carolyn Willis	606-549-6002	Carolyn.willis@ky.gov
Wolfe	Corinna Spencer Groves	606-668-3515	corinna.groves@ky.gov
Woodford	Sandra V. Jones	859-873-3421	sandra.jones@ky.gov

Kentucky Election Guide





GOVOTE.KY.GOV

Michael G. Adams

Kentucky Secretary of State

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