

Kentucky

Voters in Kentucky will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General this cycle. Republicans will be defending the Governor's Office while Democrats will be defending the Office of the Attorney General.

Governor

Republican Nominee

[Governor Matt Bevin](#)

Governor Matt Bevin (R) was first elected in 2015 after defeating multiple challengers in the Republican primary. He is staunchly conservative and continues to have the backing of the Tea Party in the Commonwealth.

The governor's tenure has been eventful. Teachers walked out of classrooms and into the State Capitol in 2018 to protest, urging lawmakers and Governor Bevin to appropriate more funding towards public education. He has sparred with members of his own [party](#) in Frankfort and most recently with his Lt. Governor who was not asked to join the ticket for the re-election campaign.

The governor's campaign is shedding light on his first term accomplishments including job growth, exports growth, and corporate tax cuts. He touts the signing of the state's Right-to-Work and Paycheck Protection laws. Governor Bevin is [defending](#) his actions on pension reform and pledges to make pensions sustainable. He is also pushing social issues into the race – most notably the subject of [abortion](#).

Additionally, Governor Bevin is leaning heavily on his relationship with the Trump Administration on the trail. The president makes an appearance, either via photo montage or via the governor's own words, in many of his campaign videos and for good reason: Kentuckians hold a very favorable view of President Trump. His approvals linger around [55%](#) statewide while the governor's are some of the [worst](#) in the country. The Bevin campaign is also using Beshear's support of former Secretary Clinton during 2016 in ads against him. The president is expected to campaign in the Commonwealth for the governor this fall to galvanize support from their shared base of voters.

Governor Bevin is a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army and served four years active duty in the 5th Mechanized Infantry Division and rose to the rank of Captain. He is married with 9 surviving children.

***Trivia:** Governor Bevin became just the third Republican to win the governorship in the post-WWII period.*