

FLORIDA

Voters in Florida will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, and Attorney General this cycle. All 120 House seats will be on the ballot as well as half (20) of the Senate seats. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office, Office of the Attorney General, and the legislature.

Governor

Republican Nominee

[Governor Ron DeSantis](#)

Governor Ron DeSantis (R) is in the process of securing a second term in the Governor's Office after four years of seeing his profile rise in the Republican Party. He received national attention for his response to COVID-19 and rumors continue to circulate surrounding a potential presidential run in 2024. Previously, DeSantis represented Florida's 6th congressional district in the U.S. House. He was elected to three terms beginning in 2012, eventually resigning in 2018 during his gubernatorial campaign.

DeSantis has focused on a mix of accomplishments from his first term and promises for the next four years. He has continued to highlight his policies that kept Florida open during the pandemic and has promised to investigate voter fraud from the 2020 election.

DeSantis has made reshaping school boards a top priority during his [campaign](#). The governor [endorsed](#) 29 conservative candidates prior to the primary election for school board races, a move without much precedent as these races typically don't receive much attention and are technically nonpartisan.

On the economic front, DeSantis is [proposing](#) large tax cuts ahead of election day, including asking the Florida Legislature to permanently lift the state's 6% sales tax on baby items like cribs, strollers, clothing, shoes, wipes, and diapers. He also proposes nixing the sales tax on medical equipment and on medication for pets.

He is currently on track to become the highest funded gubernatorial candidate in the nation, surpassing Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer (D) and Illinois Governor JB Pritzker (D) who raised \$179 million and \$176 million for their campaigns respectively. To date, DeSantis has brought in [\\$177 million](#), with more funding to come in the remaining two months of his campaign.

A [debate](#) is scheduled for October 12 between DeSantis and opponent Charlie Crist (D), and while other debates have been proposed, it is likely that this will be the only confirmed debate in the remainder of the campaigning period. DeSantis has received a debate challenge from California's Governor Gavin Newsom (D); however, the DeSantis campaign has not responded to the request.

Trivia: As a Congressman, DeSantis was a founding member of the House Freedom Caucus.