

NEVADA

Nevada voters will select a new governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general this cycle in what are all considered to be competitive contests. All 42 house seats are on the ballot along with 11 of the 21 senate seats: Democrats are expected to maintain control of both chambers.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

Attorney General Aaron Ford

Attorney General Aaron Ford advanced from the Democratic primary with 64% of the vote in June. Ford was first elected to the office in 2018 winning by 0.4%; he secured reelection in 2022 by a much wider margin of 7 points. Prior to serving as attorney general, he served in the Nevada State Senate, where he held leadership roles including Senate Majority Leader, Minority Leader, and Assistant Majority Whip.

Like many of his counterparts nationwide, Ford's running on an **affordability** message with key priorities spanning housing, health care, energy, economic development, and education issues.

Ford has proposed **limiting the number of homes corporate investors** can purchase each year and increasing ownership transparency through a **corporate landlord registry**. He also proposes **banning the use of algorithms and artificial intelligence** to set rental prices, expediting permitting for affordable housing projects, and lowering the cap on security deposits. He has also pledged to **ban rental fees** not tied to measurable costs in leases.

He has vowed to appoint an Insurance Commissioner with no ties to the insurance industry and to work with the legislature on **insurance approval reform**. To address **medical debt**, he proposes prohibiting its reporting to credit agencies, capping interest rates, and empowering Nevada Medicaid to investigate fraud. Ford pledges to **cap** the cost of **prescription drugs** at the Medicare-negotiated rate and to work with the legislature to pass a **rebate pass-through** law.

Ford has outlined plans to **streamline regulatory approvals for energy projects** and expand residential solar installation. Regarding **data centers**, he proposes reevaluating the effectiveness of current and future tax abatements and requiring strong economic justification for any related public expenditure.

On economic and workforce development, Ford vows to **repeal** the state's **right-to-work** law and supports policies that protect project labor agreements. He wants to position Nevada as a global leader in clean energy and **next generation battery manufacturing**. Ford pledges to work with rural and tribal partners to expand access to **small business financing** and marketing to promote the state's outdoor **recreation economy**.

Ford supports expanding access to **pre-K** and **career and technical education**. He wants to pass legislation to guarantee school breakfast and lunch. He backs placing **literacy coaches** in the state's elementary schools and is also promoting **AI literacy** to prepare students for careers in new technologies.

He has touted several legal challenges against social media companies. He supports policies that would **restrict what he believes is an “addictive nature” of social media** and policies that allow **more parental control**. He wants a **prohibition** on the sale of student data. Ford has also vowed to strengthen law enforcement tools to combat **child exploitation** online.

In the first quarter of 2026, Ford raised more than \$1.2 million, the most raised by a non-incumbent gubernatorial candidate in Nevada history during that period.

With no presidential or U.S. Senate seat on the ballot this cycle, Nevada's gubernatorial contest has drawn considerable attention and is shaping up to be one of the more closely watched governor's contests of 2026. **The Cook Political Report has rated this race as a toss-up while Sabato's Crystal Ball rated it as Lean Republican.**

Trivia: Ford worked as a high school math teacher while pursuing his master's degree in international education.