

RANKED CHOICE VOTING AT THE OSCARS

THE OSCARS

Did you know? The Academy has used ranked choice voting for the Oscars since the 1930's to nominate choices in all the major categories AND since 2009 for the 'Best Picture' winner.

HOW IT WORKS

Best Picture (single-winner RCV)

Academy members receive a ballot with all eight 'Best Picture' contenders. Rather than pick just one, they rank all of their favorite nominees in order of preference.

All first choices are counted. If one movie gets more than half of first choices, it take home the trophy, simple as that. If not, the film with the fewest votes is eliminated and voters who picked that film as 'number 1' have their votes count for their next choice. This process continues until we have a movie with more than half the votes.

Nominations (multi-winner RCV)

Just like for Best Picture, Academy members rank their choices to select the nominations for all major categories: best actor, best actress, best director and so on. For most categories, members can rank up to five nominees. But

TRY IT OUT FOR YOURSELF!

	1 ST CHOICE	2 ND CHOICE	3 RD CHOICE	4 TH CHOICE	5 TH CHOICE	6 TH CHOICE	7 TH CHOICE	8 TH CHOICE
Black Panther	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BlacKkKlansman	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bohemian Rhapsody	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
The Favourite	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Green Book	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Roma	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A Star Is Born	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Vice	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

rather than half the votes, the winners secure a nomination by receiving a portion of the votes, equal to about 17 percent - assuming it's a five-item list.

Again, all first choices are counted. If a potential nominee has enough votes, it makes the shortlist. If fewer than five make the cut based on first choices alone, the lowest vote-getter is eliminated and backup choices are factored in until all five nomination slots have been filled.

If a contender wins a nomination with more than the threshold needed and there are still open nomination spots, any extra votes for that person or movie count proportionally toward voters' next choices. For example, if a movie or person receives 10 percent more first choices than what was needed to win, then a tenth of each of their supporters' votes count toward their next choices.

WHY IT WORKS

REFLECTIVE OUTCOMES

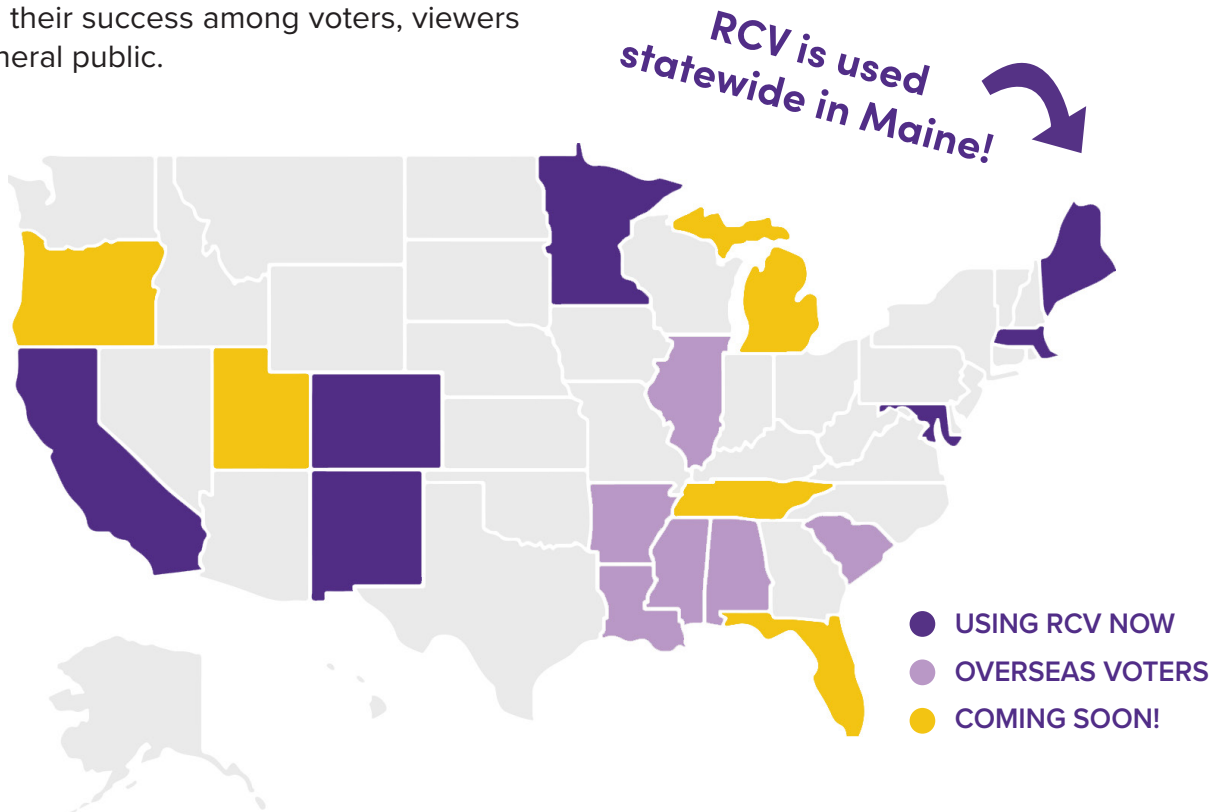
Nominees and 'Best Picture' winners reflect the diverse range of viewpoints, genres, themes and talents in the film industry.

MAJORITY WINNERS

Nominees and Best Picture contenders must earn the broadest possible support to win, legitimizing their success among voters, viewers and the general public.

SPOILER-FREE

Academy members are free to vote for the foreign film, the offbeat indie flick or the controversial political drama as their first, second and third choices without fear of wasting their vote or somehow inadvertently helping the film they like least.



Want to get involved? Email [\[yourstate\]@fairvote.org](mailto:[yourstate]@fairvote.org).