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1. API Documentation

1.1. API Endpoints

SOS has a JSON datafeed, allowing developers to submit a selected list of contests and receive a JSON response that contains only those selected contests.

For a complete list of endpoints, please refer to the **API Endpoints** document at https://www.sos.ca.gov/media/.

1.2. Schema

All API access is over HTTPS and available at https://api.sos.ca.gov. By default, the data is sent and received as JSON.

As an optional parameter, use **?f=csv** to output CSV formatted data.

1.3. Authentication

Authentication is not required for public access to the Election Night Reporting REST API v1. Private access is not provided to any data at this time. Requests requiring authentication may return "404 Not Found" instead of "403 Forbidden". This is to prevent accidental leakage of data to unauthorized users.

1.4. HTTP Verbs

GET commands are available through the public API.

1.4.1. GET requests

Some examples include:

URL Endpoint	Data Returned
`http://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/president/party/american-independent`	Returns statewide election results for the President – American Independent contest.
`https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/president/party/american-independent/county/lake`	Returns only Lake county election results for the President – American Independent contest.

1.4.2. Query endpoint requests

Requirements

- Tool that can submit GET requests to an API endpoint.
- Knowledge of Contest IDs. (Contest IDs are defined in section 1.1 of the Appendix.
- RaceIds are passed as a JSON array using parameter r.
- Maximum of 10 RaceIds per request. If there are more than 10 RaceIds in the request, then a 500 error will return.
- CSV format is not supported for this endpoint.

Some examples include:

URL Endpoint `https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query`	
JSON Array	**Data Returned**
`https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query?r=["01000300000059"]`	Returns statewide election results for the President – American Independent contest.
`https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query?r=["01000300000017"]`	Returns only Lake county election results for the President – American Independent contest.

1.4.2.1. Usage Examples for query endpoint requests

To retrieve results for the President – American Independent statewide

results:The GET request:

https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query?r=["01000300000059"]

The JSON response:

```
[
  {
    "raceTitle": "President American Independent - Statewide Results",
    "Reporting": "0% (0 of 58,000) precincts reporting",
    "ReportingTime": "October 13, 2023, 4:32 p.m.",
    "candidates": [
      {
        "Name": "Don Blankenship",
        "Party": "AI",
        "Votes": "0",
        "Percent": "0.0",
        "incumbent": false
      },
      {
        "Name": "Phil Collins",
        "Party": "AI",
        "Votes": "0",
        "Percent": "0.0",
        "incumbent": false
      },
      {
        "Name": "Roque \"Rocky\" De La Fuente",
        "Party": "AI",
        "Votes": "0",
        "Percent": "0.0",
        "incumbent": false
      },
      {
        "Name": "Charles Kraut",
        "Party": "AI",
        "Votes": "0",
        "Percent": "0.0",
        "incumbent": false
      },
      {
        "Name": "J.R. Myers",
        "Party": "AI",
        "Votes": "0",
        "Percent": "0.0",
        "incumbent": false
      }
    ]
  }
]
```

To retrieve the results for the U.S. Representative statewide District 40 districtwide results:

The Get Request:

https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query?r=["11000040000059"]

The JSON response:

```
[
    {
        "raceTitle": "U.S. House of Representatives District 40 - Districtwide Results",
        "Reporting": "0% (0 of 3,000) precincts reporting",
        "ReportingTime": "October 13, 2023, 4:32 p.m.",
        "candidates": [
            {
                "Name": "Anthony Felix Jr",
                "Party": "Dem",
                "Votes": "0",
                "Percent": "0.0",
                "incumbent": false
            },
            {
                "Name": "Lucille Roybal-Allard",
                "Party": "Dem",
                "Votes": "0",
                "Percent": "0.0",
                "incumbent": false
            },
            {
                "Name": "David John Sanchez",
                "Party": "Dem",
                "Votes": "0",
                "Percent": "0.0",
                "incumbent": false
            },
            {
                "Name": "C Antonio Delgado",
                "Party": "Rep",
                "Votes": "0",
                "Percent": "0.0",
                "incumbent": false
            },
            {
                "Name": "Michael Donnell Graham Jr",
                "Party": "AI",
                "Votes": "0",
                "Percent": "0.0",
                "incumbent": false
            },
            {
                "Name": "Rodolfo Cortes Barragan",
                "Party": "Grn",
                "Votes": "0",
                "Percent": "0.0",
                "incumbent": false
            }
        ]
    }
]
```

For a complete list of endpoints, please refer to the **API Endpoints** document at https://www.sos.ca.gov/media/.