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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
https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/ballot-measures	Returns statewide election results for the Ballot Measures contest.
https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/ballot-measures/county/alameda	Returns only Alameda County election results for the Ballot Measures 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=["19000000005059"]`	Returns statewide election results for the Ballot Measures contest.
`https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query?r=["19000000005017"]`	Returns only Lake county election results for the Ballot Measures contest.

1.4.2.1. Usage Examples for query endpoint requests

To retrieve results for the Ballot Measures statewide results:

The GET request:

https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query?r=["19000000005059"]

The JSON response:

```
[
  {
    "raceTitle": "Ballot Measures - Statewide Results",
    "Reporting": "0.0% (0 of 58,000) precincts reporting",
    "ReportingTime": "September 12, 2025, 1:57 p.m.",
    "ballot-measures": [
      {
        "Name": "Congressional Redistricting",
        "Number": "50",
        "yesVotes": "0",
        "yesPercent": "0.0",
        "noVotes": "0",
        "noPercent": "0.0"
      }
    ]
  }
]
```

To retrieve the results for the Ballot Measures statewide Alameda County results:

The Get Request:

> https://api.sos.ca.gov/returns/query?r=["1900000000501"]

The JSON response:

```
[
  {
    "raceTitle": "Ballot Measures - Alameda Results",
    "Reporting": "0.0% (0 of 1,000) precincts reporting",
    "ReportingTime": "September 12, 2025, 1:57 p.m.",
    "ballot-measures": [
      {
        "Name": "Congressional Redistricting",
        "Number": "50",
        "yesVotes": "0",
        "yesPercent": "0.0",
        "noVotes": "0",
        "noPercent": "0.0"
      }
    ]
  }
]
```

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