

Voting 101

Election Information for New Voters

Am I eligible to vote?

Each state has slightly different rules for who is eligible to vote. Generally, you must be:



A citizen of the United States



A resident of the community where you would like to vote (sometimes for a minimum amount of time)



At least 18 years old (in some communities, people under the age of 18 can register and vote in certain local or primary elections)

In some states, but not all, individuals may be disqualified from voting due to a felony conviction, judicial ruling, or other procedure. Contact your state or local election officials if you have questions about your eligibility to vote. To find your local election officials, you can go to www.vote.gov.

What do I need to do to vote?



Most states require voters to register before they can vote. Find your state's information, including voter registration deadlines, by going to www.eac.gov/vote.

How do I register to vote?



Online Some states offer online voter registration, or allow you to check your registration status online. You can find your state's information at www.eac.gov/vote.



At an Office You can register to vote in person at your local election official's office.



By Mail You can sign and return a voter registration form in the mail. You can find state-specific instructions and a voter registration form translated into 21 languages here: www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form.

Who can I ask for help?



If you have questions about the voting process, ask your local election official.

State and local election officials are the most trusted source of official voting information. Your local election officials can verify your registration status and provide information about when and where you can vote. Your local election official may also be able to provide you with a sample ballot or other information about which offices or issues will be on your ballot.





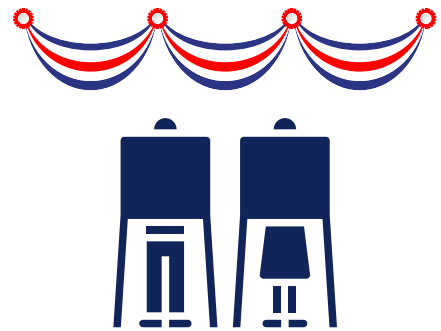


What can I expect when I go vote?

Voting In Person

Before you go to vote:

-  Find your assigned voting location
-  Check the times that the polls are open in your state



When you arrive at your polling place:



You will check in with a poll worker who will make sure that you are eligible to receive a ballot. In some states, you may need to show a government-issued photo ID before you can be issued a ballot.



You will be issued a ballot where you can select your choices. If you make a mistake on your ballot, you can ask for a replacement ballot. After you have finished marking your ballot, you will cast your ballot. Once your ballot has been cast, your votes are recorded.



You may also be able to receive assistance when you vote. All voters can vote using an accessible voting device, and some jurisdictions may provide ballots and other voting materials in languages other than English.




Voting By Mail

Depending on your state, you may be eligible to receive a ballot in the mail. Check with your local election official to find out how to receive a ballot in the mail, when and where to return your ballot, and how to track your ballot in the mail.



How can I help?

Every voter can help make sure that elections are fair, accurate, and secure. Here are some ways you can help:

-  Register to vote as soon as you are eligible.
-  Keep your voter information up to date. Contact your local election official if your name, address, or party affiliation change.
-  Verify any information about the voting process with trusted sources of information.



Finally, the best way you can help is by signing up to serve as a poll worker. Elections rely on tens of thousands of people just like you to serve their communities. Contact your local election officials to learn more about opportunities to serve your community. Find your state's information here: <https://www.eac.gov/help-america-vote>.