

more information at: <https://elections.ny.gov/request-ballot>. You can request either application from your county BOE, download from the State BOE (www.elections.ny.gov) or online through the state BOE at: <https://elections.ny.gov/request-ballot>. Upon completion, your application must be mailed or delivered to your county Board of Elections. Once they have received your application, your county Board of Elections will mail or give the ballot to you. To vote by absentee ballot or early mail ballot in New York State, your ballot must be postmarked on or before Election Day and must be received by the Board of Elections no later than seven days after Election Day.

If I register to vote, will I be called for jury duty?

The rolls of prospective jurors are compiled from a number of sources, so registering to vote does not necessarily mean that you will be called. Similarly, not registering to vote does not necessarily mean that you will not be called for jury duty. If you are called and feel that you cannot serve, jurors can often be excused for a valid health reason.

To obtain a voter registration form or absentee ballot application form, or to find out dates for early voting and election day, for registering, for filing absentee ballot applications, and submitting ballots:

- Call the NYS Board of Elections at 1-800-367-8683, or download the forms/calendar from the website for the New York State Board of Elections (www.elections.ny.gov).
- Call, write to, or download forms/calendar from the website for your local county Board of Elections. You can get their contact information from the NYS Board of Elections.

To check your voter registration status:

You should receive in the mail before the election a card that informs you of your polling place. If you do not receive such a card, call your local Board of Elections and ask them:

1. Am I registered to vote?
2. Is my registration status "Active"? If not, what is it?
3. Will my name appear in the polling place roll book on Election Day?

You may also check to see if you are registered at www.election.ny.gov

If you are not on the rolls at your polling place

If you believe you are registered to vote and are not on the rolls, ask for an "affidavit" (paper) ballot, and ask the poll worker for advice about following up on your status. You are legally entitled to an affidavit (paper) ballot and must be given one.

Please Join Us

Membership is open to women and men. There are 42 local Leagues across NY state. Joining at any level automatically confers membership at every level: local, state and national. Membership enables you to support the League and receive publications from all three levels, and provides the opportunity to be involved in local, state and national issues.

Visit www.lwvny.org and click on JOIN LWVNY. To find a local League in your area, click on FIND A LOCAL LEAGUE.



Register to Vote



Ways to Vote



The League's electronic voter guide can be found at www.vote411.org. Find all election related information on this website including where to vote, when to vote and how to vote. Also, just prior to any election, enter your address and find your specific ballot and information about the candidates on your ballot.



Vote 411

League of Women Voters® of New York State
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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

YOUR RIGHT TO
VOTE
IN NEW YORK STATE



College Students



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College Students

The right to vote is fundamental in a democratic society. The following information will help make it easy for you to exercise this right. To be eligible to vote, you must:

- be a United States citizen
- be 18 years old by the date of the general, primary or other election in which you want to vote
- live at your present address in New York State at least 30 days before an election
- not be currently incarcerated for a felony conviction
- not be currently adjudged mentally incompetent or incapacitated by a court order
- not claim the right to vote elsewhere
- have registered to vote

If you are in college, the following information will help you decide whether to register and vote in your home district/state or at your college address. There are many good reasons for registering and voting at either residence, but keep in mind, in most cases the final choice is yours. Some states do not allow college students to vote where they attend college if they are not permanent residents in that state. Check with the town or city clerk or the county Board of Elections in your college community to find out if you may vote from your college address. You may only register and vote in one location – either at your home address or at your college address.

Can I register to vote before I turn 18 years old?

16-and 17-year olds may now preregister to vote. You may pre-register in section 2 of the NYS voter registration form and you will automatically be eligible to vote when you turn 18 years old. You must be 18 years old to vote on or before the date of the general, primary or other election in which you want to vote.

What are the reasons for registering and voting in my college community?

In making the choice where to register to vote, you should consider that, while you might have a close relationship with and interest in your home community, you also have a stake in the local issues of your college community. Issues such as off-campus housing and zoning restrictions, the environment, taxes, transportation and personal safety all affect your quality of living. Voting in your college community also is more convenient and relieves you of the need to apply for and return an absentee ballot or an early mail

ballot. Every voter needs to have information about the issues and the candidates. Registering and voting at college can give you the opportunity to become involved with, and informed about, the local issues in your college town or city. Becoming involved in the issues, and learning about local politics are some of the ways in which you can begin to build a relationship with other residents of the community. If you consider the college community your primary residence, you should register to vote in that community.

Am I really a resident of my college community?

Although there have been some historical challenges to the residency of college students by some involved in elections in New York State, the county boards of election have become aware of the legal issues involved in questioning or challenging students about their current or future intentions for residing in the college locality. If you are concerned about how you will be treated when submitting your voter registration application in your college community, check with your campus student affairs office, NYPIRG chapter, or other student organizations involved in political activity. You can also check with the town/city clerk the county Board of Elections, or local League of Women Voters.

Students live in their college towns anywhere from nine to 12 months of the year, for at least four years. This means that students are no more transient than the average American family, which typically moves once every four years. Moreover, the U.S. Census Bureau considers students to be residents of their college community. Federal funds are distributed to municipalities based on figures that include the student population. Students contribute to the college community in many valuable ways. They work as volunteers in a host of civic organizations, help to create jobs in the community, bolster the local economy, and pay sales and gasoline taxes.

What are the reasons for registering at my home address?

If you don't consider your college community your primary residence and/or you have a special interest in the local issues at your home address, you have a good reason for voting there. The people and issues you vote for will have a more lasting impact on you if you intend to return to this location to live. It is also possible that you are still subject to taxes and student loan/scholarship regulations at your home address. If this is the case, having a voice in the policy decisions about these issues might be important for you. Just remember, if you want your vote to be counted at your home residence, you must be registered at

that address and be aware of absentee ballot or early mail ballot regulations and procedures. If you are not from New York State and wish to vote in your home community, check your state's Board of Elections website for information about how to do so.

How do I register to vote?

You may register to vote online at the State Board of Elections website; see: <https://elections.ny.gov/voter-registration-process>. Or you may register by completing and submitting a voter registration form. You can preregister when you are 16- or 17-years old; however, you cannot vote unless you are 18-years old by the date of the general, primary or other election in which you want to vote. You may preregister/register in person at your local Board of Elections or at any state agency participating in the Agency-Based voter registration center (see state BOE website for list). You may preregister/register by mail. Forms are available from your county Board of Elections, town and city halls, post office, political parties, various state offices, and the League of Women Voters. Contact the League of Women Voters of New York State, the New York State Board of Elections, or your county Board of Elections to have a voter registration form sent to you. You may also download a voter registration form in New York State from www.elections.ny.gov. Complete, sign, and submit the form, either in person or by mail. If you have a current New York driver's license and internet access, you can register to vote online with the New York DMV. Visit the following website to register: <https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/electronic-voter-registration-application>.

How do I know how, when, and where to register and vote?

- All information about how to register to vote is on the state Board of Elections website at <https://elections.ny.gov/register-vote>
- You must register to vote at least 10 days prior to that election day.
- All dates and deadlines for registering to vote and to vote can be found at <https://elections.ny.gov/registration-and-voting-deadlines>
- To confirm that you are registered to vote and to find your poll site location, go to <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/> or contact your county Board of Elections

How do I get an absentee ballot or early mail ballot?

You may request an absentee ballot or early mail ballot to vote by mail. Both require you to complete an application and a ballot will be mailed to you. See the state BOE for

