

# PART 3: HOW TO VOTE

## CHECK IF YOU'RE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

For system-impacted citizens, learning if you can vote can be complicated or confusing. In some states, those with felony convictions might not be eligible to register to vote, but in other states they are eligible. Today, a number of states are restoring the right to vote for those who have completed their sentence.

You can find out if you are eligible to vote by visiting Campaign Legal Center and using their free tool:

[www.campaignlegal.org/restoreyourvote](http://www.campaignlegal.org/restoreyourvote). If you run into trouble using this tool, or have a question about your convictions you can also call (888) 306-8683 (toll-free) or email [RestoreYourVote@campaignlegal.org](mailto:RestoreYourVote@campaignlegal.org).

## REGISTER TO VOTE

If you are eligible to register to vote, you can do so online in most states at: [www.vote.gov](http://www.vote.gov). Registering to vote is simple — all you'd need to provide is the following:

NAME

ADDRESS

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR ID NUMBER

If you'd like to register to vote in-person, you can visit your state or local election office or often the DMV. Find your local election office here: [www.usa.gov/election-office](http://www.usa.gov/election-office).

Every state except North Dakota requires citizens to register if they want to become voters. Deadlines for voter registration vary by state. Check the [US Vote Foundation](http://USVoteFoundation.org) to find your state's requirements.

## AT THE POLLS

If you are planning on voting in-person in November, you may need to prepare to arrive at your polling place with photo ID or proof of residence. To check what is required in your state, visit: [www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote](http://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote)

Voting by mail is an option for casting your ballot. **Voters in 45 states and the District of Columbia will be able to vote by mail.** However, voters in 16 states must qualify before receiving an absentee ballot. Check if that's your state [here](#). To learn more about your state's rules and how you can sign up to vote by mail, or request a ballot [click here](#) or go to [your state election office website](#) to find out how and where to drop your ballot off.

Some states have proposed new legislation in 2021 that may impact absentee or early voting. Be sure to stay informed this election cycle and check with your local news outlets or local officials to be aware of any changes in your county not reflected in this toolkit.



**IF YOU ARE GOING  
TO VOTE IN PERSON**  
please remember to take  
precaution, wear a mask,  
keep a social distance, etc.



## CHECK YOUR STATE'S REGISTRATION DEADLINE.

Most are between 7 and 30 days before elections, but 19 states and DC allow same state registration. To learn about your specific state's deadline go here:

[www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines](http://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines)

REPRESENT  
**JUSTICE**

### KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT THE POLLS

**Due to an uptick in restrictive voting laws, it's critical to know what your rights are before you head to the polls.**

- If the polls close while you're in line, you still have the right to cast your ballot.
- You can request a new ballot if you make a mistake on yours.
- You don't have to speak English to vote. Federal law says voters who have a hard time reading or writing in English can receive in-person help at the polls from a person of their choice.

**If your poll worker says your name isn't on the list of registered voters, you can:**

- Ask them to double check.
- Ask for a supplemental list of voters.
- Ask them to help you confirm you are at the correct polling place.
- Ask for a provisional ballot. If you are eligible and registered to vote, officials are required to count your provisional ballot.

**If you are a voter with a disability, you can:**

- Bring a friend or family member to assist you at the polls. Just be sure to let the poll worker know you've brought someone to help.
- Ask a poll worker to meet your needs. If the lines are long and you can't stand, an official can bring you a chair. If you need a quiet place to vote, an election official is required to make reasonable accommodations to help you vote.

**If you have questions on Election Day or witness or experience harassment on your way to vote, you can call the Election Protection Hotline.**

**ENGLISH: 1-866-OUR-VOTE | 1-866-687-8683**

**SPANISH: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA | 1-888-839-8682**