

ST. JOHN'S RED STORM

VOTING GUIDE



YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE

Voting is one of our most basic freedoms, yet often, young people have difficulty navigating the voting registration process. The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee here at St. John's (with resources from the BIG EAST partnership with R.I.S.E. (Ross Institute for Sports Equality) has put together this resource guide, so your voice can be heard! Empower yourself, protect your freedoms--do your part and vote!

ITEMS COVERED :

Section 1 : Voting Deadlines

Section 2 : How To Register/Change Information

Section 3 : Different Ways to Vote

Section 4 : Where to Vote

Section 5 : Types of Elections

1. VOTING DEADLINES

NEW YORK ELECTION SCHEDULE

ELECTION DATE : NOVEMBER 3, 2020

DEADLINES :

- Oct. 9 : Register to Vote Online
- Oct. 9 : Register to Vote by Mail
- Oct. 9 : Register to Voite in Person
- Oct. 27 : Request a Ballot By Mail
- Oct. 24 - Nov. 1 : Early Voting Period

REGISTER TO VOTE

CLICK HERE

FIRST TIME VOTERS

CLICK HERE

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR NEW YORK STATE

IN PERSON : Received 1 day before election Day

BY MAIL : Postmarked on election day and received 7 days after election day or turned in by hand on election day

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES

<https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot-deadlines/>

COVID-19 VOTING DEADLINES

<https://www.vote.org/covid-19/>

2. HOW TO REGISTER/CHANGE INFORMATION

CHECK REGISTRATION STATUS

NEW YORK RESIDENTS

Visit: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>

NON-NEW YORK RESIDENTS

Visit: https://www.vote411.org/search-by-topic?tid_1%5B0%5D=12

NOT REGISTERED?

Don't worry! Registration is a click away using the tools here to help you achieve voter registration status in your home state.

GET REGISTERED TODAY

Visit: <https://www.vote411.org/register>

Visit: <https://www.vote.org/register-to-vote/>

NEED TO CHANGE/UPDATE VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION?

The information on your registration needs to be up to date and current. Changing voter information includes if you have **moved within your state, changed your name, or you are updating your political party affiliation**. If you move out of state, you must register to vote in the new state you reside in (**use the links above to find out how to register**).

CHANGE VOTER INFORMATION

Visit: <https://www.usa.gov/change-voter-registration>

3. WAYS TO VOTE

In the U.S., there are different ways to vote - and now that you're registered let's take a look at how you can:

OPTION 1: ABSENTEE BALLOT

As a college student, you may be at a school that is not in your home state, that's okay - you may qualify to submit an absentee ballot for the election. **COVID-19** may also be another reason you will have the option to cast an absentee ballot. For further information, check in with your local board of elections (**see Section 4 for how to find your local board**)

REQUESTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

An absentee ballot request form can be obtained from your state's website. Be sure to check deadlines (**see Section 1**). To request an absentee ballot, you must already be registered to vote (**see Section 3 for more details**).

NEW YORK RESIDENTS

Visit, fill out, and mail-in the attached form to your local county board of electoins:
<https://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/AbsenteeBallot-English.pdf>

EVERYONE

Visit: <https://www.usvotefoundation.org/?phoneNumberTypes=Home&phoneNumberTypes=Work&phoneNumberTypes=Mobile&phoneNumberTypes=Other>

OPTION 2: EARLY VOTING

Depending on your state, you may be allowed to participate in early voting. **COVID-19 has pushed some states to allow voters to fill out ballots early** - check your state's guidelines for early voting options.

Visit: <https://www.vote.org/early-voting-calendar/>

OPTION 3: ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER, 3, 2020

Be aware of changes in voting sites, **check with your state's guidelines for voting sites and procedures, as COVID-19 may impact voting**. See Section 5 for the types of elections and what you will be seeing on your ballot.

4. WHERE TO VOTE

In the United States, voting is done via in-person polling places, or by casting an absentee ballot. **COVID-19 may possibly impact the voting process at the polls, so please be sure to look for updates online or contact your local board of elections for more information.**

Contact your local board of elections:

Enter your information using the links below to find the contact information for your local board of elections and to access the election offices in your area.

Visit: <https://www.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/election-official-directory>

Visit: <https://www.usa.gov/election-office>

VISITING THE POLLS

Polling sites are specific to you depending on your address. Polling sites are generally open from 6:00am to 9:00pm to ensure people have the chance to vote on election day. However, use “Find Your Poll Site” for New York Residents or “Polling Place Locator for non-New York Residents to confirm your site location and times open.

FIND YOUR NY POLL SITE

Visit: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>

POLLING PLACE LOCATOR

Visit: <https://www.vote.org/polling-place-locator/>

You are required to vote at the polling site assigned to you. Confirm your address is current, and update the address listed on your voter registration if you have moved (**see Section 2 on how to update**). This will ensure that you are assigned to a polling site in your area. **If you vote at a polling site outside of the one you are assigned your vote may not be counted - as you will have to enter a provisional ballot.**



5. TYPES OF ELECTIONS

PRIMARY ELECTIONS

The primary election **determines the candidate for each political party that will run for President**. This election takes place before the general election, and begins in late January or early February.

Closed Primary:

This category of the primary election requires you to vote for the candidate from your affiliated party, which can be filled out on your voter registration form (**see Section 2 for filling out registration**).

Open Primary:

This category of the primary election allows you to enter a ballot for a candidate from any party running, regardless of your party affiliation.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

The general election takes place every 4 years, on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November (see Section 1 for dates and deadlines).

Voter ballots are for:

- **President, and Vice President of the United States**
- **Federal Offices:** U.S. Senate and House of Representatives
- **State Officers:** Governor; Lieutenant Governor; Secretary of State; Attorney General; State Treasurer; State Controller; State Senate and Assembly members; State and Board of Education members; State Judges
- **County Offices:** Assessor; Auditor; Clerk; Commissioner; District Attorney; Sheriff; Treasurer; Judges; County Representatives
- **Municipal Offices:** Mayor; City Manager; Judges Council members; School Board members; etc.
- **Ballot Measures and Proposed Legislation**

STATE AND LOCAL ELECTIONS

State and local elections occur in any given time throughout the year. These elections are specific to your area and address on your voter registration. Make sure your current address is represented on your voter registration (**see Section 2**).

- These elections include: governor, state legislature, or city's mayors, judges, and local officials.

FIND YOUR STATE AND LOCAL ELECTION INFORMATION

Visit: <https://www.usa.gov/election-office>