



2026 Voting Guide

WHY VOTING MATTERS

Voting is your right. It is one way you can speak up about what matters to you. When you vote you help choose leaders and laws that affect your daily life. This includes things like health care services, housing, education and community support.

Some people feel unsure about voting or think it is too hard. This guide is here to help. You can take your time, learn the steps to register to vote and ask for help if you need it.



WHO CAN VOTE IN NEW YORK

You can vote if you:



Are a US Citizen



Are 18 years old
by Election Day



Live in
New York State



Are registered
to vote

If you are not sure if you are registered you can check your status online or ask for help.

Check your voter registration status here: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>

HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE

You must register before you can vote. You can register:



Online



Mail



In person at certain
government offices

When you register you will share basic information like your name and address. If you need help filling out the form, contact your Care Manager to help you.

Online Voter Registration

For online voter registration you will need to use a NY.Gov ID.

Once you fill out your application, it will be sent to your County Board of Elections site for approval.

You can visit this website to start your online registration: <https://my.ny.gov/LoginV4/login.xhtml>

Mail In Voter Registration

In New York State, you can request a registration form the following ways:

- Request a New York State Voter Registration form by mail by entering your name directly into our [Voter Registration Form Request mailing list](#)
- Call our 1-800-FOR-VOTE (1-800-367-8683) hotline to request a voter application

Once the form is filled out, you need to print the form and sign and date it. Then, mail the form to your [county board of elections](#).

In Person Voter Registration

In New York State, you can register in person in the following ways:

- At your [county board of elections](#)
- At any New York State [Agency-Based voter registration center](#)
- At the Department of Motor Vehicles, either in person or on their website if you already have DMV-issued identification

Once the form is filled out, you need to print the form and sign and date it. Then, mail the form to your [county board of elections](#).

WAYS TO VOTE

You have more than one way to vote. You can choose what works best for you:



Vote in person on Election Day at your polling place



Vote early in person before Election Day



Vote by mail by asking for a ballot to be sent to you



Military or overseas voting if you are away from home

Each option has its own steps and deadlines so it is important to plan ahead.

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Primary Election: June 23, 2026

Register by: June 13, 2026

General Election: November 3, 2026

Register by: October 24, 2026

You must register at least 10 days before any election.

You can return your absentee ballot in any of the following ways:

For the June 23, 2026 Primary Election:

- 1 Mail it in no later than June 23rd.
It must be received by the County Board of Elections no later than June 30th.
- 2 Bring it to your County Board of Elections Office no later than June 23rd by 9pm.
- 3 Bring it to an early voting poll site in your county between June 13th and June 21st.
- 4 Bring it to a poll site in your county on June 23rd by 9pm.

For the November 3, 2026, General Election:

- 1 Put it in the mail no later than November 3rd.
It must be received by the County Board of Elections no later than November 10th.
- 2 Bring it to your County Board of Elections Office no later than November 3rd by 9pm.
- 3 Bring it to an early voting poll site in your county between October 24th and November 1st.
- 4 Bring it to a poll site in your county on November 3rd by 9pm.

You can track your absentee ballot here: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>

Vote by Mail (Absentee Ballots)

If you are interested in voting by mail you need to request an absentee ballot.

You can do that in a few different ways:

- Apply online at <https://ballotapplication.elections.ny.gov/home/earlymail>
- Go to your local county board of elections
- By designating another person to deliver your application in person to your local county board of elections and receive your ballot



If you have a print disability, which means any disability that interferes with the effective reading, writing or use of printed material, and would like a ballot with accessible features, you may apply using the online Accessible Ballot Application portal.

Print disabilities include:



Blindness or Low Vision



Dyslexia



Dysgraphia



Learning Disabilities



Physical disabilities that limit writing abilities

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

When you vote you have the right to:



Vote by yourself and in private



Get help from a poll worker or someone you trust



Use a polling place that is accessible



Bring a service animal



Ask for a chair or a quiet place to wait

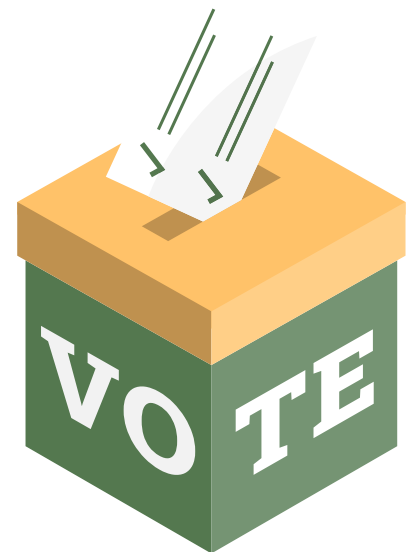
You should feel safe and respected when you vote. If something does not feel right, you can speak up and ask for help.

TIPS TO MAKE VOTING EASIER

- Look at a sample ballot before you go so you know what to expect
- Check your polling place location and hours
- Plan how you will get there and how long it may take
- Ask for help if you need it

You can also:

- Get voting materials in different languages
- Use an accessible ballot if you have trouble reading print
- Report any problems at your polling place so they can be fixed



YOU CAN DO THIS

Voting may feel new or confusing but you are not alone. Many people need help the first time they vote. Take your time, ask questions and use the support around you. Your voice matters, and your vote is important.