

GET READY TO VOTE

Election 2016: Be Prepared

Author: The Advocacy Center advocacycenter@advocacyla.org

The November 8, 2016 election promises to be an exciting one for Louisiana voters. In addition to the presidential race, voters will choose among 24 candidates to replace Senator David Vitter and select their representative from numerous candidates for the US House. Voters will decide on 6 constitutional amendments and vote in local elections, too.

With only two months until the election, it's time to make sure that you are prepared to vote. Here are some things you can do to prepare:

Register to Vote

You must register by **October 11th** to be eligible to vote in the November 8th election. You can register in several ways:

- Online at <http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/Pages/OnlineVoterRegistration.aspx>,
- Via mail. Download a voter registration card to mail to the Registrar of Voters in your parish at <http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/ApplicationToRegisterToVote.pdf>, or
- In person at the Registrar of Voters in your parish. Visit <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/Registrar> to see the locations for the Registrar of Voters offices in each parish.

To be eligible to vote in Louisiana, you must:

- be a U.S. citizen;
- be 18 years old by the date of the election;
- not be under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony;
- not be under a judgment of full interdiction for mental incompetence or partial interdiction with suspension of voting rights; and
- reside in the state and parish in which you seek to register.

Make a Plan to Vote

You can vote in person during early voting, in person on Election Day or via mail. Early voting is available from October 25th to November 1 for the November 8th election. On Election Day (November 8th), polls will be open from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Visit <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/> to find the locations of early voting site in your parish and the location of your polling place. If you are planning to vote in person, consider any transportation barriers that you may face.

If you are planning to vote by mail, you can request your absentee by mail ballot now. To request a ballot by mail and learn more about the process of voting absentee by mail, visit <http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/Vote/VoteByMail/Pages/default.aspx>.

Learn More about the Candidates and Issues

When deciding how to vote, it's important to talk to people who you trust and look for non-partisan resources. Non-partisan means non-biased. These resources are created by organizations that do not support any particular candidate or political party.

Disability groups from across the state are partnering to conduct a survey of the candidates for US Senate and House. Responses will be posted on October 5th on the Advocacy Center's website, www.advocacyla.org so stay tuned for additional information.

Visit <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/> to view your ballot and prepare to vote.

Sample ballots for the November 8th election will be available several weeks before the election.

The list of constitutional amendments is available at <http://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/ProposedConstitutionalAmendments2016.pdf>.

Seek Help if You Need It

If you encounter any problems or have questions about the election process, the Advocacy Center is here to help. Call 1-800-960-7705 or email at advocacycenter@advocacyla.org.



Changing Lives Every Day.