

Voter Registration  
in New York State  
SUNY-Broome EOP Program 8/17/21

***IT'S YOUR FUTURE! VOTE!***



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*The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, volunteer organization working to promote informed and responsible participation of citizens in government.*

*The League neither supports nor opposes any political candidate or party.*



# 2020 Presidential Election and Voter Turnout

- **Age 18-29: 50%**

Source: Circle at Tufts University (Estimates) <https://circle.tufts.edu/2020-election-center>

- **Overall: 66.7%**

Source: Pew Research Center, <https://www.pewresearch.org/>

- **NYS: 63%**

- **Highest: Minnesota 80% Lowest: Oklahoma 55%**

- Source: Statista, <https://www.statista.com/>

- **NYS was in the lower 22% of nationwide turnout**

- **39 states had higher turnout than NYS**



# Why Vote?

- Why your vote matters: Elected officials pay more attention to people who vote.
- By voting, you are putting the issues you care about on the table!
- Local elected officials have responsibility for policing, education, housing, transportation and more.
- Cities and states can take action when there is gridlock at the federal level.
- Voting is habit forming!
- Positive social pressure increases voting!



# What's on the ballot in November?

## Local major races:

### Broome County:

- Broome County Clerk
- Broome County Family Court Judge

### City and Village:

- City of Binghamton Mayor
- Village of Johnson City Mayor

## Statewide Ballot Referenda: Vote Yes or No (On reverse side of ballot) If approved by voters, referenda are amended to the NYS Constitution.

- *Amending Apportionment and Redistricting Process*
- *Right to Clean Air, Water and Healthy Environment*
- *Eliminate Ten-Day Advance Voter Registration Requirement, also known as same-day voter registration*
- *No Excuse Absentee Voting*
- *Increase Jurisdiction of NYC Civil Court*



# Voting FAQ's

## To vote, you must be:

- a U.S. citizen;
- 18 years old by election day; You must be 18 in order to vote, but if you are 16 or 17 you can submit your voter registration form and it will become active once you turn 18;
- A resident of your county, city, town or village for 30 days preceding the election day;
- Registered to vote;
- Not be in prison for a felony conviction;
- Not be adjudged mentally incompetent by a court;
- Not claim the right to vote elsewhere. If you have moved since the last time you voted, changed your name or want to update your political party affiliation you need to update your voter registration.



# Where and How to Register

- **Online.** [New York State Department of Motor Vehicles](#) Use your address on your driver's license.
- **By Mail.** Complete, sign, print, mail to your County Board of Elections. When using a paper form, use your *local* address.
- **In-Person.** Go to your County Board of Elections.
- **TurboVote.** <https://sunybroomer.turbovote.org/> Use this if you have a driver's license.

Voter Registration forms here:

<https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingRegister.html>



# Required fields to complete on the form.

*Voter Registration forms are legal instruments.*

*It is a crime to procure a false registration or furnish false information to the Board of Elections. If completing by hand, Use black or blue ink only.*

- ✓ Qualifications Section (Q. 1&2) which includes U.S. Citizenship and age
- ✓ Name
- ✓ Birth Date
- ✓ Address
- ✓ Voting history
- ✓ Voting info that has changed (n/a if you have not voted before)
- ✓ Identification: Drivers License Number and/or last 4 digits of your Social Security Number
- ✓ Affidavit: Swear and Confirm - Signature and Date



# Political Parties

- Should I register with a political party? It's your decision!
- New York has closed primary elections, which means that you can only vote in the primary if you are registered with a party that is holding a primary election. You can always change your party affiliation by submitting a new voter registration form, but keep in mind that NYS has deadlines to change your party affiliation. The deadline to change party affiliation for the 2021 elections was Feb. 14th.
- You may select a listed political party affiliation, write in something different under "Other" or select No Party.
- No matter what party you are registered in you can vote for any candidate in the general election.
- All political parties have a specific platform or stance on issues. Go to their websites to be informed.





# How do I know I am registered?

- If using the NYSDMV, they will send your information to your County Board of Elections.
- The County Board of Elections will mail you a post card verifying you are registered and informing you of the poll location you will need to go to in order to vote on Election Day and/or Early Voting Sites (which may differ from that on Election Day).
- Not sure if you are registered? Check here for your [registration status](#) or call your county Board of Elections office.



# Other Student FAQ's

- You can register at your permanent home address (typically a parent's address) or at the on-campus or off-campus address where you live while attending school. ***Students who register using their permanent home address will need to return home to vote on Election Day or vote by absentee ballot.*** Students who register using their school residence hall address will vote at a polling site near their residence.
- Out-of-state students can register using their local address in Broome County.
- Registering locally will not impact your residency status for tuition purposes or impact your federal financial aid. You can change your registration at any time by filling out a new voter registration.
- ***You can only be registered and vote in one location.***
- ***Completing a new voter registration form will nullify any previous registration information.***



# Absentee Ballots

- In NYS you must submit a *request for absentee ballot* and provide a reason for not being able to vote at your poll location on election day.
- Info and forms here to file online absentee portal or paper form: <https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html> Complete and return to your County BOE.
- Upon approval the BOE will send you an absentee ballot with instructions on how to complete and return.
  - *The deadline for the postmarked return of an absentee ballot is **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** for the general election.*



# Dates/Deadlines

- **GENERAL ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 2** Polls open 6 am – 9 pm
- **EARLY VOTING OCTOBER 23 – OCTOBER 31**
- October 8 Last day to postmark your voter registration form *or* register in person at your county Board of Elections office.
- October 13 Last day for BOE to receive change of address (only for current New York State registered voters who moved within the state)
- October 18 Last day for board of elections to receive absentee application or letter of application by mail, online portal, email or fax for general election ballot
- November 1 Last day to apply in person for absentee ballot
- November 2 Last day to postmark absentee ballot
- November 2 Last day to deliver absentee ballot in-person at board of elections or any poll site in your county.



# How can I be updated on election dates and issues?

- **TEXT VOTENY to 474747**

- The LWVNYS service that will send out updates and voting reminders.

- Go to [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org)



- A service of the LWVUS, information on who is running in your area and what the candidate positions are on various issues.



*Do your homework on the issues you care about, the candidates running for office, and their positions on those issues.*

*THEN GO VOTE!*  
*IT'S YOUR FUTURE!*

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF BROOME & TIOGA COUNTIES

*Questions? Call or E-Mail*

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