Are You Ready to Vote: FLORIDA?

Updated Friday, October 9, 2020

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020

When voting, you have the right to:

☑ Bring someone of your choice to help you vote in the voting booth if you have some difficulty with English.
☑ Vote without being intimidated or discriminated against by others.

➢ Intimidation or discrimination at the polls may look like harassing you or denying you the right to vote because of your accent or challenging your right to vote under the false stereotype that you are not a citizen because of your race.

Who Can Vote in Florida

- A United States citizen;
- Be a Florida resident;
- Be at least 18 years old (You may pre-register to vote if you are 16 years old);
- Not have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting in Florida or any other state without having the right to vote restored; and
- Not have been convicted of a felony without your voting rights having been restored.

You must be registered to vote in order to cast a ballot.

Key Dates

- Tuesday, October 6 – Voter registration deadline
- Monday, October 19 – Some counties will start ballot drop boxes at Early Voting Locations.
- Saturday, October 24 no later than 5 pm local time – Recommended that voters apply for absentee ballots before this day to ensure enough time to receive and return their ballot.
- Saturday, October 24 – Saturday, October 31 – In person early voting period. Some counties may offer additional early voting days, (check here: [https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/early-voting/](https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/early-voting/))
- Monday, October 12 – Monday, November 2 – All Elections Offices’ Official Ballot Drop Boxes open 24/7.
- Tuesday, November 3 – Election Day! Vote in person at your polling place or make sure your absentee ballot is received by this day by 7 pm.

Voter Registration: Are you registered?

- Have you registered to vote?
  - Yes
  - Confirm you are still registered where you live now: [https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus](https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus)
  - If you are no longer registered, re-register today: [https://registertovoteflorida.gov/eligibilityreactive](https://registertovoteflorida.gov/eligibilityreactive)
  - If you are not registered at the correct address, update your registration: [https://registertovoteflorida.gov/eligibilityreactive](https://registertovoteflorida.gov/eligibilityreactive)
Register today!

Online: https://registertovoteflorida.gov/eligibilityreactive

- You will need:
  - Your Florida driver license (Florida DL) or Florida identification card (Florida ID card) issued by the Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles;
  - The issued date of your Florida DL or Florida ID card; and
  - The last four digits of your Social Security Number (SSN4).

Mail:

- English
- Spanish

Address your envelope to your County Supervisor of Elections (inside form).

Using the National Mail Voter Registration Form: https://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form

- The National Mail Voter Registration Form can be used to register U.S. citizens to vote, to update registration information due to a change of name, make a change of address, or to register with a political party.
- You must follow the state-specific instructions listed for your state. They begin on page 3 of the form and are listed alphabetically by state. After filling out this form, you must sign your name where indicated and send it to your state or local election office for processing. Be sure you mail it in an envelope with the proper amount of postage.
- Download the Form in 15 Languages:
  - National Mail Voter Registration Form – English
  - طلب تسجيل الناخب – Arabic
  - জাতীয় ডাক ভোটার নিবন্ধন ফরম – Bengali
  - 国家邮件选民登记表 – Chinese
  - Inscription sur les listes électorales – French
  - Aplikasyon Enskripsyon Elektè – Haitian Creole
  - राष्ट्रीय डाक मतदाता पंजीकरण फॉर्म – Hindi
  - 国立メール有権者登録フォーム – Japanese
  - សញ្ចើប្រវត្តិទិន្នន័យអំពីអ្នកអំបូរ – Khmer
  - 전국 우편 유권자 등록 양식 – Korean
  - Solicitação para cadastro de eleitor – Portuguese
  - Заявка на регистрацию избирателя – Russian
  - Formulario nacional de inscripción de votantes – Spanish
  - National Mail Form ng Pagpaparehistro ng Botante – Tagalog
  - Mẫu đăng ký quốcgia Thư cử tri – Vietnamese

- Make sure you have the necessary documentation to register.

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**Vote by Mail (VBM)/Absentee Ballots**

- Did you request a mail in ballot?
  - Yes
    - You can track your mail-in ballot status at: https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus
  - No
    - If you would like to request a mail in ballot, there may still be time to do so.
      - You must first be registered to vote in Florida.
      - The deadline to request that a VBM ballot be mailed is no later than 5 pm on the 10th day before the election (Saturday, October 24). A Supervisor of Elections must mail the ballot
out within two business days after a request and the last day for a Supervisor to be able to mail out a ballot is eight days before the election.

- A request for a VBM ballot may be made in one of the following ways:
  - Online application on your county Supervisors of Elections' website;
  - By other writing (e.g., by email, fax, mail) to Supervisor of Elections;
  - In person at Supervisor of Elections;
  - By telephone call to Supervisor of Elections.

- The VBM request must include the following information:
  - The voter’s name;
  - The voter’s address;
  - The voter’s date of birth; and
  - The voter’s signature (if the request is written and the request is to an address other than the one on file). Note, an exception to this requirement exists for absent uniformed service voter or an overseas voter seeking a VBM ballot.

- A voter can designate an immediate family member (the designee’s spouse or the parent, child, grandparent, or sibling of the designee or of the designee’s spouse) or the voter’s legal guardian to request a VBM ballot on their behalf. The following additional information is required for the request:
  - The requestor’s address;
  - The requestor’s driver’s license number (if available);
  - The requestor’s relationship to the voter; and
  - The requestor’s signature (if the request is written).

- A voter can pick up their own VBM ballot at any time once the ballot becomes available, including Election Day.

- A voter’s designee can pick up a ballot but no earlier than 9 days before Election Day. A designee is limited to picking up VBM ballots for two other voters per election (not including their own ballot and the ballots for immediate family members). The designee must submit an affidavit to pick-up the voter’s blank ballot. Form DS-DE 37 (English PDF/ Español PDF) is a combination form that includes the affidavit for ballot pick-up, the written authorization for the designee, and if a request is not already on record, the voter’s request for a VBM ballot.
  - If a voter or designee waits until Election Day to pick up or have delivered a VBM ballot, the Election Day VBM Ballot Delivery Affidavit (DS-DE 136 - English PDF/ Español PDF) must also be completed. The voter must affirm that an emergency exists that keeps the voter from being able to vote at his or her assigned polling place.

- How can I return my mail in ballot?
  - Instructions are included with the VBM ballot. Follow them fully and carefully.
  - If you’d like to drop off your mail in ballot,
    - VBM ballots may also be returned at secure Official Ballot drop boxes at Supervisor of Elections’ main and branch offices and early voting sites in your county. Please contact your Supervisor of Elections or visit their website for the location of all VBM ballot secure drop boxes in the county.
  - If you plan to use U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to mail back your ballot,
    - A returned voted ballot must be received by the Supervisor of Elections’ office no later than 7 pm (local time) on Election Day. Other return options are available for Military and Overseas Voters under certain circumstances. USPS recommends that domestic nonmilitary voters, mail back their voted ballots at least 1 week before the Election Day deadline to account for any unforeseen events or weather issues. The Federal Voting Assistance Program provides recommended earlier timelines (see timetable at bottom of FVAP’s website) for absent military and overseas voters. For more information about election mail and the USPS, click here.
      - TIP: Do it early! At the latest, send it back at least one week before Election Day.
If you decide to go to your polling place. Bring your VBM (marked or not). The VBM ballot will be canceled and the voter can vote a regular ballot at the polls. If you go to the polls without the VBM ballot, then you can vote a regular ballot only if the supervisor of elections’ office can confirm that it has not received your VBM ballot. If it is confirmed that the supervisor of elections office has already received your VBM ballot or it cannot be determined, you cannot vote a regular ballot at the polls. However, if you believe that you have not already voted, you will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot. 

Devise a plan of action if you do not receive the ballot or do not receive it in time to (What to do if do not receive in time and/or cannot get it back in time).

In Person Voting

- If you’d like to vote early:
  - Early voting is generally available Saturday, October 24, 2020 – Saturday, October 31, 2020. Some counties may offer additional early voting days. Check to see your county’s early voting dates here: [https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/](https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/)
    - Early voting hours must be at least eight hours but no more than 12 hours per day each site during the applicable period.
  - Early voting locations: [https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/](https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/)
  - Voters who want to vote early should present the following at the early voting site:
    - a valid photo identification; and
    - a signature identification.

- If you plan to vote on Election Day:
  - The polls are open on Election Day from 7 am until 7 pm. Any voters waiting in line at 7 pm will have the opportunity to cast a ballot.
  - If you do not know where your polling place is, contact your county Supervisor of Elections. You can also find your precinct and polling place on your county Supervisor of Elections’ website or by using the [Voter Information Lookup](https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/).

Voter ID

- Whether during early voting or on Election Day, you will be asked to provide at the polls a valid photo ID with signature. Any one of the following photo IDs will be accepted:
  - Florida driver’s license
  - Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
  - United States passport
  - Debit or credit card
  - Military identification
  - Student identification
  - Retirement center identification
  - Neighborhood association identification
  - Public assistance identification
  - Veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs
  - License to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued pursuant to s. 790.06
  - Employee identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality.
  - If your photo ID does not include your signature, you will be asked to provide another ID that has your signature.

- If you do not bring proper ID, you can still vote a provisional ballot. As long as you are eligible and voted in the proper precinct, your provisional ballot will count provided the signature on your provisional ballot matches the signature in your voter record.
Language Assistance

You have the right to language assistance during voting.

- **Under Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act you can bring your own interpreter/or translator to the polls, as long as they are not your employer or an agent of your union.**
  - **TIP:** If you need language assistance, ask for help and find a person willing to help!
- Florida is not required to provide language assistance in an Asian language.
- Check your state and law laws for any additional language assistance requirements.

For more information, visit:

https://dos.myflorida.com/elections/

www.advancingjustice-aajc.org/election2020

If you have any questions about voting, no matter how big or small, call us at 1-888-API-VOTE (1-888-274-8683) for help in English, Mandarin (普通話), Cantonese (廣東話), Korean (한국어), Vietnamese (tiếng Việt), Tagalog, Urdu (اردو), Hindi (हिंदी), and Bengali/Bangla (বাংলা). We are available to provide assistance leading up to, on, and after Election Day.