

Youth Voting Guide



WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO VOTE?

I live in WASHINGTON, D.C.	I live in MARYLAND (MD)	I live in VIRGINIA (VA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Be a U.S. citizen & D.C. resident for at least 30 days before the election- Be 16 years old*- Not registered to vote in another state- Not have been found by a court to be legally incompetent to vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Be a U.S. citizen & MD resident- Be 16 years old*- Not be convicted of buying or selling votes- Not under guardianship for a mental disability and found by a court to be unable to communicate a desire to vote- Not convicted of a felony	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Be a U.S. citizen & VA resident- Be 18 years old- Not registered to vote in another state- Not currently declared mentally incompetent by a court of law- If convicted of a felony, your right to vote must be restored

HOW TO VOTE IN 5 EASY STEPS!

STEP 1: REGISTER TO VOTE

D.C., MD and VA allow residents to register online, in-person or by mail. You may pre-register to vote if you will be 18 years old by the general election. **Visit your state board of elections website to learn more!**

STEP 2: KNOW THE CANDIDATES

Select candidates that are running for political office based on your own research. Do not rely solely on social media or media coverage of the candidate or party affiliation. It is important that you learn the issues that are important to each candidate.

STEP 3: KNOW THE RULES

Most voting stations are open 12 hours on election day. According to federal law, first-time voters must bring a valid photo ID or a bill, pay stub or government document showing their name and current address.

STEP 4: FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE

State election offices determine your polling place by your voter registration address. It is important that your voter registration address is current.

STEP 5: CAST YOUR BALLOT

You can vote in-person or by mailing in an absentee ballot. If you are unable to vote on the day of the election, there may be opportunities to cast your ballot early.

* In D.C., you may pre-register to vote if you are 16 years old. You may vote in a primary election if you are 17 years old and will be 18 years old by the next general election. In MD, you may register to vote if you are 16 years old but cannot vote unless you will be 18 years old by the next general election.

ARE YOU READY TO VOTE?

Are you 16 years old?

YES - You may be able to pre-register to vote. You may not vote in a primary election until you are at least 17 years old and will be at least 18 years old by the next general election.

NO - You are unable to pre-register to vote until you are 16 or 17 years old. Please visit your state's board of elections website to confirm requirements.

Do you have proof of residency?

YES - Be sure to bring an acceptable form of identification the first time you vote.

NO - Please visit your state's board of elections website to find out what form of identification is accepted and okay to use.

Do you want to register to vote online or by-mail?

ONLINE: Please visit your state's board of elections website. You can also register through www.RocktheVote.org or www.Vote.org.

BY MAIL: Please visit your local registration office to receive a hard copy application to mail in or print application.

VISIT YOUR STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO LEARN MORE!

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS	https://www.dcboe.org/
MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS	https://elections.maryland.gov/
VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS	https://www.elections.virginia.gov/

The information provided is in no way intended to reflect an endorsement for, or opposition to, any candidate or political party.

