

Student Voting Rights



Every registered voter is allowed time to vote on Election Day.

Each student should enjoy the rights and privilege of voting as a U.S. citizen. Students on clinics must meet clinical and patient obligations but remember that there are four options for voting:

- 1) **Early voting – includes Saturday until noon.**
- 2) **Mail-in ballot – as a full-time student, you may qualify for a mail-in ballot. Apply early.**
- 3) **Voting before or after clinics. Most polls are open between 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.**
- 4) **Request voting leave – must request at least 24 hours in advance (no more than 3 hours leave).**

U.S. citizens 18 and over may register to vote. You may choose to vote in your home state or county by absentee ballot or register as a new voter at your current, local address.

A **Knox County Voter Registration form** is attached for your convenience or may be downloaded at: <https://www.knoxcounty.org/election/pdfs/registration.pdf>

Voting rules across different areas of the United States may be found here: <https://www.usa.gov/register-to-vote>

Voting rules in the United States are different in every state. Federal and state elections in the United States are run by the states themselves, according to [Article I](#) and [Article II](#) of the Constitution. No two states run their elections exactly the same, so contacting your [state or local election office](#) is the best way to find out about your state's unique election rules.

The basic steps to vote are the same in most states. Despite the differences in how states run elections, the basic steps to vote are the same almost everywhere:

- Every state except North Dakota requires you to register to vote.
- Every state has absentee voting.
- Most states assign you a specific polling place or voting location. A few states have ballot drop sites instead.

These voting guides explain the basics of voting, no matter where you live:

- [A Voter's Guide to Federal Elections](#) (PDF, [Download Adobe Reader](#))
- [14 Facts About Voting in Federal Elections](#) (PDF, [Download Adobe Reader](#))

Register to Vote

If you need to register to vote, visit [Vote.gov](https://www.vote.gov). Depending on your state's voter registration rules, the site can help you:

- Register online. This is available for [37 states plus the District of Columbia](#).
- Download the [National Mail Voter Registration Form](#). You can fill it out onscreen and print the completed form, or print the blank form and fill it out by hand. Remember to sign the form before mailing it to the location listed for your state.
- Find guidance for states and territories with different registration procedures.