

Primer – Registering Voters
Last Day to Register is October 13th, 2020

1. Who may register to vote in New Jersey?
 - a. US citizens (you will be asked) at least 17 years old (but may not vote until reaching 18 years old) and reside at your present address for at least 30 days.
 - b. Effective March 17th, 2020, you may re-register to vote if you are on parole or probation.
2. Who may NOT register to vote in New Jersey?
 - a. Those who have been judged to be mentally incapacitated.
 - b. If you are currently incarcerated due to a felony conviction.
3. Who should re-register to vote?
 - a. Those who have had a name change.
 - b. Those who have had an address change. If you moved within the county since you originally registered and HAVEN'T re-registered, you have the right to vote by provisional (paper) ballot. This provisional ballot will serve as your registration for the future.
 - c. Those needing a signature update if you think your signature has changed since you originally registered. (There have been cases of ballot rejections due to signature mismatches.)
4. Am I already registered to vote?
 - a. Check on VOTE411, accessible via www.lwv.org, scrolling down and clicking on NJ.
 - b. Call the Bergen County Superintendent of Elections, open Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:00pm, at 201-336-6101.
5. When is the last day to register to vote?
 - a. October 13th, 2020 (21 days before the election).
6. How do I register to vote in New Jersey?
 - a. By mail: registration forms can be printed from www.njelections.org or www.lwvnj.org. When completed, send to the County Superintendent (the address is on the form, postage prepaid.)
 - b. Forms are also available at the Library and Village Hall lobby.
 - c. You may register to vote at a Motor Vehicle Agency while applying for or renewing a driver's license or a non-driver's identification card.
 - d. Online voter registration will be available September 4th, 2020.
7. What should I emphasize when guiding new voters to fill out the form?
 - a. Check one of the boxes on top of the form.
 - b. When filling in an address, understand that "municipality" means "town".
 - c. A driver's license number or the last 4 digits of a social security number must be included.
 - d. Choosing a political party is optional (you can explain Primary elections).
 - e. A signature is necessary. (Explain that each time they vote, their signature must match the one used on their registration form).
8. How should college students register to vote?
 - a. Registered college students residing at home will be sent vote-by-mail ballots directly to their home. If residing at college, students should send an application to vote-by-mail in order to have a ballot sent to their college address.
 - b. The deadline to apply for a vote-by-mail ballot is October 27th, 2020. Applications may be found at www.njelections.org.

NEW AND IMPORTANT ELECTION UPDATES

1. When will I receive my Mail-in-Ballot?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Mail-In-Ballots will begin to be sent to registered voters by September 25th. b. If you have not received your ballot by October 5th call the Bergen County Clerk at 201-336-7020.
2. Does my signature on my ballot have to match my signature on file at the County Board of Elections?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes! It must match or your ballot might be rejected. b. You can update your signature by filling out a new voter registration form. Check the box "Signature Update" on the top of the form. Download a form at www.njelections.org or complete online at www.VOTE411.org. Don't delay! c. With the help of the LWV of New Jersey, the Ballot Cure Act was passed to allow voters whose ballots are rejected for a "missing or discrepant signature" to be notified and given the opportunity to "cure" the signature defect in time for voters to have their votes counted.
3. How do I return my ballot?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. You can return your ballot via the U.S. Postal System. It will have prepaid postage on the envelope. It is recommended that you return it this way as soon as possible after you receive it. Or, b. You can drop your completed, signed and sealed ballot into one of the secure (24/7-hour surveillance) red, white and blue Ballot Drop Boxes located throughout the county (in Ridgewood, outside the lobby entrance of Village Hall, 131 N. Maple Ave). c. Ballots deposited in the Drop Boxes will be picked up daily by a Republican and Democrat employee of the Bergen Co. Superintendent of Elections and will be driven by an officer of the Bergen Co. Sheriff's Office directly to the Bergen Co. Superintendent of Elections.
4. May I vote in person on election day?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. You may vote in person at your polling location only by Provisional (paper) Ballot. These ballots will be counted AFTER all the Mail-In-Ballots are counted. b. If you are disabled, blind or illiterate, you may vote using the ADA approved voting machines. c. You may also drop off your completed Mail-In-Ballot at your designated polling location.
5. Where is my designated polling location?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. In Ridgewood there will be three (3) consolidated polling places open on Election Day (November 3rd) from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm,. b. Districts 1-9: Ridgewood Public Library (auditorium) 125 Maple Ave. Districts 11, 12, 14, 15, 16: George Washington Middle School (gym) 155 Washington Place Districts 10, 13, 17, 18, 19: Somerville School (gym) 45 S. Pleasant Ave.
6. Can I track my ballot to be sure it is received by election day?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes! Visit www.njelections.org and use the tab marked "Track Your Ballot".

VOTE EARLY! VOTE EARLY! VOTE EARLY! VOTE EARLY!