

NOVEMBER 5: General Election

Register to Vote..... Oct 21
Conditional Voter Registration..... Oct 22-Nov 5
Return vote-by-mail ballot..... Nov 5

Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before November 5, 2024, and received by county elections offices no later than November 12, 2024.

How do I register to vote?

To register to vote in California, you must be:

- A United States citizen and a resident of California;
- 18 years old or older on Election Day;
- Not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony; and
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.

If you are eligible, you can register to vote or update your registration online at registertovote.ca.gov. If you would like to fill out a physical form, voter registration applications can be found at post offices and libraries.

You must re-register to vote if you move, change your name, or change your political party preference.

Can I pre-register to vote in California?

Yes, to pre-register to vote in California, you must:

- Be 16 or 17 years old; and
- Meet all the other eligibility requirements to vote.

After pre-registering, you will automatically be registered to vote on your 18th birthday. Go to registertovote.ca.gov to pre-register to vote.

What if I miss the voter registration deadline?

If you miss the deadline to register to vote 14 days before an election, you can still go to your county elections office, vote center, or polling place on or before Election Day to complete the conditional voter registration process (often referred to as "Same Day Voter Registration"). You will have to fill out a

voter registration card and will be given a ballot. Once county elections officials have verified your voter registration, your vote will be counted. Contact your county elections office for more information or visit vote.ca.gov.

What if I need to check my voter registration status?

To check your voter registration status - including political party - you can use the "My Voter Status" tool at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov. You can also call our Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683) for your status.

When will I receive my ballot?

County elections officials will mail vote-by-mail ballots to all active registered voters for every election if they have registered before the voter registration deadline. October 7, 2024, is the last day for counties to begin mailing ballots for the November 5, 2024, General Election.

What if I need a replacement ballot?

If you did not receive your vote-by-mail ballot, or you lost or destroyed your original ballot, you may apply for a replacement ballot. Only the registered voter themselves may request a replacement ballot. The replacement ballot application can be found at <https://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/vote-by-mail/pdf/replacement-application.pdf>.

This application will need to be returned to your local county elections office. You may also request a replacement ballot from your county elections office by phone, email, fax, or other electronic means.

When will I receive my State Voter Information Guide?

Registered voters will receive their state Voter Information Guide by mail from the Secretary of State's office a few weeks before Election Day. The state Voter Information Guide will also be available online at voterguide.sos.ca.gov. You will also receive a county Voter Information Guide which will include information about local contests, how and where to vote, and a sample ballot. These will be mailed

out by your local county elections office. You can contact your [county elections office](#) to request a county Voter Information Guide or to find out more about local election information.

What if I need my state voter information guide in a different language or alternative format?

The statewide voter information guide is available in 10 languages. Audio and large print versions of the guide are also available for voters who are blind or visually impaired. Visit [voterguide.sos.ca.gov](#) to order a free copy.

How can I return my vote-by-mail ballot?

You may return your vote-by-mail ballot by:

- Mailing it to your county elections official. Your ballot must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by your county elections office no later than 7 days after Election Day;
- Dropping your ballot into one of your county's ballot drop boxes, or at a [ballot drop-off location](#), or a polling location anywhere in the state; or
- Asking someone you trust to return your ballot for you, as long as they do not get paid on a per ballot basis.

How can I track my ballot to find out if it has been received?

Voters can receive notifications on the status of their vote-by-mail ballot by signing up for the "Where's My Ballot?" tool. Sign up at [wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov](#) to receive automatic updates on the status of your vote-by-mail ballot by text message (SMS), email, or voice call.

How can I find out if my ballot has been counted?

You can go to "My Voter Status" to find out if your vote was counted and if not, why not at [voterstatus.sos.ca.gov](#).

How do I find my polling place, vote center, or a drop box?

- Visit [caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov](#) to find your nearest drop box location
- Contact your [county elections office](#)
- Call the Secretary of State's Voter Hotline - (800) 345-VOTE (8683) or visit [voterstatus.sos.ca.gov](#)

You can also check with your county's elections office for updated information on your polling place, vote centers, or ballot drop-off locations.

How early can I vote?

Your county may offer early voting locations before Election Day. For a list go to [caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov](#). October 7, 2024, is the last day for counties to begin mailing ballots for the November 5, 2024, General Election. To ensure your vote-by-mail ballot is counted, it must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by your county elections office no later than 7 days after Election Day.

Is my vote secure?

Yes, California exceeds federal requirements for election security. Every vote must be cast on a paper ballot or have a voter verified paper audit trail. Voting equipment used to cast and count ballots must be certified for use in California and kept offline. Elections officials conduct post-election audits, including a manual tally of a sample of ballots, after every election to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the vote count. Voters can find official, trusted election information as well as learn more about our election security safeguards, and cybersecurity efforts at [sos.ca.gov/elections/election-cybersecurity](#).

How can I get up-to-the-minute election results?

- Statewide election vote counts can be found at [electionresults.sos.ca.gov](#)
- Follow us on X @CASOSvote



[registertovote.ca.gov](#)