

### **Voter Education Program Information**

The Leon County Supervisor of Elections Office is proud to partner with Leon County Schools to offer voter education opportunities. These opportunities can be a great fit for history or social studies classes. Students can learn about how elections work in Florida, gain experience using actual voting equipment, and have the opportunity to register to vote.

Every year, the fourth Tuesday in September is celebrated as National Voter Registration Day. We want to make sure that every eligible resident of Leon County has knowledge and tools to register to vote.



You can request the voter education opportunities we offer by submitting a <u>Community Involvement Request</u> to us online or by contacting our office.

- Invite a speaker Mark S. Earley, Supervisor of Elections for Leon County, or a member of our staff, can speak to your class about voting. We offer both in-person and virtual options.
- Voting machines for school elections Use official ballots and voting machines to
  conduct your school election. This is a free service once a calendar year for a K-12
  school, public or private. We need to approve a proof of your ballot at least 2 weeks
  before your scheduled election date.
- Voter registration drive We can help you organize the drive and provide supplies, including education materials, application forms, and return envelopes. The drive can be as large as a school-wide event or as small as a single classroom. We offer both in-person and virtual options.

Voter registration drives are a great opportunity to directly involve your student district advisory council members and student government association officers. Have them create event posters, social media posts, and make announcements. Hold the drive on a significant date such as:

- September 28, 2021 Join millions who will register to vote on National Voter Registration Day.
- January 18, 2022 register to vote following the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, a memorable day resolved by the Leon County School Board and Student District Advisory Council in the 2019-2020 school year.



In order to register, a person must be a US citizen and at least 18 years old. Students that are 16 and 17 years old can pre-register by following the same steps. That way, when they turn 18, they will automatically become fully registered to vote.

# Registering to Vote Online

An easy way to register to vote is to have students visit <a href="www.RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov">www.RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov</a>, the state's online voter registration system. They will need a computer with permission to access that website and time to go through each screen, approximately 10-15 minutes.

To apply online, students will need:

- Their Florida driver license number or Florida identification card number.
- The issued date of their Florida DL or Florid ID card.
- The last four digits of their social security number.
- Additional personal information, including political party preference and legal residence address.

Once all of the entries into the online registration system are complete, the form can be submitted electronically, and will be automatically sent to our office.

## What if a student needs to print or complete a paper application?

If there is an error or a blank field, the state's online voter registration system has an option to start and then print a pre-filled paper application.

- Access to a printer is needed to complete this step.
- The paper application requires a signature.

If students use paper forms or need to print their application from the state's online voter registration system, **do not** collect the form from them. Instead, we can provide you with return envelopes addressed to our office that you can give to them. They can then easily mail the application to us directly without you having to collect the form.

Before collecting completed voter registration applications, you first need to sign up as a third-party voter registration organization (3PVRO). You do not need to sign up if:

- You are helping your spouse, child, or parent to register.
- If a voter submits their application directly through <u>www.RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov.</u>
- If you are only handing out blank voter registration forms.



## What happens after they submit the form?

Students that submit the online application should expect to receive a new voter information card in the mail within a week or two if they are 18+ years old. Students that are 16 or 17 years old should expect to receive a confirmation letter in the mail. Their new voter information card will be mailed immediately following their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. They will be eligible to vote in elections that occur on or after their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

If the student mailed or delivered a paper application:

- We verify the ID information and enter the data into the Florida Voter Registration System.
- Our office will mail a new voter information card (or confirmation letter) within a week or two after processing the application.

If the student does not receive their card (or confirmation letter), they should call our office to make sure we have the correct address.

If an application is incomplete, our office will mail the voter a letter with instructions for completing a new application.

## Key things to share with voter registration applicants

Florida has a statewide voter registration system.

- Address changes in Florida can be made within the 29-day deadline, including on election day.
- Florida's voter registration deadline is 29 days before an election. This deadline applies to new registrations and political party affiliation changes.
- Once you are registered in Florida, your registration moves with you. Make sure you update your address whenever you move.



Florida is a closed primary state.

- Since Florida is a "closed primary" election state, the races and candidates that appear on your primary election ballot depend on your party affiliation.
- There are often nonpartisan contests in a primary election. Voters who are registered with no party affiliation may vote in these contests when they appear on the ballot.
- In a general election, you can vote for any candidates on your ballot, regardless of party affiliation.

#### Resources

We can provide:

- Voter education publications
- Florida Voter Registration Application forms
- Return envelopes
- Additional information about using the state's online voter registration system.
- Voter Services phone support from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Our staff can answer questions about registering to vote.

### **Contact Information**

Leon County Supervisor of Elections



- **Phone** (850) 606-8683
- Email <u>Vote@LeonVotes.gov</u>
- Web LeonVotes.gov visit us online to check your voter information.

Spanish language resources are available upon request.

To learn more or schedule voter education opportunities, contact our office.