

Your Vote Matters!

Voting in Pennsylvania

as of January, 2024
(this presentation is current as of this date)

League of Women Voters of the Pennsylvania Capital Region

Go to <https://www.lwvpacapreg.org/>

See this presentation on the "Resources"
page

Join us! We are non-partisan ~
memberships are as little as \$5 per year!

Why Vote?

Local, state and national officials make decisions on ...

Your Education: public college tuition, financial aid terms, school curriculum requirements

Your Job/Income: minimum wages, hours, safety standards, licensing requirements, tax rates

Your Health: health care and health insurance availability

Your Life and Your Future: community safety, immigration regulations, criminal justice issues, gun control, climate change and environmental policies, gender equality issues

Voting is Easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Register to Vote

2. Educate yourself about candidates
and issues

3. Vote by mail or in person

Register to Vote

You must be a US citizen and a resident of your election district for at least 30 days prior to the election

You must be 18 years old by election day
(the next PA election is April 23, 2024)

Register at vote.pa.gov/
OR complete a paper registration form

You'll need your drivers license, PA ID or the last 4 digits of your SSN

The deadline to register is 15 days before the election
(April 8, 2024) -- **BUT DON'T WAIT!**

Educate yourself on candidates & issues

Non-partisan information sources:

<https://www.vote411.org/>

<https://justfacts.votesmart.org/>

<https://ballotpedia.org/>

<http://www.civicinfluencers.org>

<https://www.factcheck.org/>

<https://www.politifact.com/>

Educate yourself some more

Partisan and disinformation sources:

- Individual candidate websites
- Partisan news outlets (go to <https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-chart> for news bias ratings)
- Facebook, Twitter, etc!

Vote in Person

- Find your polling place on your voter registration card or at vote.pa.gov/
 - Polls are open on Election Day from 7 AM to 8 PM
 - Be prepared to show photo ID or ID with address IF you're voting at that polling place for the first time

Vote by Mail or Absentee Ballot

What's the difference?

A mail-in ballot is available to anyone – no excuse required

An absentee ballot is available to those who are unable to vote in person for a specified reason

Request either on vote.pa.gov/ – you'll be asked questions to determine which type of ballot you'll receive. Both are processed exactly the same way!

Vote by Mail or Absentee Ballot

Must apply for a mail-in/absentee ballot by 5:00 PM on the Tuesday before the election (April 16, 2024) – but **DON'T WAIT TO APPLY**, or your ballot may not be received by you and returned to your county by Election Day

Mail-in/absentee ballots must be received by your County Elections Office by 8:00 PM on Election Day ~ so
DON'T WAIT TO MAIL!

Vote by Mail or Absentee Ballot

Be sure to follow ballot instructions, including completion of the required information and returning both envelopes

Ballots must be returned by mail or in person (no third party delivery, with few exceptions)

Secure ballot drop boxes may be available in your county – availability is a county decision

Changes for Voting (as of 2020)

May request to be placed on a permanent absentee or mail-in voter list

No straight-party voting

Use vote.pa.gov/

(to register, check registration, change address or party affiliation, find polling place, request mail-in ballot, track mail-in ballot status, etc.)

Positions to be elected in 2024

Positions to be elected vary by area, but include important National and State positions:

President of the United States

US Senator

US Representative

PA Attorney General

PA Auditor General

PA State Treasurer

Senator in PA General Assembly (odd numbered districts)

Representative in the PA General Assembly

Delegate to the National Convention (Democrat and Republican)

Alternate Delegate to the National Convention (Republican only)

Important Dates 2024

- Last day to register to vote before the April Primary Election: April 8, 2024
- Last day to request a mail-in/absentee ballot: April 16, 2024 (but don't wait until then!)
- Mail-in/absentee ballots must be received by your county elections office by 8:00 PM on Election Day (April 23, 2024)

Your Vote ~ Your Future

In the last (2020) Presidential election

Nearly 160 million people voted –
about 67% of the voting-eligible population,
the highest number in 120 years

BUT

Nearly 80 million eligible people did NOT vote

WHO DO YOU WANT TO DECIDE YOUR FUTURE?

Source: census.gov