

2020-21 FCPS High School Voter Registration and Education

What are the requirements for registering to vote in Virginia?

- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Must be 18 on or before the next General Election. Thus, 17-year olds born on or before November 2nd, 2003, can register now!
- Must be a resident of Virginia
- Must have had their rights restored if they have committed a felony
- Must have had their rights restored if they have been judged mentally incapacitated by a Circuit Court

How do students register?

Visit lww-fairfax.org/hsvr where you will find an official, unique online registration link for each FCPS high school.

High School Voter Registration Challenge

FCPS high schools, unleash your creativity! Develop your own plan to increase students' understanding of voting and encourage eligible students to register to vote. In May, the School Board will recognize the schools that demonstrate significant support for voter registration and voter education. See www.lww-fairfax.org/hschallenge

How can LWVFA help?

Visit lww-fairfax.org/resources for voter registration instructions and teacher resources. You will find links to PowerPoints, teacher scripts, videos, and more.

Do you know that there is a new law in Virginia regarding voter registration in public high schools? It is [HB 1491](#).

Election Date	Election	Must have been born on or before this date to vote	Voter Registration Deadline
5/4/2021	Town of Vienna Council	5/4/2003	4/12/2021
6/8/2021	Democratic Primary for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Virginia House of Delegates	11/2/2003	5/17/2021
11/2/2021	Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Virginia House of Delegates	11/2/2003	10/11/2021



Questions? Want more information? Want us to come to your school?

Please contact Alice.Reilly@lww-fairfax.org.

Student Volunteers? Write to HSvolunteers@lww-fairfax.org

Social Media: Post / Tweet #FCPSVotes #Vote



lww-fairfax.org/hsvr

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I register to vote online?

A: Maybe! If you have a Virginia drivers' license or DMV Number from your learners' permit, then yes. Otherwise, you can start the voter registration process online, then print out the form and mail it in. **You can find your high school listed here:**

lww-fairfax.org/hsvr

Q: Can 17-year-olds register to vote in Virginia?

A: Yes! As long as they will be 18 by the next General Election in November, they can register to vote.

Q: OK, so many 17-year-olds can register, but can they actually vote in Virginia?

A: Sometimes! If they are registered and will be 18 on or by the General Election, then they can vote in a primary election or a special election that occurs in advance of the General Election. For example, registered 17-year-olds can vote in primary elections and special elections if held.

Q: What about students who are not US citizens?

A: Only US citizens can vote, so no, they cannot register. Holders of Green Cards are not US citizens. It would benefit any of us to test ourselves on the questions to become a US citizen:

my.uscis.gov/en/prep/test/civics/view How did you do?

Q: Do I need an ID to vote?

A: Virginia law requires you to show one acceptable ID to vote or sign an ID Confirmation statement. As of July 1st, 2020, the types of IDs expanded. Go to www.lww-fairfax.org/voter-information

Q: Once I register, everything is set, right?

A: Well, let's hope so. Look out for a post card from the Office of Elections with your precinct and polling place location. If it did not go through, you will receive a letter with your new application form. Check out your voter registration status online to verify that you are registered. Think of this process as an "application to register to vote." Visit elections.virginia.gov/index.html

Q: Is there a Virginia law requiring public schools to offer voter registration opportunities to their students?

A: Yes, it is HB 1491

Q: Once I'm registered, can I vote anywhere I want?

A: Nooooooooooooooooooooo! (Should we repeat that?! Noooooooooooooooooooo!). It's not like an ATM. On Election Day, you have to vote only in the precinct where you are assigned. If you are away in college and you change your voter registration to that location, you can only vote there. If you are still registered at home, then you can only vote in your home precinct. But **DOUBLE, TRIPLE CHECK** to verify your polling place! Don't show up at the wrong place and be disappointed. Go to vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/Lookup/polling

Q: Can I vote early (absentee voting)?

A: Yes! Virginia used to require an excuse to vote early, but now everyone can vote absentee either by mail or in person!

To vote by mail, fill in your ballot, SEAL the envelope, SIGN the envelope, have a witness sign the envelope, and put a STAMP on it. Your mail must be postmarked by Election Day, but mail it way early, so that it is received in time (three days after Election Day).

Q: What if I move?

A: Federal law requires the US Post Office to send a notice to the Office of Elections with any change of address. The Office of Elections will then send you a postcard verifying the change. **Pay attention!** This is a big reason that people end up having a problem with their registration.

Q: What about students whose parents are in the military and hold residency in other states. Should these students register to vote?

A: These students do need to talk to their parents to see where their parents would like them to register to vote, whether in Virginia or elsewhere.

For students who are residents of other states, visit the League of Women Voters' one stop shop for voter information, vote411.org/register

Voter Information: lww-fairfax.org/voter-information

College Voters: lww-fairfax.org/college

Voters with Special Needs: lww-fairfax.org/snvoters

Absentee Voting: lww-fairfax.org/absentee-voting
Virginia Citizens' Portal:
elections.virginia.gov/index.html



www.lww-fairfax.org/hsvr