# **Municipal Election**



# **Early Voting**

October 20 to November 2, 2025

Monday to Sunday

# **Election Day**

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

## Office of the Secretary of the State

State of Connecticut

(860) 509-6100

LEAD@CT.gov

# 2025

# **Election Update**

laws and procedures have understandably caused concern and confusion among Connecticut voters.

In Connecticut, we have always protected elections with multiple layers of security, including the statewide use of paper ballots, rigorous post-election audits, and clear procedures to track and verify ballots. We also work to continually strengthen our election system, most recently by adding video monitoring to drop box sites and investing \$20 million in new, state-of-the-art voting tabulators. These efforts reflect our commitment to improving the process, responding to challenges, and building voter confidence through transparency.

emarks in the national news about changing election

Connecticut will continue to safeguard election integrity and protect the processes that have served our state well for generations. My office will remain vigilant in monitoring federal actions while also making ongoing improvements to ensure our election system remains strong, resilient, and worthy of the trust voters place in it.

# **Table**

# **Of Contents**

## **Page**

- 01. Election Day Fast Facts
- 02. New Voting Tabulators
- 03. Who Can Register to Vote?
- **04.** What's on the Ballot
- **05.** Rules for Candidates Whose Workplace is an Early Voting Site
- **06.** Voter ID Requirements
- **07.** Same Day Registration (SDR)
- **08.** What Are Your Rights as a Voter?
- **09.** Three Ways to Vote in Connecticut
- 10. All About In-Person Early Voting
- 11. All About Election Day Voting
- 12. All About Absentee Voting
- 13. Tips for Overseas and Military Voters
- 14. Voting if Currently or Previously Incarcerated
- 15. What to Expect for College Students
- 16. Election Laws
- 17. Voting Accessibility Options
- 18. Language Assistance
- 19. Sample Ballots
- 20. Civic Education
- **21.** Important Links

# **01. Election Day**

# **Fast Facts**

**Relevant Dates and Deadlines:** 

# Friday, October 3, 2025

Absentee Ballots are available to be mailed to electors with an approved absentee ballot application (you may submit your absentee ballot application at any time).

# Friday, October 17, 2025

#### **Deadline for:**

- Mail-In Voter Registration Applications to be Received or Post-Marked by this day to the Registrar.
- Online Voter Registration by 11:59 pm.
- Voter Registration at the DMV by the close of business.
- In-Person Registration with your Registrar of Voters by 8 pm.

# Monday, October 20, 2025–Sunday, November 2, 2025

- Early Voting Period 10 am 6 pm every day, except October 28 and 30 when hours are 8 am 8 pm.
- Same Day Registration (**SDR**) is available to all residents who are eligible to vote.

# Monday, November 3, 2025

Absentee ballot must be submitted to the Town Clerk by 4pm, if submitted in person by the voter.

# Election Day: Tuesday, November 4, 2025

- 6 am 8 pm: Polls Open
- Absentee ballot must be submitted:
  - In a drop box or by mail by 8 pm,
  - To a Town Clerk by 8 pm, if submitted by the designee of an ill or disabled voter.
- Same Day Registration (SDR) is available to all residents who are eligible to vote.



# Did you Know?

01

The Connecticut Secretary of the State

Oversees state election procedures and information regarding them.

02

**The State Elections Enforcement Commission** 

Responsible for ensuring independent, non-partisan enforcement of all election laws.

03

**Registrars of Voters and Town Clerks** 

Maintain records and implement elections at the municipal level.

**SOTS Website:** MyVote.CT.gov Registrars of Voters List

**Town Clerks List** 

SEEC Website: Connecticut State

Elections Enforcement Commission



Secretary Stephanie Thomas

# **02. New Voting**

# **Tabulators**

This year voters will experience a new, state-of-the-art tabulator at their polling place.

#### What's New

- A bigger screen for easier viewing.
- Instant verification that the tabulator successfully read and recorded your vote.

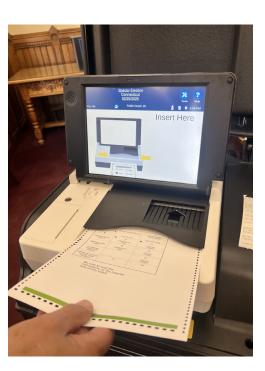
#### What's the Same

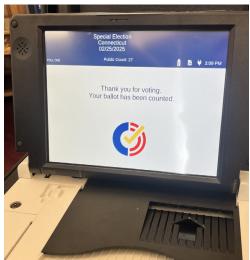
- We're still using paper ballots.
- We're still not connected to the internet.
- Voting is still quick, easy, safe, and secure.

#### **What Voters Need to Know**

- Voters will mark ballots the same way.
- Voters will insert ballots the same way.
- The machine will count votes the same way.

#### Same Vote. Better Tools!





# **03. Who can Register**

# To Vote?



You are eligible to vote in Connecticut IF you:

Are a US citizen old, or and resident of Connecticut Election

Are 18 years old, or turning 18 before Election Day

Have completed confinement, if you were convicted of a felony

#### How do I know if I'm registered to vote?

Check on the Voter Registration Lookup or contact your local Registrar of Voters.

#### How can I register to vote?

- **01.** Online
- 02. In-person at your Registrar of Voters office
- 03. By Mail
- 04. At a DMV Location
- **05.** Same Day Registration during Early Voting and on Election Day.
- O6. Designated Voter Registration Agencies such as armed forces recruitment offices, public libraries, public universities/colleges, and other public assistance offices that are required to have voter registration forms available.

You are not a voter until your application is approved by the Registrar of Voters. You should receive a confirmation within 3 weeks. If you do not, contact the Registrar of Voters in your town. The following residents are not eligible to register or vote: Green card holders, permanent legal residents, DREAMers, and Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals (DACA) residents.

10 |

# 04. What's on

# The Ballot?

Each municipality will have different positions on the ballot based on how your municipality is organized. As a service to voters, the Secretary of the State's Office posts sample ballots, listed by municipality, on a rolling basis, as our office receives information from municipality Clerks. Please check our website <a href="MyVote.CT.gov/sampleballots">MyVote.CT.gov/sampleballots</a> 1-2 weeks prior to the election. Several of the common positions that might be found on your ballot are described below.



#### **Mayor or First Selectman**

The chief executive officer who leads, is the public face of the town, and works with the legislative body to develop and implement policies.



Town Council/Common Council, Board of Selectmen, Board of Aldermen, Board of Councilmen

The group that is responsible for making policy, approving the budget, and enacting ordinances.



#### **Board of Education**

Oversees the public school system in the town, setting educational goals, approving budgets, and hiring key personnel like the superintendent.



#### **Board of Finance**

Acts as the budget-making authority for the town, helping ensure the town's financial health.



#### Constables

Authorized to serve various legal documents related to civil matters, including summonses, subpoenas, and other court-related papers, plus other specialized duties.



#### **Registrars of Voters**

Each town elects two Registrar of Voters

– one Republican and one Democrat.

They are responsible for administering elections and maintaining accurate voter registration information.



#### **Town Clerk**

Responsible for maintaining town records, issuing licenses and permits (marriage, death etc.), administering absentee voting, and more.



#### Treasurer

Manages the town's finances. This includes receiving and disbursing town funds, maintaining financial records, budget preparation, and financial reporting.

For a full list of candidates, you may also check your town's political party websites.

# **05. Rules for Candidates**

# Whose Workplace is an Early Voting Site

As Connecticut's Early Voting period begins, questions have emerged about what types of interactions are allowed between candidates and voters when Early Voting locations are inside municipal buildings where those candidates also conduct their official government business.

he governing law is **Connecticut General** Statutes § 9-163aa, which prohibits solicitation for or against a candidate or ballot question within 75 feet of an entrance to an Early Voting location. This restriction also applies to corridors, passageways, and other approaches leading to the voting site. The statute does make an exception for candidates who work in municipal buildings where Early Voting is taking place. These candidates may enter the restricted zone but only

for the purpose of performing their official duties or conducting government business, and only for as long as necessary to do so.

State election officials have clarified that this exception does not extend to communication with voters who are waiting in line. Any conversation or interaction between a candidate and voters during the Early Voting period could be interpreted as solicitation, which is prohibited by law.



To help prevent inadvertent violations, municipalities are encouraged to take steps such as: Posting signs that candidates may not interact with voters in line, creating temporary barriers between offices and voting lines, providing alternate entrances and exits for

voters and candidates, and considering alternative work arrangements for candidates, such as working from home or relocating offices during Early Voting hours.

15

# 06. Voter ID

# Requirements



#### First-time voter who meets the following criteria:

- Registered by mail on or after January 1, 2003
- Voting for the first time in Connecticut in a primary or election with federal candidates on the ballot.
- Has a "mark" next to his or her name on the official registry list (due to not providing supplemental information when registering).

#### **ID** requirement for in person voting for first-time voters:

 Copy of a current and valid photo ID that shows the voter's name and address or copy of a current utility bill, bank, statement, government check, paycheck, **or** government document that shows the voter's name and address.

#### All other voters (this includes most voters):

**ID Requirements** • Social security card or any pre-printed form of ID showing the voter's name together with his or her (1) address, (2) signature, or (3) photograph

Alternative to ID

• Sign a statement on Form ED-681

For more information, visit FAQ - Voter Identification.

# 07. Same Day

# **Registration (SDR)**

SDR allows any eligible CT resident, who is not yet registered or is registered in one town but has moved to another, to register and subsequently vote.

- ✓ Register at your municipality's designated SDR location during any of the 14 Early Voting Days.
- ✓ At least one SDR location will be designated in each municipality where you may register and vote during the Early Voting period or on Election Day.
- ✓ In most towns, the SDR location will be the same as the Early Voting location. Check with your town to find the location.

**Note:** Early Voting locations may change from election to election. To confirm the correct location, please check your municipality's website or MyVote.CT.gov four weeks prior to the election.





# **08. What Are Your Rights** As a Voter?

# Every registered resident in the state of Connecticut has the right to:

**01** Inspect a sample ballot prior to voting.

At your polling place, you will find a sample ballot hanging on the wall, or find one online on the Secretary of the State's website.

**02** Receive instructions on how to operate the equipment used to vote.

The moderator at your polling place can also provide guidance on how to use the voting equipment.

- 03 Cast a ballot if you are still in line when the polls close.
- **04** Ask for and receive assistance in voting including assistance in languages other than English where required by <u>federal or state law</u>.
- **Vote free from coercion and/or intimidation** from election officials or any other person.
- **06** Cast a ballot using voting equipment that accurately counts all votes.
- **07** Vote by provisional ballot if you registered to vote but your name is not on the voter list.

You may apply for and cast a provisional ballot upon the execution of a written affirmation at the polling place affirming that you are qualified to vote in the election or primary for federal office in the polling place; and you have neither offered yourself to vote nor voted in person or by absentee ballot at said election or primary for federal office at the polling place.

- **O8** Be informed of the process for restoring your right to vote if you were incarcerated for a felony conviction.
- **09 Vote independently and in privacy** at a polling place, regardless of physical disability.

If any of your rights have been violated, you have the right to file an official complaint with the State Elections Enforcement Commission at <u>1-866-733-2463</u> or the United State Department of Justice at <u>1-800-253-3931</u>. In addition, before leaving the polling place you may notify the moderator of the violation.



# **09. Three Ways to Vote**

# In Connecticut

# **1** In-Person Early Voting

Connecticut municipalities will have at least one location for in person Early Voting. Several municipalities will have more than one. To find your Early Voting location, visit <a href="MyVote.CT.gov">MyVote.CT.gov</a> several weeks before the election. Early Voting allows voters to cast their vote from 10 am to 6 pm on any day between Monday, October 20th and Sunday, November 2nd.

**Note:** On Tuesday and Thursday, October 28th and 30th, Early Voting locations will be open longer, from 8 am to 8 pm.

# **02.** Absentee Voting

Connecticut law allows an individual to apply to vote by absentee ballot if they are unable to appear at their polling place on Election Day for one of the following reasons:

- Active service in the armed forces.
- Absence from town on Election Day.
- Sickness (not necessarily your own).
- Physical disability (not necessarily your own).
- Religious beliefs which prevent secular activities like voting on Election Day.
- Duties as an elections official in a polling place other than one's own during all hours of voting.

Despite the fact that voters approved a constitutional amendment in 2024 to allow for no-excuse absentee voting in Connecticut, members of the General Assembly have not yet enacted the needed legislation for it to take effect. As a result, Connecticut law still permits absentee voting only for specific reasons.

# **13.** In-Person Election Day Voting

Tuesday, November 4, 2025, from 6 am - 8 pm.



# 10. All About

# **In-Person Early Voting**

01

#### What is Early Voting?

Early Voting allows voters to vote in-person safely and securely before Election Day.

02

# What should voters expect at the Early Voting location?

When voters arrive at the Early Voting location, they will check in and be verified as an eligible voter. They will then receive a ballot with an envelope. They will complete their ballot at a privacy booth and seal it in the approved envelope. Before leaving, they will place the sealed envelope in the secure receptacle as instructed by the election officials. Ballots will be secured unopened until Election Day.

03

#### When will ballots be counted?

Ballots cast during Early Voting will be sealed and stored securely in each municipality. They will be opened and counted on Election Day. 04

# How does Early Voting differ from absentee voting?

Absentee ballot voting requires a reason (see "Three Ways to Vote in Connecticut" earlier in this guide). Early Voting is available to every eligible voter, without a specific reason needed. Early Voting may be done only in person, not via mail or drop box.

05

# How many Early Voting locations will be in each municipality?

Each municipality will have at least one Early Voting location. If the population is 20,000 or more, the local legislative body will decide whether to have additional locations. Public colleges with large residential populations may also have an Early Voting location on campus. Voters can check their municipality's website for its Early Voting location or visit <a href="MyVote.CT.gov">MyVote.CT.gov</a> approximately one month before the election for locations.

06

#### Can I vote on weekends?

Yes. Early Voting includes Saturdays and Sundays. See #10 for specific election dates.

07

# How is it ensured that people do not vote twice?

The election official at each Early Voting location will record that a voter has cast their ballot, preventing that voter from voting early at any other location, submitting an absentee ballot, or voting on Election Day.

08

#### Does Early Voting exist in other states?

Yes, most states have some form of Early Voting.

09

#### What hasn't changed?

Voters can still vote via absentee ballot or on Election Day as usual. Election Day hours remain the same, 6 am - 8 pm.

10

#### When is the Early Voting period?

Early Voting period lasts from Monday, October 20, 2025 to Sunday, November 2, 2025, from 10 am – 6 pm each day (except for October 28 and 30 when Early Voting locations are open from 8 am – 8 pm).

11

## Where is my town's Early Voting location?

Check the <u>Secretary of the State website</u> or your municipality's website approximately one month prior to the election to find your Early Voting location(s).

**12** 

#### Why should I choose Early Voting?

Early Voting may be the right option for you if you are unsure of your availability on Election Day.

Advocates have cited reasons such as unreliable transportation, inconsistent health, uncertain work schedules, parenting or caregiving, poor weather for nervous drivers, or qualified absentee ballot users who prefer to vote in person as just a few of the reasons a voter might chose this option.

# 11. All About

# **Election Day Voting**

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 from 6 am - 8 pm

## What to Expect

24

- Arrive and be verified as an eligible voter.
- Receive your ballot and mark it at a privacy booth (or use an accessible IVS machine).
- Place your completed ballot into the tabulator.
- Collect your "I Voted" sticker! Congrats!

## Tips for filling out a ballot:

- Fill in the oval entirely.
- If there is an office you do not want to vote for, leave it blank.
- Be sure to note how many candidates to select in multi-winner races.
- Be sure to check both sides of the ballot.

(E)											
OFFICE PARTY	1 First Selectman Vote for Dise	2 Selectman Vote for One	3 TOWN TREASURER VOTE FOR ONE	4 Board o Vote for	5 F FINANCE UP 10 THO	BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS VOTE FOR DISE	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FIVE YEAR TERM BESING 2021 VOTE FOR DIVE	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS FIVE YEAR TERM BEGINS 2022 VOTE FOR DIVE	9 10 11 Zoning Board of Appeals Alternates Vote for Up to Three		
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	JINE Bis	ZA John Swith	JA Dovan Doe	4A	5A	6A Mary Major	Jee Pusuc	8A	9A	10A	11/
REPUBLICAN PARTY	JIB JINE RISE	28 Jane Doe	3B Down Doe	PAULA POE	58	GB Simmy Six	78	JANE Q PUELIC	98	108	111
PETITIONING CANDIDATE	10	JOHN DOE	3C	JOHN Q PUBLIC	5C	60	70	8C	9C Karren Z Die	100	110
WRITE-IN VOTES	O 10	O 20	○ 3D	O 40	O 50	O 60	O 70	O 80	O 90	O 100	O 11
WRITE-IN VOTES	Be su	re to re	ad the i	nstructi	ons on	the reve	rse side	of this	ballot.		

# What if I make a mistake on my ballot?

Return it to the Ballot Clerk to void it and receive a new one. Ballots — marked or unmarked—should never be left in the privacy booth, thrown away, or removed from the voting location.

# 12. All About

# **Absentee Voting**

# **Absentee voting is a two-step process:**

1. Applying for a ballot

2. Receiving and returning the ballot

#### Applying for a ballot

You are eligible to vote absentee if one of the below reasons would prevent you from appearing at the polling place on Election Day:



You are an active member of the United States Armed Forces.



Sickness (not necessarily your own) prevents you from voting in-person on Election Day.



Physical disability (not necessarily your own) prevents you from voting in-person on Election Day.



You will be out of town for some or all of Election Day.



The tenets of your religion forbid secular activity on the day of such election.



You will be performing duties as an election official at a polling place other than your own for all hours of voting.

# **Three Ways to Apply for an Absentee Ballot:**



#### **Option 1**

Visit the
Secretary of the
State's online
portal for
absentee voting.



#### Option 2

Download an

application in English

or an application in

Spanish, fill it out,

and return it to your

Town Clerk.



#### Option 3

Ask the Town Clerk to mail you an application or go to your Town Clerk's office!

If you need an emergency ballot within 6 days of election due to an unexpected medical situation, download an <a href="mailto:emergency">emergency</a> application in <a href="English">English</a> or an <a href="emergency application in Spanish">emergency</a> application in <a href="Spanish">Spanish</a> from the Secretary of the State's website.

Emergency Ballots are available only for those who experience an unforeseen illness or physical disability within these 6 days, or because they are patients in a hospital or residents of a nursing home within such period.

# Can I request an absentee ballot application for someone other than myself?

- For Immediate Family: Yes! You can request an absentee ballot application for any of your immediate family (parents, children, siblings, spouse), or any other dependent relative who lives in your household.
- For Circulators: If you would like to obtain five (5) or more applications for individuals other than immediate family members, you must register with and obtain forms from the Town Clerk, as well as file a list of names/addresses for absentee ballot applicants with the Clerk prior to the election.

# **Returning Absentee Ballots**

#### 1. Who can return absentee ballots?

By law, only the following people can return an absentee ballot:

- You, the voter:
- An immediate family member who lives with you (such as a spouse, child, parent, or sibling);
- A designee caring for a voter with an illness or disability (such as a doctor or nurse).

The **only other** legal designees are a town police officer, Registrar of Voters, Deputy Registrar of Voters, or Assistant Registrar of Voters.

#### If Returning in Person to Town Clerk:

If you are returning your absentee ballot in person, it can be returned by (1) you (the voter), (2) a designee of the voter, as stated above, or (3) a designee of a voter who is ill or physically disabled.

#### 2. When do I need to return the absentee ballot by?

- In Person by Voter to Town Clerk: 1 day before Election Day, before closing.
- In-Person by Designee of III or Disabled Voter to Town Clerk: Election Day, 8 pm.
- By Mail & Drop Box: Received by Election Day, 8 pm.

#### 3. FAQs about Absentee Ballots

# **Q** What protections are in place to safeguard against ballot stuffing?

A When an applicant for an absentee ballot is approved, their information is entered into the Central Voter Registration System. Checkers at polling places will be able to see that an absentee ballot was sent to the individual if an attempt to vote in-person is made. Also, after polls have closed on Election Day, absentee ballots returned on Election Day are compared to the official Election Day checklist before counted.

#### What if I applied, but don't receive my ballot?

If you did not provide a telephone number or email on your application, the Town Clerk would have no way to contact you about an issue. Contact your Town Clerks office if you haven't received your ballot after they have become available. Due to mail delivery times, if this occurs within one week of the election, it is recommended you vote in person during Early Voting, or by absentee ballot at your Town Clerk's office prior to **Election Day. You may also** vote in person on Election Day at your usual polling place.



## **Q** What if someone offers to turn my ballot in for me?

A The only people who can turn your ballot in are you, an immediate family member, or an official designee. Anyone else is in violation of Connecticut law.

A designee is someone who is caring for a voter with an illness or disability (such as a nurse), a member of the voter's family (who is designated through a former filing of Section VII, "Declaration of the person providing assistance"), or a police officer, Registrar of Voters, Deputy Registrar of Voters, or Assistant Registrar of Voters in the municipality.

# **Q** Is there a permanent absentee ballot list?

- A Applying for an absentee ballot is an election-by-election process for most voters. You may apply for a permanent absentee ballot only if you have a permanent disability/illness. Contact your Town Clerk for details.
- **Q** What if I don't fit the requirements for an absentee voter but I still want to vote absentee?
- A Under current Connecticut law, you must meet one of the eligibility requirements.

# 13. Tips for Overseas and

# **Military Voters**

#### 01.

Military and overseas voters can request an <u>absentee</u> <u>ballot using the State of</u> <u>Connecticut's application</u>, or a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA).

 Assistance with a FPCA can be found through the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP).

#### 02.

Either application can be delivered by mail or electronically to the municipal clerk in the Connecticut town where you are registered, assuming a valid e-mail is provided on the application.

 Find your municipal clerk on your town's website or the <u>Secretary of the</u> State's website.

#### 03.

If a regular absentee ballot will not be received in time, active armed service members, members of the merchant marines, and their spouses or dependents can submit a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for the federal offices up for election.

- The FWAB must be received by your local CT voting officials before polls close on Election Day.
- Absentee ballots for military or oversees voters become available 45 days before the election.

#### 04.

Once your completed absentee ballot has been returned to your municipal clerk, its status can be tracked online, on the Secretary of the State's voter registration lookup web page.

# 14. Voting if Currently or

# **Previously Incarcerated**

A person loses their right to vote in Connecticut if they have been convicted of a felony and are currently incarcerated in a correctional facility. You do not lose your right to vote if convicted and incarcerated for a misdemeanor or if in pretrial detention.

#### **Voting if currently incarcerated:**

- 1. Must be at least 18 years of age by the next election and a U.S. citizen, in addition to the criteria listed below
- Not currently incarcerated for a current **felony** conviction
  - You can also vote if incarcerated for a misdemeanor
  - You can also vote if you have an unsentenced status with no prior felony conviction (unless voting rights have been restored following the release from incarceration for the felony conviction)
  - You can also vote if you have a previous felony conviction and had your voting rights restored, but are currently incarcerated on a separate, non-felony conviction.
- 2. Your Unit Counselor or facility's Re-Entry Counselor can give you the address of your Registrar of Voters and Town Clerk's offices. You can correspond with these offices for the purposes of voter registration and voting in the next election.

#### **Voting if previously incarcerated:**

- 1. If not convicted of a felony, you retain your right to vote in Connecticut.
- 2. If you were convicted of a felony, you can restore your voting rights in Connecticut upon release from incarceration.
  - However, if the felony offense is for violating Connecticut election laws, you must then complete your probation and/or parole before becoming re-eligible to vote.

# Process for Restoring Voting Rights (or to register for the first time):



- 1. Fill out a voter registration form and submit it to the Registrars of Voters in the municipality where you live in person or by mail.
- 2. Register online with a valid CT driver's license or non-driver ID at MyVote.CT.gov/register, or
- 3. Register at the DMV when you apply for a CT license or non-driver ID.
- 4. Obtain a voter registration form from your Registrar of Voters, any public library, the Department of Social Services, or any other voter registration agency.
  - \*Upon registration, you will receive confirmation in the mail within three weeks. If not, contact the Registrars of Voters in your town.

# 15. What to Expect For

# **College Students**

College students may choose to vote in their hometown or in their college town (if they reside there), whether it is in Connecticut or out-of-state.

- If you are a commuter, register in the town where you live.
- If your hometown is in Connecticut and your college is in Connecticut, you can register in your hometown or in your college town if you reside there.
- If your hometown is out-of-state and your college is in Connecticut, register in the town in the state where you would like to vote.
- If your hometown is in Connecticut and your college is out of state, register in the town in the state where you would like to vote (note: other states may have residency requirements).



You must be registered to vote in the town where you plan to vote.

- If you attend college out-of-state and want to vote in that state, in advance of the election contact the local election office in that state for the proper procedures.
- In order to vote in Connecticut, you must be registered to vote in the appropriate town in Connecticut; if you are already registered, you need to change your address if you will vote in a town different than where you are registered.
- Registering to vote is simple and be done
  - Online if you have a Connecticut driver's license
  - By Mail
  - In person with your Registrar of Voters
  - In person via Same Day Registration during the Early Voting period or on Election Day
  - **At DMV** and other voter registration agencies
  - See sections 3 and 5 for additional information about Same Day Registration (SDR).

If you are voting in Connecticut, decide how you will vote.

- In person during Early Voting (additional details in section 10).
- In person on Election Day (additional details in section 11).
- If eligible, by absentee ballot (additional details in section 12).
- Allow enough time to submit your application, receive your ballot, and return it.

If you are a U.S. citizen and Connecticut student studying or serving abroad, you may still vote while living outside of the United States (additional details in section 13).

# 16. Election Laws

#### **State Elections Enforcement Commission**

The Commission's statutory responsibility is to enforce provisions of state election laws pertaining to elections, primaries and referenda, and the campaign finance there of.

# Absentee Voting Laws including the below may be found at: <a href="Chapter 145 - Absentee Voting">Chapter 145 - Absentee Voting</a>

- Unauthorized possession of the absentee ballot of an applicant.
- Candidate or political party presence while absentee ballot applicant executes absentee ballot.
- False statements in absentee balloting.
- Misrepresentation of eligibility requirements.



Elections: Prohibited Acts and Penalties including the below may be found at: Chapter 151 - Elections: Prohibited Acts and Penalties.

- Fraudulent voting
- Influencing or attempting to influence an elector to refrain from voting.
- Influencing the vote of employees within 60 days of an election
- Interference compromising secrecy of voting.
- Tampering with a ballot or voting tabulator.

For the full list of statutes, regulations and declaratory rulings, visit <u>State Election Enforcement Commission</u>

# 17. Voting Accessibility

# **Options**

- 1. Trouble Filling Out a Voter Registration Form.
  - An applicant can ask another individual for assistance writing down answers.
  - If so, the person writing must actively ask the applicant for each answer and cannot give any answers for them.
  - The applicant must be the one to fill out their SSN and signature. If they cannot write or have difficulty, they can put an "X" for the signature.
  - Online registration on the Secretary of the State's website is compatible with most text to speech programs.
  - The applicant may visit their Registrar's office to fill out their registration.
- 2. Voter registration applicant is houseless and does not have permanent address

They may list anywhere they receive mail or where they spend most of their time, including libraries, shelters, jobs or street corners.

#### 3. IVS Device

- The Integrated Voting Systems (IVS) ballot marking device is an accessible, in-person alternative to pen and paper ballots. It accommodates voters with restricted mobility, limited fine motor skills, low vision, or blindness. The IVS device allows voters to vote by touchscreen display, audio navigation with tactile keys and headset, by connecting a Sip-n-Puff, or by requesting a button switch.
- IVS devices are available at all polling places and Early Voting locations. It's not required to tell your municipality that you may want to use it in advance, but telling your Registrar of Voters before you arrive can help them prepare.
- To keep votes private, poll workers must remain in a location that prevents them from seeing voters' choices while they're voting. After voting, voters place their printed ballot in a privacy sleeve and bring it to the tabulator like any other ballot.

You can view a demonstration at: MyVote.CT.gov/accessible.

#### 4. Curbside Voting

- Curbside voting accommodates voters with any temporary incapacity that prevents them from entering the polling place upon arrival. (Effective 1/1/2026, curbside voting will be available to those with any incapacity.) There is no need to provide any proof of the incapacity.
- To vote curbside, voters navigate to the polling place's designated curbside voting area. They notify the poll worker at the curb or call the phone number posted to request an election worker bring them a ballot. The Registrars of Voters (or Assistants) from opposing parties will facilitate the process. Voters show proper identification, mark the ballot, and place it in the privacy sleeve for the Registrars to bring to the tabulator.
- Curbside voting is available at all polling places and Early Voting locations. The voters can help their municipalities prepare by telling their Registrar in advance that they may need it. To keep votes private, Registrars must remain in a location that prevents them from seeing the voters' choices while voting. After voting, voters place their ballot in the privacy sleeve and the Registrars will deliver it to the tabulator. No candidates or electioneering is allowed in the curbside voting area.

#### 5. Line Placeholder

- A line placeholder accommodates a voter with limited mobility or a voter with temporary or chronic physical limitations like pain, fatigue, or trouble balancing that make it difficult to stand in line.
- If a voter is having difficulty standing in line, they should alert the Moderator of the polling place. The voter can then request to have their place in line held and be notified when it is their turn to vote. The voter can ask to have a chair while they wait. The voter can also ask to be moved to the front of the line. No medical documentation is needed to request a line placeholder.
- All towns may offer line placeholders, but they are not required to under Connecticut law. Voters should contact their Registrar of Voters in advance to request it.

#### **6. Signage About Ballot Questions**

If your municipality has any question(s) on the ballot, the polling location will have at least three (3) posters explaining the proposed ballot questions. (Not all municipalities will have questions on the ballot.)

# 18. Language Assistance



#### 01.

Spanish language forms and options are available on the **Secretary of the State's website**, including for absentee ballot applications, voter registration forms, sample ballots, and more.

#### 02.

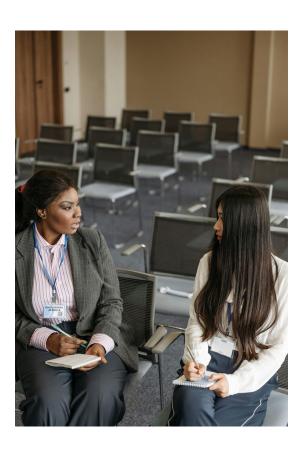
The federal and state voting rights acts require language assistance in voting and elections in municipalities with a significant and substantial need in accordance with census data. For additional information on qualifying towns, visit the <a href="mailto:language assistance page">language assistance page</a> on our website.

#### 03.

Municipalities may offer an on-demand application that connects voters with live interpreters of over 250 languages including ASL. This helps break down language barriers in voting for voters who communicate via American Sign Language and voters who are not fluent in English.

All municipalities may opt in to use this Multilingual Virtual Poll Worker (MVP) system, but it must be planned for in advance. Voters should contact the Registrar of Voters in their municipality to see if it will be available or to request that it be available.

Upon arrival, voters should ask the moderator to use the MVP system. Poll workers can access it by laptop, tablet or smartphone to start phone or video calls with native speaking translators. The poll worker will select the needed language from a list. In a few moments an interpreter will appear on screen, introduce themselves, and serve as the translator between the voter and poll workers.



#### 04.

Please consider applying to be a poll worker if you have fluency in foreign language to help create more accessible voting for all!

# 19. Sample Ballots

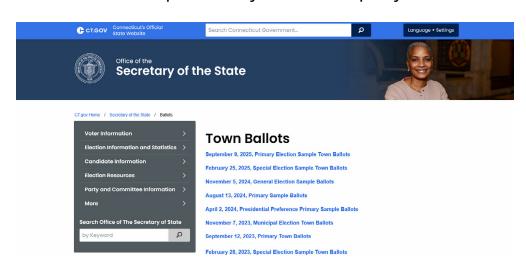
Voters may familiarize themselves with what will appear on their ballot before going to polls by viewing <u>sample ballots</u> on the Secretary of the State's website.



#### Sample ballots

- Include all candidates for office in your district.
- Include any ballot questions, not all ballots will have a question.
- Are provided in all languages required by the federal or state voting rights acts.

Sample ballots will be made available on the Secretary of the State's website once provided by each municipality.



# 20. Civic Education

The office of the CT Secretary of the State has designed civics initiatives for Connecticut residents of all ages. Information can be found on the Secretary's website at <a href="SOTS.CT.gov">SOTS.CT.gov</a> under "civic engagement." Read below for descriptions of some of our programs.

# Power of Civics

#### The Power of Civics (PowerofCivics.CT.gov)

Scroll through a list of nearly 50 action items everyone can do, with a step-by-step description for each item. Many items are detailed at the local, state, and federal levels. Examples of these action items include:

- Educating yourself on how the budget is developed and passed.
- The difference between writing a letter to the editor and an op-ed.
- The various ways to submit testimony.
- Finding out where, when, and how to vote access this course and start on your civic learning journey!

New in late October: The Power of Civics will be available as a free online training. Go to <a href="PowerofCivics.CT.gov">PowerofCivics.CT.gov</a> to access this course and start on your civic learning journey!

Civics101 (Civics101.CT.gov)

CIVICS 101

The Secretary's resource page with flyers about voting and elections that you can easily download and print, post, or email. Topics include:

- How to vote as a college student
- Accessible voting
- Voting while incarcerated
- Absentee voting

Civically Engaged Organization (CEOpledge.ct.gov)



A program for businesses and nonprofits that are committed to civic engagement. Become a "CEO" and join over 300 other organizations who share the facts about voting and elections in Connecticut.

CEOs gain access to an online toolkit, updated monthly with downloadable social media graphics and videos that are ready to share.

# **21. Important Links**



- **11.** MyVote.CT.gov Your trusted source for Connecticut election information.
- Online Voter Registration If you have a valid CT driver's license or non-driver photo identification card issued by the CT Department of Motor Vehicles.
- **03.** Voter Registration Application Form
- **04.** Online Absentee Ballot Application
- **05.** Absentee Ballot Application
- **06.** Early Voting Information
- **07.** Registrars of Voters List and Town Clerks List
- **08.** <u>Election Results</u>

Election Day Hotline and Email Address: <u>1-866-SEEC-INFO</u> (1-866-733-2463), <u>Elections@CT.gov</u>