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# Make a voting plan.

Check your registration/register to vote

You can register online quickly and easily! Make sure you are registered to vote before Indiana's registration deadline!

Learn about early voting options

Indiana offers absentee and in-person early voting. Voting early allows for flexibility in your schedule and often means smaller crowds!

Explore day-of voting options

Find out where and when you can vote on election day .

Research candidates

Arrive at the polls with knowledge of who is on your ballot and learn about their policy platforms.

Know what to take with you

Be sure you arrive at the polls with proper identification.

Share your plans!

Let your friends and family know your plans for voting and encourage them to join you at the polls!



## Know Your Rights

There are many misconceptions surrounding who can and cannot vote in the state of Indiana, leading to suppressed voter turnout for certain groups that do have the right to vote.

Our friends at the ACLU of Indiana have put together this useful guide so you know your voting rights!

## YES! YOU CAN LOOK



#### **Previously Incarcerated**

Voting rights in Indiana are restored upon release from prison, and people on parole or probation can vote. Previously incarcerated people should re-register to vote.



#### **Recently Naturalized Citizens**

Recently naturalized Americans have the same voting rights as someone who was born in the U.S.



#### **Transgender People**

Transgender people can vote even if their gender does not match what is listed on their state issued ID.

Transgender people must be registered with the name that is listed on their state issued ID.



#### **College Students**

Students have a right to register and vote in the place they truly consider to be "home" — whether their dorm room, apartment or parents' house.



#### **Individuals With Disabilities**

Polling places must have an accessible voting machine. Voters that require assistance may designate a friend or receive assistance from a certified poll worker.



# Register to vote.

#### Go to: IndianaVoters.IN.gov

#### to register, you must:

- Have a valid Indiana Driver's License or Indiana State Identification Card.
- · Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be at least 18 years old on or before the next general, municipal or special election.
  - Note: A 17-year-old may register and vote in the primary election if the voter turns 18 on or before the next general or municipal election!
- Have lived in your precinct for at least 30 DAYS before the next general, municipal, or special election.
- Not currently be imprisoned after being convicted of a crime.

While registering to vote online is easiest and fastest, you can also download a printable registration form that you can fill out and mail in to your county voter registration office. Download a registration form at IndianaVoters.IN.gov.



All voter registrations must be submitted no later than 29 days before the election in which you plan to vote.



## What to expect

### when you arrive at the polls

#### Make a plan

Know when and where you will be voting. Encourage your friends or family to join you! You can find early voting locations as well as your election day polling location at IndianaVoters.IN.gov.

#### Do your research

Research your ballot so you know who will be running for election and know which candidate shares your priorities.

Useful voting guides can be found at: vote411.org/indiana or BallotReady.org

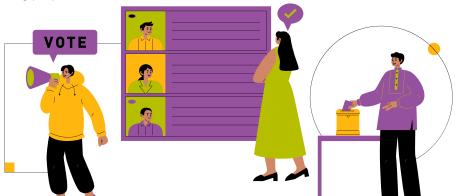
#### **Bring your ID!**

Acceptable forms of ID include: driver's license, passport, military ID or picture ID from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

The criteria for acceptable ID include:

- Photograph
- · A name which matches the voter registration record
- An expiration date after Election Day
- · Must have been issued by the U.S. government or the state of Indiana

A student ID from an Indiana State school may only be used if it meets all of the four criteria specified above. A student ID from a private institution may not be used for voting purposes



#### Arrive early and be prepared to wait

Depending on the day and time you arrive at the polls, there may be a wait to cast your ballot. Be patient- your vote matters! Be sure to communicate with your employer or school if you are running late due to longer wait times at the polls.

To avoid longer wait times, we encourage you to consider voting early. Doing this allows more flexibility to go at a time that is convenient to you! Find an early voting location in your area at IndianaVoters.IN.gov.

#### When it is time to vote:

Once you reach the front, a poll worker will greet you and check your ID.

If for some reason, your voter registration isn't showing up, don't panic. All states are required to allow voters who may have issues with their registration, ID, etc. to vote on a provisional ballot (basically a temporary ballot that will be counted after verifying that you are in fact an eligible voter). Ask for a provisional ballot and the poll worker will give you instructions on how to verify your voter status so that your vote is counted.

#### Filling out your ballot:

Read the instructions carefully to be sure you fill out your ballot in the correct way. If you need help at any point, that's totally fine! Peek your head out and ask a poll worker.

#### When you leave:

Your electronic ballot will print out and you will be directed to seal it in an envelope

and drop the ballot into a counting machine.

You'll then be given an "I Voted" sticker.

Congratulations! You just voted!

Tell your friends and family!



### Get Out The Vote!

Here are some ideas to get others to join you at the polls:

#### Help your classmates and coworkers vote

- Head to the polls after work and meet up for a post-voting mingle.
- Are you a morning person? Arrange a pre-work "coffee & vote".
- Organize a lunchtime carpool to the polls.

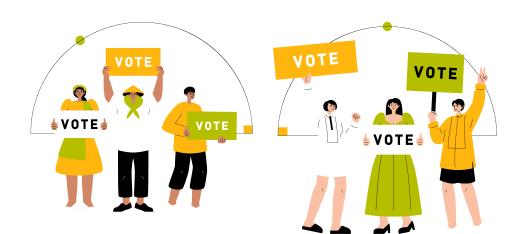
#### Help your friends and family vote

- Make a weekend plan to vote and brunch with friends.
- Plan to vote and dine. Order dessert to celebrate.
- Meet up to vote, then go to your favorite sports bar/movie theater.

#### Help your community vote

- Get your kickball team, running group or martial arts class to vote.
- Gather your youth group, book club, or fellow gamers and go vote!
- Organize a dorm/homeroom competition to get the most voters!

#### Find more information at RockTheVote.org



## Get Involved!

#### **Currently too young to vote?**

Make the pledge to register to vote. Provide your phone number and you will be texted on your 18th birthday to make sure you have registered to vote!



#### **Work the Polls**



Even if you are too young to vote, if you are at least 16 years old, you can still serve as a poll worker during elections, where you can even get paid!



#### Join a Campaign



At any age, you can work on the campaign of someone you support. Find more information directly on the campaign website of that candidate!

#### **Show up**



If your schedule permits, try and go to the places where important decisions are being made:
Attend town hall meetings and school board meetings or testify in committee hearings at the Statehouse!



## Types of Elections

#### **General Elections**

An election to fill public offices.

#### **Primary Elections**

An election prior to the general election in which voters select the candidates who will run on each party's ticket. Primaries are also used to choose convention delegates and party leaders, and may be open or closed. Indiana has open primaries.



#### **Open Primary**

An election that permits voters to choose on Election Day the party primary in which they wish to vote. They may vote for candidates of only one party. (Indiana has open primaries)

#### **Closed Primary**

The selection of a party's candidates in an election is limited to registered party members. This prevents members of other parties from "crossing over" to influence the nomination of an opposing party's candidate.

#### **Congressional Elections**

Congressional elections happen every two years. Voters choose one-third of senators and every member of the House of Representatives.

#### **Midterm Elections**

Midterm elections take place halfway between presidential elections. The congressional elections in November 2022 were "midterms."

## Vocabulary to know:

#### **Electoral College:**

A group of persons called "electors," selected by the voters in each state, that officially elects the president and vice president. The number of electors in each states is equal to its number of representatives in both houses of Congress. Indiana has 9 electors.

#### Initiative:

An electoral procedure whereby citizens can propose legislation or constitutional amendments and refer the decision to a popular vote by obtaining the required number of signatures on a petition.

#### **Provisional Ballot:**

This ballot is used to record a vote when there are questions about a given voter's eligibility that must be resolved before the vote can count.

#### Referendum:

A direct vote by the electorate on a proposal, law, or political issue. This is in contrast to an issue being voted on by a representative. This may result in the adoption of a new policy or specific law, or the referendum may be only advisory.

#### Split-Ticket Voting:

Voting for candidates of different parties for various offices in the same election. For example, voting for a Republican for senator and a Democrat for president.

#### **Straight-Ticket Voting:**

Voting candidates who are all of the same party. For example, voting for Republican candidates for senator, representative, and president.







For more about MCCOY's youth advocacy initiatives: mccoyouth.org/advocacy