

# **Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting:**

## **SOS Outreach Overview**

**Wednesday, September 18, 2024**



**Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.**  
California Secretary of State

# Today's Agenda

- SOS Introductions
- Upcoming Outreach Activations
- SOS Programs
- Resources



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# Voter Education and Outreach Upcoming Events

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- **8/12 - 11/5:** Students Vote Project Ballot Bowl
- **9/16 - 9/27:** High School Voter Education Weeks
- **9/24 & 9/30:** Election Information Virtual Town Hall
- **10/9:** California College Civic and Voter Empowerment Summit
- **10/9:** Secretary of State Research Symposium
- Monthly USCIS New Citizenship Ceremonies
- Parole and Community Team (PACT)
- Division of Adult Institution (DAI)
- Tabling at Fairs and Festivals across the state



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# Students Vote Project

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**8/12-11/5:** California University and College Ballot Bowl

**10/9:** California College Civic and Voter Empowerment Summit

- Learn from civic engagement leaders about how to enhance campus civic involvement.
- Includes a virtual internship fair for college students.



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# SOS Virtual Townhall Webinars

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- **9/24: What's on the Ballot?**
  - Information on the State Voter Information Guide, including Propositions, Candidates and more
- **9/30: Making a Plan to Vote: Voter Resources**
  - Learn about voter resources including your rights as a voter, important elections dates, voter registration information, voter accessibility resources, ballot tracking, election security, and helpful voter tips
- Look for more information soon!



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# Promote the Vote California

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- **New program launched in 2024**
  - Podcast Mini-series: Freedom Summer
- **Targeting businesses and engaging the community as partners with the SOS**
  - PTV CA promotes voter registration & turnout by supporting businesses and organizations with voter-centric educational outreach activities
  - Provides resource guides and toolkits to partners for civic engagement



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# VCA Ambassadors

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- Trusted non-partisan community messengers:
  - Community organizations
  - Students/colleges
  - Local community leaders
- Represent hard-to-reach populations.
- Champion “**More Days, More Ways**” messaging.



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# Voter Hotline

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- Voters can call the hotline to receive information about the election, voter resources, and have their questions answered in ten languages

**English:** (800) 345-VOTE (8683)

**Español/Spanish:** (800) 232-VOTA (8682)

**中文/Chinese:** (800) 339-2857

**हिन्दी/Hindi:** (888) 345-2692

**日本語/Japanese:** (800) 339-2865

**ខ្មែរ/Khmer:** (888) 345-4917

**한국어/Korean:** (866) 575-1558

**Tagalog:** (800) 339-2957

**ภาษาไทย/Thai:** (855) 345-3933

**Việt ngữ/Vietnamese:** (800) 339-8163

**TTY/TDD:** 711



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# State VIG

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## State Voter Information Guide (VIG)

- **Available by mail:** Registered voters will be mailed a standard guide to their household starting on September 26th.
- **Large Print:** in Print by Request
- **Audio:** on CD by Request or Online
- **ASL:** Quick Reference Guide Videos
- All options are available online:  
**[voterguide.sos.ca.gov/](http://voterguide.sos.ca.gov/)**



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# VIG - Resources

## Your Guide to Voter Resources:

- Assistance to Voters with Disabilities
- Military or Overseas Voters
- More info included [voterguide.sos.ca.gov](http://voterguide.sos.ca.gov)

### Assistance for Voters with Disabilities

California is committed to ensuring every voter is able to cast their ballot privately and independently.

For more detailed information about what assistance your county offers to voters with disabilities, please check out your county voter information guide or contact your county elections official. County contact information is available at [sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-officials](http://sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-officials).

### Voting at a Polling Place or Vote Center

If you need help marking your ballot, you may choose up to two people to help you. This person cannot be:

- Your employer or anyone who works for your employer
- Your labor union leader or anyone who works for your labor union

Curbside voting allows you to park as close as possible to the voting area. Elections officials will bring you a roster to sign, a ballot, and any other voting materials you may need, whether you are actually at a curb or in a car.

All polling places and vote centers are required to be accessible to voters with disabilities and will have accessible voting machines.

### Voting at Home

Remote accessible vote-by-mail (RAWBM) systems provide an accessible option for voters with disabilities to receive their ballot at home and mark it independently and privately before sending it back to their elections official. Contact your county elections official for more information.

### Tips for California's Military and Overseas Voters

Taking part in elections is more convenient than ever for Californians serving in the military or living outside the United States. It begins when you register to vote as a military or overseas voter and receive election materials by mail, fax, or email. Be prepared!

- **Start early.** California's county elections officials begin sending ballots to military and overseas voters 60 days before Election Day. Fill out a voter registration application early at [register tovot e.ca.gov](http://register tovot e.ca.gov) to ensure that you receive your voting materials in time and can return your voted ballot by Election Day.
- **Know your options.** When registering to vote as a military or overseas voter, you can choose to have your ballot mailed, faxed, or emailed to you. Additionally, you may visit your county elections official's website for information about how to download your ballot and election materials. You may return your voted ballot to your county elections official by mail or, in certain circumstances, by fax. If you meet the requirements to return your ballot by fax, you must also fax the Oath of Voter form (available from your county elections official) waiving your right to a confidential ballot.
- **Stay in touch.** Once you register as a military or overseas voter, you will continue to receive a ballot and election materials from your county elections official before each statewide election. However, you will need to update your registration to vote if you change your address, your name, or your political party preference. Visit [sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/military-overseas-voters/](http://sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/military-overseas-voters/) for more election resources designed especially for you.



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# SOS Social Media Resources

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## Toolkits Available

- County Election Offices
- Students Vote Project
- VCA Ambassadors

## Social Media Platforms

- Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat, YouTube, X



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# SOS Print Resources

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## Available to Download:

- [Publications and Resources](#)
- [November Election Fact Sheets](#)
- [How to Host a Voter Registration Drive](#)
- [Updated Poll Worker Training Standards](#)



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# Thank you!

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- **Executive Outreach**

- Denise Green: [dgreen2@sos.ca.gov](mailto:dgreen2@sos.ca.gov)
- Executive Outreach [SoSOutreach@sos.ca.gov](mailto:SoSOutreach@sos.ca.gov)

- **Elections Outreach**

- Shannon Vellone: [svellone@sos.ca.gov](mailto:svellone@sos.ca.gov)
- Publications requests and inquiries:  
Send email to [myvote@sos.ca.gov](mailto:myvote@sos.ca.gov)

- **Voter's Choice Act Outreach**

- Dana Davenport: [ddavenport@sos.ca.gov](mailto:ddavenport@sos.ca.gov)
  - Voter's Choice: [voterschoice@sos.ca.gov](mailto:voterschoice@sos.ca.gov)
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