CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

STUDENTS VOTE PROJECT

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2022 General Election
Student Voter Resource Guide

Click Here to Register to Vote

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, Ph.D.
CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

CALIFORNIA STUDENTS VOTE PROJECT

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California Students Vote Project Background

Established in 2016, the California Secretary of State's (SOS) Students Vote Project (SVP) is a leading statewide, nonpartisan program that elevates student voices and promotes student civic engagement efforts to build a more inclusive democracy.

In 2019, Assembly Bill 963 was passed, enacting The Student Civic and Voter Empowerment Act (SCVEA). In 2020, the SVP was expanded to implement the SCVEA, which requires California Community Colleges and California State Universities to inform and mobilize student voters. Campuses achieve this by participating in learning opportunities provided by the Secretary of State's office to promote civic engagement and student voter registration.

While the University of California and the Association of Independent California College and University institutions are not required to participate, they have continued to be strong supporters of student civic engagement.

The SVP team invites everyone to use and share this resource guide to help higher education students better understand the process of registering and turning out to vote.

For more information about the SVP and upcoming events, visit the website **StudentsVoteProject.sos.ca.gov.**

Important Civic and Election Dates:

2022 General Election

- **Tuesday, September 20:** National Voter Registration Day
- **Monday, October 10:** Counties offer early voting sites - to find a location, please visit **CAEarlyVoting.sos.ca.gov**
- **Monday, October 24:** Last day to register to vote online or by mail ahead of the General Election
- **Tuesday, October 25 - Tuesday, November 8:** Same Day Voter Registration is available - voters can "conditionally" register and vote at a county elections office or polling location after the voter registration deadline, up to and including Election Day
- **Tuesday, November 1:** Deadline for county elections official to send a registered voter a vote-bymail ballot
- **Tuesday, November 8:** General Election

2022 Additional Key Dates:

- **Monday, August 15 - Tuesday, November 8:** University and College Ballot Bowl Competition
- **Monday, October 3 - Friday, October 7:** National Voter Education Week
- **Friday, October 28, 2022:** Vote Early Day
- **Monday, November 7, 2022:** Election Hero Day
- **Monday, December 5, 2022:** Deadline to submit Campus Action Plan to the Secretary of State at **CastStudentsVote@sos.ca.gov**

Important Election Questions

Am I Eligible to Vote in California?

To register to vote in California, you must be:

- A United States citizen and a resident of California
- 18 years old or older on Election Day
- Not currently in a state or federal prison for the conviction of a felony
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court

How Can I Register to Vote?

You can register online at **RegisterToVote.ca.gov/?t=s**. To register online, you will need the following information:

- California driver's license or California identification card number
- Last four digits of your social security number
- Date of birth
- Visit **RegisterToVote.ca.gov/?t=s** to register or update your information
- Note: If you do not have a driver's license or identification card, you can still register. You will need to verify your identity when voting for the first time

To register by paper:

- Visit your county elections office or library for paper voter registrations
- Visit **sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices** to find the contact information for your county elections official
- Note: It is important that your voter registration application be filled out completely and be postmarked or hand-delivered to your county elections office at least 15 days before the election

What Address Can I Use to Register to Vote?

- You can register to vote with your permanent home address or your campus address
- You may not register to vote in two places during the same election cycle
- A vote-by-mail ballot and Voter Information Guide will be mailed to the address you used to register

Important Election Questions (Continued)

Attending School Out of State?

- You may choose to register to vote using your home-away-from-home address you use while at school or your traditional home address
- Choosing which address to use when you register to vote is a personal decision
- You can only register in one state

Do I Need Identification When I Vote?

- In most cases, a California voter is not required to show identification before casting a ballot
- If you did not provide identification when you registered to vote, you may be asked to provide identification when you cast your ballot. Types of certified identification include:
    - Government issued photo identification card
    - Student identification card
    - A copy of a recent utility bill
    - The county voter information guide sent to you by your county elections office

What if English is Not My Preferred Language?

The Voter Information Guide is available in 10 languages on the SOS website:

- English
- Spanish
- Chinese
- Hindi
- Japanese
- Khmer
- Korean
- Tagalog
- Thai
- Vietnamese

Note: You may also request language assistance at in-person voting locations. Visit **VoterGuide.sos.ca.gov** for more information.

Important Election Questions (Continued)

How Can I Vote by Mail?

- California counties must start mailing ballots to active registered voters about 29 days before statewide election
- Insert your completed ballot in the envelope provided, make sure you complete all required information on the envelope
- You may return your completed ballot on or before Election Day by:
    - Mailing it to your county elections official
    - Returning it in person to any polling place within the state or the office of your county elections official
    - Dropping your ballot off at a drop-off location or into a ballot drop box within the state; or
    - Authorizing someone to return the ballot on your behalf
- Visit **sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail** for more information

When and Where Can I Vote?

Early in Person

- Counties in California will be offering early in-person voting opportunities
- Visit **CAEarlyVoting.sos.ca.gov** to find your nearest polling location

Early by Mail

- Sign and mail your ballot as soon as you complete it
- Completed vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day

Secure Drop Box

- The secure drop box shall be clearly and visibly marked as an "Official Ballot Drop Box" that shows language stating that tampering with the drop box is a felony

Election Day

- Polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day
- If you are in line by the closing time, then you have a right to vote

Important Election Questions (Continued)

Where's My Ballot?

Sign-up at **WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov** to track if your ballot has been mailed, received, counted, or if there were any issues. You can choose to receive updates by:

- Email
- Text message (SMS)
- Voice call

What is Redistricting and How Does it Affect You?

Following the 2020 Census, updated information about California's population was used to redraw county and electoral lines. These changes were made by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. Visit **www.sos.ca.gov/elections/california-redistricting** for more information.

What is on My Ballot?

The 2022 General Election ballot will have the following contests:

1. Federal

- United States Senator (Full term)
- United States Senator (Partial/unexpired term)
- United States Representative

2. State

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- California Secretary of State
- Attorney General
- State Controller
- State Treasurer
- Insurance Commissioner
- Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Board of Equalization Member
- Supreme and Appellate Court Justices
- State Senator
- State Assembly
- Propositions

3. Local

- Local Candidates
- Local Measures

Check with your county for more information regarding local contests
sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices

Report any issues you encounter while voting to the California Statewide Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683). Visit **sos.ca.gov** for more information and additional languages.

Outreach Materials

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- **Sample Email Messages**
- **Voter Education Graphics**
- **Voter Checklist Flyer (Printable)**

The sample messages in the following pages will help colleges comply with The Student Civic and Voter Empowerment Act. While we encourage campuses to create their own messages, these samples will help explain critical election dates and registration information.

Sample Email Messages: Key Dates Email

New Message

To Cc Bcc

Subject

Hello students,

Election Day is on Tuesday, November 8, 2022! We want to make sure each of you are registered to vote for the 2022 General Election. To find more information on this upcoming election, see the links below:

- **sos.ca.gov/elections**
- Register to vote at **RegisterToVote.ca.gov/?t=s**
- You are encouraged to check your voter registration status at **VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov**

2022 Key Election Dates and Information

- **Tueday, September 20:** National Voter Registration Day
- **Monday, October 24:** Last day to register online before Election Day
- **Tuesday, October 25- Tuesday, November 8:** Same Day Voter Registration is available; voters can "conditionally" register and vote at a county elections office or polling location after the voter registration deadline, up to and including Election Day
- **Tuesday, November 8:** Election Day

For more election materials and upcoming statewide civic engagement activities, visit the California Secretary of State's Students Vote Project page at **StudentsVoteProject.sos.ca.gov**

Your vote matters!

Note:

The civic and election information provided applies to the county where the campus is located. Election information varies by county. Visit **sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices** to find the contact information for your county elections official.

Best,

(Insert Name/Department)

Send

Sample Email Messages: Vote by Mail

New Message

To Cc Bcc

Subject

Hello (Insert Mascot),

The last day to vote is on Election Day, which is Tuesday, November 8, 2022. All California registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot about 29 days before the statewide election. After completing and signing your vote-by-mail ballot, you can drop off your ballot at the post office, a certified ballot drop box, or voting location as early as possible. For more information visit **CAEarlyVoting.sos.ca.gov.**

If your vote-by-mail ballot is lost or destroyed, check with your county for a replacement ballot or more options **www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail#late.**

- Register to vote at **RegisterToVote.ca.gov/?t=s**
- Check your voter registration status **VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov**

Note:

The civic and election information provided applies to the county where the campus is located. Election information varies by county. Visit **sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices** to find the contact information of your county elections official.

Best,
[Insert Name/Department]

Send

Voter Education Social Media Graphics

Graphic Set One

Instagram

Download Here

Snapchat

Download Here

Facebook

Download Here

Twitter

Download Here

Graphic Set Two

Instagram

Download Here

Snapchat

Download Here

Facebook

Download Here

Twitter

Download Here

Voter Education
Social Media Graphics (Cont.)

Graphic Set Three

Instagram

Download Here

Snapchat

Download Here

Facebook

Download Here

Twitter

Download Here

Graphic Set Four

Instagram

Download Here

Snapchat

Download Here

Facebook

Download Here

Twitter

Download Here

Voter Education
Social Media Graphics (Cont.)

Graphic Set Five

Instagram

Download Here

Snapchat

Download Here

Facebook

Download Here

Twitter

Download Here

Graphic Set Six

Instagram

Download Here

Snapchat

Download Here

Facebook

Download Here

Twitter

Download Here

Make a Plan to Vote

Voter Checklist

Update Your Voter Registration

- Every active registered voter will receive a vote-by-mail ballot for the 2022 General Election
- Check or update your voter registration information as early as possible at **RegisterToVote.ca.gov/?t=s** to ensure your vote-by-mail ballot is sent to the correct address

Choose How You Will Vote

- **Voting by Mail:** This is a secure and safe way to return your ballot
- **Voting in Person:** In-person locations offer important resources such as Same Day Voter Registration, ADA accommodations, replacement ballots, and other support in various languages

Identify When and Where You Will Vote

- **Early in Person:** Counties in California will be offering early in-person voting opportunities; visit **CAEarlyVoting.sos.ca.gov** to find your nearest polling location
- **Early by Mail:** Sign and mail your ballot as soon as you complete it; completed vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day
- **Secured Drop Box:** The secure drop box shall be clearly and visibly marked as an "Official Ballot Drop Box" that shows language stating that tampering with the drop box is a felony
- **Election Day:** Voting Locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2022; if you are in line by the closing time, then you have a right to vote

Carry Out Your Plan!

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