

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

PREPARED TO VOTE 2014

PREPARE FOR HISTORIC ELECTIONS IN FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

In February 2014, a federal court, after finding that Fayette County's at-large method of election violated the Voting Rights Act, ordered that elections for the Fayette County Board of Commissioners (BOC) and Board of Education (BOE) be conducted by district voting. As a result, voters in the upcoming elections will have the opportunity to elect responsive candidates for the BOC and BOE from one of five districts.

Black voters comprise the majority of the voting-age population in District 5, and thus will have the opportunity – for the first time in history – to elect their preferred candidates of choice for the BOC and BOE for the May 20, 2014 primary and the November 4, 2014 general elections (and future elections).

To learn about which district you live in, contact the Fayette Board of Elections by emailing tsawyer@fayettecountyga.gov, calling 770.305.5408, or visiting Stonewall Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Ave. West, Ste. 208, Fayetteville, GA 30214, <http://www.fayettecountyga.gov/elections/>.

To learn more about the case that brought about district voting in Fayette County, visit LDF's website at www.naacpldf.org.

IMPORTANT DATES

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2014

Registration deadline for primary election

**MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014
to FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014**

Advance voting period for primary election

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014

Primary election day

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2014

Registration deadline for general election

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2014

to THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2014
Advance voting period for general election

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014

by 7:00 PM
Deadline for receipt of Absentee Ballots

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Election Day
Polls open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

VERIFY YOUR VOTER INFORMATION

How can I verify that I am registered to vote?

You should receive a voter registration card ("precinct card") a few weeks after you register to vote. You can verify your voter registration status online at <http://mvp.sos.state.ga.us/> or by calling the Georgia Elections Division at 404.656.2871.

VOTING EARLY

Can I vote before Election Day?

Yes. Any registered voter can vote before Election Day by casting an absentee ballot (by mail) or by voting in advance in person. You do not need a reason.

What is Advance Voting?

Advance voting, also known as absentee voting in person, allows any registered voter to vote in person at special voting centers before the traditional primary or general Election Day.

Contact the Fayette Board of Elections by emailing tsawyer@fayettecountyga.gov, calling 770.305.5408, or visiting Stonewall Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Ave. West, Ste. 208, Fayetteville, GA 30214, <http://www.fayettecountyga.gov/elections/>, for the location and hours of an advance voting center near you, including Saturday hours.

What is Absentee Voting by mail?

Absentee voting allows any registered voter to vote by mail. You are not required to provide photo identification when voting by mail. Your absentee ballot must be received by the registrar or absentee ballot clerk in Fayette County no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day.

To get an absentee ballot, you must apply for one by submitting an application to the Fayette Board of Elections by mail, email, facsimile, or by hand at least one month (ideally) before the May 20, 2014 primary or November 4, 2014 general elections. Forms are available at the Fayette Board of Elections or at http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/Elections/absentee_voting_in_georgia.



VOTING ON MAY 20 PRIMARY AND NOVEMBER 4 GENERAL ELECTION DAYS

When are the polls open?

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. You have the right to vote if you are in line or inside the polling place when the polls close.

Can I get time off of work to vote?

If your work schedule would prevent you from voting in person while the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., you have the right to take time off of work (up to two hours) to vote. You have to give your employer reasonable notice of your need to take time off, and your employer may specify which hours that you get to take.

Where do I vote?

On Election Day (for the May 20, 2014 primary or November 4, 2014 general election days), you must go to the polling place to which you are assigned, which should be listed on the voter registration card ("precinct card") that you received in the mail after you registered.

How do I verify my polling place?

You can look up your polling place online at <http://mvp.sos.state.ga.us/> or by calling the Georgia Elections Division at 404.656.2871 or Fayette Board of Elections at 770.305.5408.

Can I bring literature to the polls?

Yes. You can take written or printed election materials, including this guide, with you into the polling place as long as they are for your own use.

Can I wear campaign clothing to the polling place?

No, you cannot wear campaign clothing, stickers, or buttons in your polling place unless you cover them up.

What if I need help?

You can ask someone to assist you in voting if you are blind, disabled, or cannot read or write. Georgia law requires that all polling places be fully accessible and equipped with poll workers that are trained to take care of the needs of all voters.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

- **Check your voter registration** now by going to <https://mvp.sos.state.ga.us/Login.aspx> or calling Georgia Elections Division at 404.656.2871.
- **Locate your polling place** by going to <https://mvp.sos.state.ga.us/Login.aspx> or calling Georgia Elections Division at 404.656.2871 or Fayette Board of Elections at 770.305.5408.
- Bring at least one form of **photo ID** to the polls.
- Take your time and **ask for help** if you need it.
- **Report problems** on Election Day, such as being refused a ballot or being turned away from a polling place by calling Georgia Elections Division at 404.656.2871 or Fayette Board of Elections at 770.305.5408.



PREPARED TO VOTE PARTNERS



Urban League of Greater Atlanta



VOTER PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

Do I have to show photo ID to vote in person?

Yes. Georgia law requires all voters to show some form of photo ID before receiving a ballot to vote in person.

What are the acceptable forms of photo ID?

Acceptable forms of photo ID include:

- a Georgia driver's license (even if expired) or a Georgia voter photo ID card;
- a valid state or federal government-issued ID card, including an ID card from a public university, college, or technical school in Georgia, with photo;
- a valid U.S. military ID card with photo;
- a valid employee ID card issued by any division of the federal government or the government of Georgia with photo;
- a valid tribal ID card with photo; and
- a valid US passport.

What if I don't have any photo ID?

If you do not have any of these forms of photo ID, Georgia will provide you with a "free" voter photo ID card. Contact the Fayette Board of Elections or Department of Driver Services, <http://www.dds.ga.gov/>, for more information.

If you have photo ID, but not with you when you arrive at the polls for the May 20, 2014 primary or November 4, 2014 general elections, go get your photo ID and return to the polls. While you can cast a provisional ballot when you lack a photo ID at the polls, that ballot will not count unless you bring photo ID to the Fayette Board of Election's office after you cast your ballot.

What is a provisional ballot?

A provisional ballot is used to record your vote when there's an unresolved question about your eligibility to vote.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION



FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
770.305.5408

GEORGIA STATE ELECTIONS DIVISION
404.656.2871

NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE FUND (LDF)
1.877.773.8683
vote@naacpldf.org

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Voting Section
1.800.253.3931
voting.section@usdoj.gov



NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

40 Rector Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10006
212.965.2200
www.naacpldf.org
vote@naacpldf.org
1.877.773.8683

Disclaimer

This card is a resource, not legal advice. It is provided for informational purposes only and not as a substitute for or supplement to the legal advice necessary to address the specific concerns of any individual. Moreover, Fayette County and/or Georgia may revise its laws after the publication of this card. Therefore, it is your responsibility to determine how all applicable laws concerning voter registration, voting, and the restoration of voting rights in Fayette County and Georgia affect you.