

GEORGIA PREPARED TO VOTE 2018

Important Dates

Deadline to register to vote in the General Primary/Non-Partisan/Special Election and Runoff Election Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Deadline to request an Absentee Ballot for the General Primary/Non-Partisan/Special Election and Runoff Election Friday, May 18, 2018

General Primary/Non-Partisan/Special Election and Runoff Election Day. Polls open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM* Tuesday, May 22, 2018

*Some areas may be open until 8:00 PM under state law. Check w/ your local election board

Registration deadline for General Election Tuesday, October 9, 2018

*Counties offer Advanced Voting for the General Election. Those dates vary by county. For example, Advanced Voting in Walton County begins 21 days before every Election Day, and Advanced Voting in Cherokee County for the General Primary/Non-Partisan/Special Election and Runoff Election begins on April 30, 2018.

Please visit <http://bit.ly/1NMFPe8> to determine when Advanced Voting begins in your county.

Deadline for receipt of Absentee Ballots Tuesday, November 6, 2018 by 7:00 PM

Election Day – Polls open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM* Tuesday, November 6, 2018

*Some areas may be open until 8:00 PM under state law. Check w/ your local election board

General Election Runoff Monday, December 10, 2018



Before You Go to the Polls...

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://bit.ly/1NMFPe8> or by calling the Georgia Elections Division at 404-656-2871.

Can I register to vote if I have a felony conviction?

If you have a felony conviction, your right to vote is automatically restored if you have served your entire sentence, including probation or parole. If so, you can register to vote. **Learn how to register to vote at <http://bit.ly/1nbjq3V>.**

Can I vote before Election Day? Yes, any registered voter can vote before Election Day by casting an absentee ballot either by mail or in person. You do not need a reason.

What is Advanced Voting? Advanced Voting, also known as Absentee In Person Voting, allows any registered voter to vote in person at special voting centers up to the Friday before Election Day. Contact your local election board for the location and hours of an Advanced Voting center near you.

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 no later than 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. You may apply for an absentee ballot up to 180 days before an election. Just mail, email, fax, or hand-deliver an absentee ballot application form to your local election board at least one month (ideally) before Election Day.



Voter 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 employee ID card issued by any division of the federal government, the government of Georgia, or any county, municipality, board, authority, or other entity of the state of Georgia, with photo;
- a valid U.S. passport;
- a valid U.S. military ID card with photo; and
- a valid tribal ID card with photo

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 your local registrar or the Department of Driver Services (<http://www.dds.ga.gov>) for more information. If you have photo ID, but don’t have it with you when you arrive at the polls on Election Day, 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 polls after you cast your ballot or to an election office within three days after Election Day.

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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. **You should never be turned away from a polling place just because poll workers are not sure whether you are eligible to vote.**

Election officials are required to make every effort to provide you with the opportunity to vote. A provisional ballot is a way for you to cast a ballot if your eligibility to vote on Election Day cannot be immediately verified. It has all the candidates and offices on it, and is the same ballot that every other voter gets.

Common Potentially Discriminatory Voting Changes

The NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) is closely monitoring how places, like Georgia, that were formerly protected by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act are responding to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder*, which immobilized that provision. Accordingly, we encourage you to let us know of any voting changes that are planned in your area that you believe may negatively impact your community by emailing LDF at vote@naacpldf.org.

These potentially discriminatory voting changes might include: changing polling hours and locations; reducing the number of polling places; changing or eliminating early voting days and/or hours; replacing district voting with at-large elections; implementing onerous registration qualifications like proof of citizenship; and removing or purging qualified voters from registration lists.

Problem Voting?
Call 1.866.OUR.VOTE



Voting On Election Day

When are the polls open?

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 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 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 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, and your employer may specify which hours that you get to take.

Where do I vote?

On Election Day, 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://bit.ly/2G9pvrY> or by calling the Georgia Elections Division at 404.656.2871.

Can I view a sample ballot for upcoming elections in my area?

Yes, you can obtain a sample ballot online at <http://bit.ly/2G9pvrY> or by contacting your local election board.

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 cannot stand in line or access the polling place because of age or disability?

Voters who have a disability or are 75 years or older and arrive at the polling place between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. may move to the front of the line after informing a poll officer that they wish to do so.

What if I need help?

A voter who is unable to sign their name, to see or mark the ballot, operate the voting equipment, or enter the voting booth without assistance may receive assistance in voting. The voter may choose anyone to assist their ballot, except for their employer, an agent of their employer, an officer of their union, or an agent of their union.

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, 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 Georgia affect you.

Prepared to Vote Partners



NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

40 Rector Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10006
212-965-2200
www.naacpldf.org



Georgia NAACP

2001 M. L. King, Jr., Dr.,
Suite 307
Atlanta, GA 30310
www.naacpga.org
info@naacpga.org



Georgia Coalition For The Peoples' Agenda

501 Pulliam St.
Suite 410
Atlanta, GA 30312
404-653-1199
www.gcpagenda.org