

SOUTH CAROLINA

PREPARED TO VOTE 2012

CONFIRM YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION

Even if you think that you are registered to vote in your county and precinct, confirm your registration.

Do this by:

- Calling the South Carolina Election Commission at 803.734.9060 or visiting their website at www.scvotes.org; or
 - Calling your county election office**, including:
 - Greenville County at 864.467.7250;
 - Richland County at 803.576.2240;
 - Charleston County at 843.744.8683;
 - Spartanburg County at 864.596.2549; or
- **Contact information for each of the county election offices is available at: http://www.scvotes.org/how_to_register_absentee_voting
- Calling a national election assistance hotline at 1.866.OUR.VOTE
 - If you learn that you are not officially registered, request information about how to register and submit a registration application.

PROBLEM VOTING? Call 1.866.OUR.VOTE



SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE CONFERENCE



THE NATIONAL
Coalition on Black
Civic Participation



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, your state 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 your state affect you.

ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

To vote in South Carolina you must be:

- Registered to vote;
- A U.S. Citizen;
- At least 18 years old on Tuesday, November 6, 2012;
- A resident of South Carolina, your county and your precinct;
- Not under a court order declaring you mentally incompetent;
- Not currently incarcerated for a felony or a misdemeanor; and
- Not currently on probation or parole for a felony or any violation of an election law.**

**Voting for People with a Criminal Conviction

- If you have been convicted of a felony, you may vote if you have served the **entire** sentence (including probation or parole) or have received a pardon for the conviction.
- If you have been convicted of a misdemeanor, you may vote once you are released.
- If you have been convicted of any crime (felony or misdemeanor) involving a violation of an election law, you may vote if you have served the **entire** sentence (including probation or parole) or have received a pardon for the conviction.
- An arrest or incarceration prior to conviction does **not** disqualify you from voting. You can vote by mail absentee ballot while in jail if you are awaiting trial on any charge (see Early Voting By Absentee Ballot).



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VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

Polling Place Hours

- Polling places are open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, **Tuesday, November 6, 2012**. If you are in line at the polling place at 7:00 p.m., you still can vote.

Where to Vote

- To find your precinct, visit <https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=VoterInfo>
- Check your local paper in the days leading up to the election, or call your local county election office to find your precinct number.

Voter Identification

You **only** need to show **one** form of personal identification, including:

- A voter registration card*;
- A South Carolina's driver's license; or
- A South Carolina DMV-issued ID card.

**If you registered to vote by mail, are voting for the first time, and did not submit proof of ID with your voter registration application, then you may not vote with only your voter registration card. You will need to bring with you additional ID, such as a driver's license, utility bill, or a piece of mail with your name and current address.*

Due to ongoing litigation, the Voter ID requirements may change after these materials are printed. Call the State Election Commission at 803.734.9060 or your county election office to check requirements closer to Election Day.



SOUTH CAROLINA

PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

- If you appear at the polling place and do not have the required identification, you may cast a provisional ballot.
- If you appear at the polling place with the proper identification and you are not on the registration list, the election manager must call the county registration office and verify your eligibility to cast a regular ballot or you may cast a provisional ballot in your correct polling place.
- In casting a provisional ballot, be sure to:
 - Confirm that the election worker did not make a mistake when looking for your name on the registration list;
 - Confirm that you are in the correct precinct;
 - Fill in the blanks on the provisional ballot envelope;
 - Write your name on the envelope; and
 - Confirm that the poll worker writes his or her name, contact information, and the reason you are voting a provisional ballot on the envelope.
- Before you leave the polling place, you must receive written information from a poll worker that explains how you can determine if your provisional ballot is counted.
- Check the status of your provisional ballot at: <https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=ProvisionalBallotInfo>



The right to vote is the cornerstone of American democracy.

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EARLY VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Information about absentee voting can be found at http://www.scvotes.org/2009/10/15/absentee_voting or by calling your county election office.

You are eligible to vote by absentee ballot before Election Day if you are a registered voter, will be out of your county on Election Day, **and** meet any **one** of the following criteria:

- Are a student (or the spouse or dependent child of a student);
- Are an Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, Red Cross or USO member (or the spouse or dependent child of the member);
- Are overseas; or
- Are away on vacation.

You are eligible to vote by absentee ballot before Election Day, even if you will be in your county on Election Day, **and** meet **one** of the following criteria:

- Are 65 years of age or older;
- Have an employment reason;
- Have been admitted to an emergency room on or after Friday, November 2;
- Are physically disabled or hospitalized, or a person attending a sick or physically disabled person;
- Have a death or funeral in the family on or after Saturday, November 3;
- Are confined to a jail or pre-trial facility pending the outcome of an arrest or trial;
- Have jury service; or
- Are a certified poll watcher, poll manager, or county election official.

By Mail

- Request an absentee ballot application
 - from your county election office at http://www.scvotes.org/how_to_register_absentee_voting;

- Online at <https://info.scvotes.sc.gov/eng/voterinquiry/VoterInformationRequest.aspx?PageMode=AbsenteeRequest>.
- You will be mailed an absentee ballot application, or, if requesting one online, you must print, complete and sign the application.
- Return the absentee ballot application by mail, email or fax to your county election office on or before **Friday, November 2, 2012 at 5:00 PM**.
- Vote the absentee ballot after following instructions.
- Return the absentee ballot to your county election office by Election Day on **Tuesday, November 6, 2012 at 7:00 PM**.
- You can mail your ballot as soon as you complete it, so do not wait until the deadline. Late ballots will not be counted.

In-Person

- Visit your county elections office at http://www.scvotes.org/how_to_register_absentee_voting
- Complete an absentee ballot application.
- Cast your ballot up until **Monday, November 5, 2012 at 5:00 PM**.
- Bring a South Carolina's driver's license, South Carolina DMV-issued ID card or voter registration card.

IMPORTANT DATES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2012

Last day to register to vote for November 2012 election

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2012, 5:00 PM

Deadline for receipt of by mail absentee ballot application

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2012, 5:00 PM

Last day for in-person absentee voting

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012, 7:00 PM

Deadline for receipt of by mail absentee ballots

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012 ELECTION DAY

Polls Open: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM