



# SOUTH CAROLINA

# PREPARED TO VOTE 2015

## IMPORTANT DATES

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015**

**Deadline for voter registration for general election. Applications must be received or postmarked by this date**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2015**

**Deadline for application for Absentee Voting by Mail**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015, 5:00 PM**

**Deadline for Absentee Voting in Person**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015, 7:00 PM**

**Deadline for receipt of Absentee Ballots by Mail**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

**ELECTION DAY**

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

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

**SOUTH CAROLINA STATE ELECTION COMMISSION**  
803.734.9060

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

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

**ACLU OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
843.720.1423  
info@aclusouthcarolina.org

## VERIFY YOUR VOTING INFORMATION

***How can I verify that I am registered to vote?***

You should receive a voter registration certificate after you register to vote. You can verify your voter registration status online at <http://www.scvotes.org> or by calling the South Carolina Election Commission at 803.734.9060.

***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://www.scvotes.org>.

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

- Check your voter registration now by going to <http://www.scvotes.org> or calling the South Carolina Election Commission at 803.734.9060.
- Locate your polling place by going to <http://www.scvotes.org> or calling the South Carolina Election Commission at 803.734.9060.
- 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 the South Carolina Election Commission at 803.734.9060.

*This card is a resource, not legal advice. It is provided for informational purposes only. South Carolina may revise its laws after the publication of this card. Therefore, it is your responsibility to determine how all applicable laws concerning voting in South Carolina affect you.*

## ABSENTEE VOTING

***Can I vote before Election Day?***

You can vote before Election Day by casting an absentee ballot if you will not be able to vote on Election Day for certain reasons, including because of your employment, vacation plans, or a physical disability or because you are 65 years or older or a student attending school outside of your county of residence. For a complete list of reasons that allow you to vote by absentee ballot, visit <http://www.scvotes.org>.

***How do I vote by absentee ballot in person?***

To vote by absentee ballot in person, visit your county voter registration office, complete an application for absentee ballot, and cast your absentee ballot. You may vote absentee in person up until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2015. You will be asked to provide a photo ID to vote in person (see the other side of this card for more details on South Carolina's photo ID requirement).

***How do I vote by absentee ballot by mail?***

To vote by absentee ballot by mail, submit an application for an absentee ballot to your county voter registration office by mail, email, facsimile, or by hand. You can obtain this application by contacting your county voter registration office or by requesting one online at <http://www.scvotes.org>. After you receive the absentee ballot, complete and return it to your county voter registration office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. A photo ID is not required to vote absentee by mail.

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## VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

### **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.

### **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 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://www.scvotes.org> or by calling the South Carolina Election Commission at 803.734.9060.

### **What if I cannot stand in line or access the polling place because of age or disability?**

Voters who are unable to access the polling place or stand in line because of a disability or because they are 65 years or older may vote in their vehicle (i.e., curbside voting). Poll managers will look for voters who seek to vote in their vehicles.

### **What if I need help?**

Voters with disabilities and voters who are blind or unable to read and write 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.



The right to vote is the cornerstone of American democracy.

## VOTER PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

### **Will I be asked to show photo ID to vote in person?**

Yes. If you vote in person, you will be asked to provide one of the following photo IDs:

- Current and valid South Carolina voter registration card with photo;
- Current and valid South Carolina DMV-issued driver's license;
- Current and valid South Carolina DMV-issued (non-driver's) photo ID card;
- Current and valid federal military ID; or
- Current and valid U.S. passport.

If you have one of these photo IDs, be sure to bring it with you to the polling place. Registered voters can get a free voter registration card with photo from their county election office. For more information, call the South Carolina Election Commission at 803.734.9060 or visit [scvotes.org](http://scvotes.org).

### **What if I don't have an accepted photo ID?**

You can vote in person by provisional ballot without a photo ID if you have a reason why you do not have an accepted photo ID. South Carolina's photo ID law contains a "reasonable impediment" exception that recognizes the many reasons why you may not have a photo ID, including that

- You are disabled or ill;
- You have a demanding work schedule;
- You are unemployed and looking for work;
- You lack transportation and/or money to get to the county election office or DMV;
- You do not have a copy of your birth certificate;
- You have family responsibilities; and
- There is another obstacle that YOU find reasonable.

### **How do I vote in person without a photo ID based on a "reasonable impediment"?**

To vote in person without a photo ID based on a "reasonable impediment," follow these three steps: (1) present your current, non-photo voter registration card; (2) sign an affidavit identifying yourself and your reason for not having an accepted photo ID; and (3) cast a provisional ballot.

### **Will my provisional ballot be counted if I do not have a photo ID because of a "reasonable impediment"?**

The provisional ballot that you cast is presumed valid and will be counted unless the county election office has reason to believe that your affidavit is false.

### **What if I do not have a photo ID and do not have a "reasonable impediment," or I forgot to bring my photo ID to the polls?**

You can still cast a provisional ballot. However, for your vote to count, you **must** provide one of the accepted photo IDs to the county election office in person prior to certification of the election (usually the Thursday or Friday after the election).



**NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.**  
40 Rector Street, 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10006  
[www.naacpldf.org](http://www.naacpldf.org)



**ACLU OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
P.O. Box 20998  
Charleston, SC 29413-0998  
[www.aclusouthcarolina.org](http://www.aclusouthcarolina.org)

**PROBLEM VOTING? Call 1.866.OUR.VOTE**