

How to Host a Voter Registration Drive

Introduction

NETWORK is happy to share this toolkit that contains the essential steps of planning, promoting, and carrying out a successful voter registration drive in your community. This is a nonpartisan educational resource, as part of NETWORK Advocates' 501(c)(3) election year education and voter engagement campaign, [See. Love. Vote.](https://www.networkadvocates.org/see-love-vote)

By hosting a voter registration drive, you can help connect community members with the resources they need to cast their ballot and make their voices heard. Together, We the People can vote to shape our future for the common good and deliver what our communities need to thrive. **Let's make sure all eligible voters can cast their ballots!**

Hosting a voter registration drive is easy with NETWORK's online voting tools. **On our webpage, networkadvocates.org/vote, there are two simple forms: one to check voter registration status** (which takes 30 seconds!) **and one to register to vote** (which takes 2 minutes).

Voters will use QR codes to access the [voting tools](#) on the NETWORK Advocates website to check their voter registration status and register to vote. Online voter registration is available in 42 states and the District of Columbia.

If you live in Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana, South Dakota, Texas, or Wyoming, see page 5 of this guide for specific instructions. These states do not allow online voter registration.

Voter registration drives are not possible in New Hampshire. NH requires residents to register to vote at their local town or city clerk's office, on election day, or by requesting an absentee ballot. New Hampshire does not allow access to a voter registration application form outside of a town or city clerk's office.

North Dakota does not require voter registration.

Planning your voter registration drive

- **Pick a date:** Check your [state's online voter registration deadline](#) and ensure that you choose a date for your drive before the deadline.
- **Choose a location:** To successfully connect with eligible voters, you need to choose a location in an area with significant foot traffic. Find out if you need a permit for your location, and if you do, make sure to bring it with you on the day of the event. Some locations to consider include:
 - Transit hubs and neighborhood gathering places (metro/transit stops, grocery stores, shopping centers, DMV lines, farmer's markets)
 - Churches and schools (high schools, community colleges, technical schools, Back-to-School nights at elementary and middle schools)
 - Community/sporting events (concerts, festivals, games)
- **Recruit volunteers:** Ask your friends to join in! Personal invitations and relationships are essential for inviting people into the work with you. You can also reach out to local nonpartisan civic organizations; they will likely be able to connect you with people looking to help register voters.
- **Gather supplies:** Make sure you have everything you need to register voters and keep yourself and your volunteers comfortable during the event. Plan to bring:
 - A folding table and a few chairs.
 - Water bottles, snacks, sunscreen, etc. Consider the expected weather and the duration of the event when determining your supplies.
 - [Printouts of the Voter Registration QR code page](#) to help people access the tool on NETWORK's website to check their voter registration status.
 - **Printouts of the script on page 4** (for each volunteer).
 - Copies of the [Voting Plan Worksheet](#).
 - Copies of the **See. Love. Vote. Checklist** in [English](#) and/or [Spanish](#).
 - See. Love. Vote. posters, banners, stickers, or any other promotional materials (scroll down to the bottom of [this page](#)).
 - [Optional] copies of the [See. Love. Vote. Zine](#) ([zine-folding instructions linked here](#)).
 - **If you are in Texas**, print out copies of [this Texas QR code handout](#) to guide registrants to Texas' online voter registration application.
 - **If you are in Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana, South Dakota, or Wyoming**, print a batch of your state's voter registration forms (see page 5 for more information).

Promoting your voter registration drive

- **Advertise the drive:** Publicizing your event will let potential voters know where they can go to register.
 - Social media networks, such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and X (Twitter), can help you spread the word.
 - If the registration drive is at a school, tell the campus newspaper and radio station or get a local radio station to come broadcast from your event. Other local media outlets may be interested, too.
 - You can use flyers to help get the word out. If your drive is at a place of worship, consider submitting the flyer to be published in the bulletin.

Holding your voter registration drive

- **Set up your spot:** Set up your table, chairs, and See. Love. Vote. materials (see list of supplies on previous page).
- **Train your volunteers:** Equip your volunteers with **the [Voter Registration QR code page](#), the script, and the FAQs** (see the end of this packet). Practice running through role play scenarios with your volunteers.
 - Anyone registering voters on behalf of NETWORK Advocates must be made aware of and affirm **[NETWORK's nonpartisan pledge](#)**: *NETWORK Advocates' See. Love. Vote. campaign is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) education and voter engagement campaign. Your role is to register voters or help them check their voter registration status. When talking to people about voting, please **do not** name or engage in discussions about any political parties, elected or appointed government officials, candidates, or pending legislation.*
- **Then, register voters:** Connect with your community members and register people to vote!

Resources and Reminders

- **Keep it nonpartisan:** Your event, including any social media posts, cannot endorse any specific candidate or party. Keep in mind that nonpartisanship works both ways: you also cannot use language that denounces any candidate or political party.
- **Adhere to federal and state law:** [Voter registration rules](#) differ from place to place, so make sure you and your volunteers are familiar with the federal and state laws that govern voter registration in your community.

Sample Registration Script

Note that you will need to amend this script if you live in Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana, South Dakota, Texas, or Wyoming – see page 5.

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm with NETWORK Advocates. Are you currently registered to vote for the upcoming 2026 midterm elections?

IF NO OR I DON'T KNOW – Let's get you registered! It's quick and easy. Can I help sign you up now and make sure your voice is heard this election?

IF YES – Great! Let's get you registered to vote! You can scan this QR code to get started. Scroll down to find the voter registration tool.

IF NO – Okay! If you change your mind, we'll be here until (TIME). You can also register to vote online at the link on this page. *[Hand them a Voting Plan Worksheet or See. Love. Vote. Checklist and point out the URL].* Have a great day!

IF YES – Great! Have you moved or changed your name since the last time you voted?

IF YES, I'VE MOVED/CHANGED NAME – I can help you update your voter registration right now! It will only take two minutes, and it will ensure that you're able to vote on Election Day. Go ahead and scan this QR code and scroll down to find the voter registration tool.

IF NO, NEITHER MOVED NOR CHANGED NAME – Great! Have you recently checked your voter registration status? Election officials sometimes purge the voter rolls. You can scan this QR code and scroll down to find a tool to check your voter registration status. It only takes 30 seconds!

If they check and are registered: Awesome, thank you for checking! You may want to sign up to receive election reminders from vote.org. These include important information about deadlines, what to bring to the polls, and where to vote. All you have to do is go to vote.org and scroll down to the election reminders tool.

If they check and are not registered/need to update their registration: Okay, no problem! We have a form on that same NETWORK Advocates webpage where you can register to vote in under two minutes! Can I help sign you up now and make sure your voice is heard this election?

IF THEY HAVE A QUESTION – See the answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs).

CLOSING – Thanks for making sure you are registered to vote! Remember to verify your voter registration status within the next few weeks to make sure that you're on the voter rolls. If you have any questions, you can visit your state's election website or networkadvocates.org/vote.

If you live in Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana, South Dakota, Texas, or Wyoming

Online voter registration is not available in Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana, South Dakota, Texas, or Wyoming. **Voters can still use NETWORK's online [voting tool](#) to check their voter registration status**, but not to register to vote.

Before your event, **print a batch of your state's voter registration forms**. (See Texas instructions below.)

- Arkansas: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- [Mississippi](#)
- [Montana](#)
- [South Dakota](#)
- [Wyoming](#)

At your event:

- Connect with community members.
- Encourage them **to check their voter registration status with NETWORK's online tool**.
- If they need to register to vote, invite them to **fill out a hard copy voter registration application that you will have printed**.
- Encourage registrants to mail their applications the same day.

Texas: In Texas, you cannot print the [Texas voter registration application](#) before it is completed online.

- Train your volunteers to [use this Texas voter registration QR code handout](#) to help guide registrants to the online application.
- Guide registrants to **fill out** the online application form, **print** the completed application, and **mail** it to their local County Voter Registrar.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why should I register to vote?

You can't vote if you don't register, and most states have voter registration deadlines that occur long before Election Day. So even if you haven't decided whom you're voting for or even if you're voting, you should register now so you will be able to vote.

Why should I vote?

Great question! There are many reasons why a person votes and yours may be different from anyone else's, but voting is how we make our voices heard and play a role in the decisions that shape our lives. Voting is an important tool we have to make life better in our communities. We can elect leaders who will deliver what our families, loved ones, and neighborhoods need to thrive. Our [See. Love. Vote. Checklist](#) can help outline some of the key issues at stake this election.

I don't like either candidate, so I'm not going to vote.

All the more reason to engage and use your voice! There's a saying I love: "your vote is not a Valentine for a specific candidate, but a chess move towards the world you want to see." There are lots of important issues at stake, and our [See. Love. Vote. Checklist](#) could help in thinking about the issues that you most care about. And, there are other important local, state, and federal elections happening, too, and some important issues on your ballot.

I don't believe in voting.

[Start by asking the person to tell you more – so you can start a conversation and dig deeper.] Everyone is entitled to their opinions and beliefs. But I think your voice matters! Democracy needs everyone's participation, and voting is one tool we have to try to make life better in our communities. I'd encourage you to vote based on the issues you care about and think about how casting a ballot might impact them. Our [See. Love. Vote. Checklist](#) might help! *[If you feel comfortable, you could also briefly share about why you are voting.]*

When do I vote?

This year, the midterm elections are on Tuesday, November 3. [If your state has early voting, share the date when early voting begins.] At the website vote.org, you can see where and when you can vote.

Who's on the ballot?

Ballots vary by location. Be sure to check out [vote.org](https://www.vote.org) or contact your local election officials to see who and what is on your ballot.

Which address do I use?

Use the address where you reside and intend to vote. For college students who plan to vote where they reside during the semester, check with your university to determine your dorm's street address if you aren't sure what it is.

Does my vote even count?

Yes! It may sound cliché, but every vote matters. The only vote that doesn't matter is the one that was never cast. A recent Indiana state senate primary came down to three votes! And, elected officials do consider vote margins when they govern. A smaller margin might make them more hesitant to enact hyper-partisan legislation.

Most important, voting is a way to play a part in shaping your future. Make your voice heard — don't let others decide for you! Democracy only works if we all participate.

How can I check my voter registration status?

Contact your county elections office or your state election official. They can confirm if you are registered and at which address. You can also try scanning this QR code or going to networkadvocates.org/vote and scrolling down to the check my voter registration tool.

Can I register to vote at my college or university address?

Yes. Even if you are already registered at home, we encourage you to register at school. You are more likely to vote if you live in the community where you're registered to vote!

Can I register to vote using a P.O. box as my address?

No, you must provide a valid place of residence as your address on your voter registration application.

My address has changed. Do I need to re-register?

Yes. Each part of the state has its own unique candidates and measures on the ballot. Simply fill out a new application form, and re-register at your new address.

I want to vote, but I will not be in my home precinct on Election Day. Can I still vote?

Absolutely. Go to vote.org/absentee-ballot/ to request an absentee ballot in your state. This will only take two minutes.

If I register to vote, am I going to be called for jury duty?

Juror lists are created from a variety of state databases, including lists of taxpayers and drivers – so if you have a driver's license or pay taxes, you are still on the state's list of eligible jurors. Don't give up your right to vote to avoid jury duty!

I do not have a permanent residence because I am homeless. Can I still register and vote?

Yes, you are still eligible to register and vote. You may use the address of where you sleep as the place of residence on your voter registration application.

Where do I vote?

Where you vote depends on where you live. Your state elections office should have precinct locations posted online in advance of Election Day. You can also check by going to vote.org/polling-place-locator and selecting your state to find your polling place.

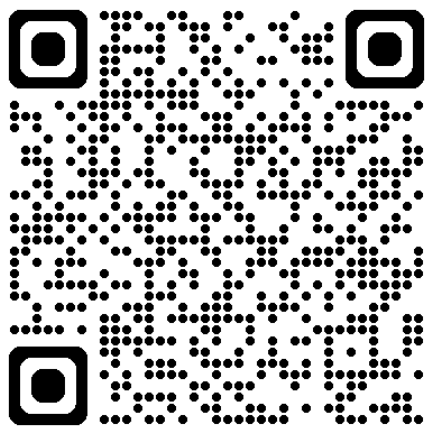


SEE.LOVE.VOTE.

NETWORK
NETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

Have you checked your voter registration status?

It takes 30 seconds!



Use a smartphone
camera to scan the
QR code

networkadvocates.org/vote

