

Voter Registration Drives: How to Organize a Successful Registration Drive

Toolkit



Voter Registration Drives:

How to Organize a Successful Voter Registration Drive



League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. The Blake, 1 Steuben Place Albany, NY 12207 (518)465-4162

E-mail: lwvny@lwvny.org Website: www.lwvny.org

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Introduction

Maintaining Our Gold Standard

Voter registration drives are a hallmark of the League of Women Voters and can be traced back to our origins in 1920 with the passage of the 19th Amendment when the women won the right to vote. In order to take advantage of this right, women needed information about elections and what they had to do before they could cast their vote. The League was ready to register newly enfranchised voters and explain the election process. The importance of registering and educating qualified voters continues today. This Toolkit will provide ideas, resources, and materials to achieve a successful voter registration drive that reaches, engages, and enables people to have their voices heard with their vote.

The Essentials

As with all our work, it is important to:

- Maintain our nonpartisan reputation. Avoid any appearance of supporting or opposing candidates or political parties.
- Reach out to underserved populations and low voter turnout areas.
- Train volunteers properly.
- Build on success.
- Collect and document information to measure results.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

League of Women Voters DEI Policy

https://www.lwv.org/league-management/diversity-equity-inclusion/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-policy



In planning and implementing activities to encourage people to vote, Leagues should ask themselves a few questions to ensure they are including and reaching out to all people in their communities. Consulting people with different experiences, perspectives, and backgrounds and asking them to join your effort will strengthen the activity and help ensure its success.

- How diverse is the group planning and implementing this activity?
- Are key stakeholders included? One of the primary factors that determines if a stakeholder is key is the specific relationship that the stakeholder has with the League's mission and goals.
- Does this work impact a group or community? If so, is their voice represented?
- Is the group of decision makers diverse enough?
- Does this activity help us meet the needs of underserved voters?
- Have we considered various, specific marginalized groups?
- How might our voter registration drives be perceived by the public?

PLAN AHEAD

In order to conduct a successful VR drive, you will need a Plan that covers the Who, What, When, Where, and How of a campaign. Here's an overview before we get to specifics.

Part I. The Framework

Who - the target of your VR drive. There are many opportunities to consider. Your target audience may depend on where your league is located and the surrounding neighborhoods. Is your league a city league with low turnout districts, naturalization centers, and elder care facilities? Or is your league located in a smaller town, a suburban or rural area where opportunities may include community colleges, high schools, community clubs? You might decide to train employees in corporate offices, or train in-house "Trainers" so that you can reach a broader audience. Or you may want to register incarcerated people in jails or prisons.

When - the date(s) of your VR drives will depend on the election dates provided by your BOE. Plan on 2-3 month lead time to get organized and prepared, including permits, and PR and advertising efforts.

Where - the locations will depend on your targets, but special prep – and alliances - may be required – think licenses, insurance, permits.

With Whom – Who do you want and need on your team - volunteers, partners? Do they need to be trained? Even the most knowledgeable of your team and volunteers may require some brush up on some of the details of VR which means additional time and materials will be required for training. Materials, programs, and Powerpoint Presentations are available on LWVNY website.

How - what will be needed: see below for the Section detailing necessary materials and supplies, from tables and chairs to QR codes and everything in between.

Here's a GENERAL timeline to give you an idea of how much advanced planning is required. Depending upon the SPECIFCS of your drives, more or less time may be required.

Time Prior to Event	Task	
2-3 months	League Voter Service Chair announces a Voter Registration	
	Coordinator/Committee to do the following:	
	establish targets of VR drive	
	recruit volunteers	
	set date/time/location/venue	
	 determine what licenses, permits, insurance are needed and start process to obtain them 	
	determine materials and supplies needed	
	determine communication plan to promote and publicize voter registration event	
	reach out to nonpartisan community organizations to partner,	
	promote, or assist with voter reg event	
1 month	publicize event	
	train volunteers	
	schedule volunteers and confirm via email	
	gather all materials and supplies (take an inventory first)	
	purchase/print materials and supplies	
2 weeks	All - continue to promote event	
	follow up of all pending tasks	
1 week	 final check of venue logistics; volunteer logistics; materials and supplies inventory 	
Day of event	set up registration table/area as instructed	
	conduct the voter registration drive	
	thank all the volunteers throughout	
	close and pack up	
Day after event	designate volunteer to submit completed voter registration forms a	
	the local Board of Elections	
	send thank-you note to all volunteers	
1 Week - Post Event	collect and analyze data; Measure results	
	 conduct post mortem – what could be improved? 	
	report as needed to Board	

Part II. The Implementation

WHO do you want to register?

The categories of people who you can register are almost as numerous as people themselves. Where can you make the biggest impact? Who has been the least involved in voting? Who is likely to respond to your efforts? Who might have been neglected or too busy?

Elderly

Disabled

Incarcerated

New Citizens

College students

High school students

Ethnic neighborhoods

Low turnout districts

Commuters

Sports Fans

Concert goers - Gen X Y, Z???

Corporate Employees

Union members

WITH WHOM do you want to work?

There's No Place Like Home: Start with Your Own League

A knowledgeable VR team of volunteers is the best resource as well as essential to a successful event no matter who you're targeting. Get started by organizing a committee or finding fellow members to assist you.

Build your team by bringing in people and partners who are passionate about voting, are good at organizing, tracking details, and enjoy talking to people. Find people with community connections to identify locations for a voter registration table.

Other Nonpartisan Organizations

Here's a list of potential nonpartisan partner organizations that may be willing to help coordinate voter registration events. They can help indirectly by advertising registration drives, providing venues, and hosting registrations drives, and directly with their volunteers who can be trained to conduct in-house VR drives or assist registering voters at the events. And no, political parties are NOT nonpartisan.

Community organizations: Home Delivered Meals for the Elderly, food banks, food pantries, neighborhood centers, NAACP chapters, faith-based charities, YMCA,
YWCA, housing authorities, libraries
Chamber of Commerce
High schools: School clubs, PTA/PTSA
Colleges: on campus advocacy organizations, service and honorary sororities and
fraternities, political science departments, student activities offices
Senior centers, adult homes, assisted living facilities, retirement communities, nursing
homes
NYS office for the Aging in each County
Disability Rights New York and other nonpartisan organizations supporting the
disabled community
Center for Independent Living
Local chapters of ARC for the intellectually and developmentally disabled
County or local library systems
Naturalization Centers
Local sports teams
Corporations

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Training to be fully prepared

Even the most dedicated league members on your team may need some review of all the details involved in voter registration. Training for *new* volunteers will also be necessary, as well as training of any volunteers from nonpartisan partner organizations if they choose to participate. Please encourage all volunteers to be familiar with the Voter Registration Toolkit.

Need more information?

New York State Board of Elections: 518-474-6220 / http://www.elections.ny.gov

Volunteer Reminders

Provide this list to your Voter Registration Drive volunteers after they have read the Voter Registration toolkit and participated in any other training available to them.

Complete voter registration training.
Complete the voter registration volunteer form, or ensure that the Coordinator has your correct name, email address, and telephone number.
If you want to volunteer for a specific event, respond to the Coordinator with requested information, ie, what shift(s) you can volunteer for, or if you can pick up or return materials and supplies.
If you are scheduled for an event, you will receive a confirmation email. Whenever possible, newly trained volunteers should be teamed with more experienced volunteers.
One or two League volunteers will bring materials and supplies to the event. Please be prompt if you are designated to meet them early to set up, or stay late to help pack up supplies.
Set up the table at your assigned space with the materials and supplies provided by the League.
 Be sure NOT to include any material supporting a party or candidate.
Please DO NOT wear any pins or clothing supporting a party or candidate.
Please wear a League T-shirt or pin, if provided. Remember that ALL persons
conducting voter registration on behalf of the League must be
nonpartisan at all times.
During the event, please be sure to complete the Tally form or section of the Voter
Registration Event Tracking Form . This is important for League records. Also, make
sure tha the form is returned to the League office immediately following the event.
Ask registrants of other voters if they want to be reminded to vote. If so, have them
provide their email address on the May We Remind You to Vote? form, or self-
address a reminder postcard.

How to Make Contact with Voters at Registration Events

Sources:

- From LWVNYC Voter Registration Training Guide at lwv.org/sites/default/files/leagues/city-newyork/200312lwvvoterregistrationtrainingguide.pdf
- https://nationalvoterregistrationday.org/field-organizing-resources/

A voter registration drive is not just to register new voters, it also provides an opportunity to have voters change their address or party affiliation. Voters can also learn about dates for an upcoming election, the offices and candidates, and any questions on the ballot or how to find their polling location. Sitting behind the table is generally not enough to get people to stop. If there are several volunteers working the same drive and shift, they should alternate sitting at the table and reaching out to those passing by.

Before talking to voters, make sure you are smiling, looking upbeat, and comfortable with the questions in the grid below. Feel confident when you walk up to people—you are making democracy work!

Suggested Script

You can adapt this script for yourself, but we think this is a great way to open conversations:

"Hi, I'm [name] from the League of Women Voters! This League is registering voters today and making sure all voters have the info they need to vote?" Once people engage, ask the following questions.

- "When did you last update your voter registration?"
- "Are you registered to vote at your current address?"
- "Have you checked to make sure your polling place hasn't changed?

If They Say... You Can Respond...

"I don't have time right now.	"No problem! I don't want to take away from your day, so I'm happy to walk with you and even fill out the form as you go."
	If they still refuse and it's clear they won't be convinced to do it now: "Here's a form to take with you. When you're done, just drop it in the mail — and you don't even need a stamp!" "These five minutes can make a big difference! Your vote does matter, and the deadline is
"I don't know if I'm already registered."	"Can I help you look that up?" Use voterlookup.elections.ny.us or Vote411!
I don't vote because my vote doesn't count.	"I'm so sorry you feel that way — how frustrating! It can often feel that way, but your vote can make a HUGE

	difference, especially in local elections. There've been many times recently when an election was determined by a few hundred votes." "If your vote doesn't matter, why do you think so many people in power (who DO vote) are trying to make it harder for you to vote?"
"They're all crooks."	It's easy to get the idea that they're all crooks. But your vote can help change that. You have the power to take a situation you hate and make it much better. Get to know your representatives! They work for you, after all. But they're not mind-readers, and they WANT to hear from you.
"I don't pay any attention to politics."	If someone says they're not interested or "don't vote", take a step back for a moment and first clarify that you're on the same page: "Can you help me understand what voting means to you?" Ensure that they understand what it means to vote and how they are involved.
"Government has nothing to do with me."	If someone says government doesn't do anything for them, you can point out things immediately around you: accessible sidewalks, routine trash collection, police patrols, plowed and paved streets, public transit, sewers, schools, healthcare, storm protection, etc. "The decisions politicians make affect you every day."
"I don't vote (I'm not interested)." Or "I don't care about politics."	Ask them about their values and interests. "What is important to you in your life?" Try to have them focus on a pressing/major issue in the area. "You can have some control over that!"
	"People are going to be elected to represent you whether you vote or not. If you don't vote, you don't have a stake in the decisions already being made for you. You're letting other people decide what is best for you."
	"As a taxpayer, you pay the salaries for elected officials.

Civics Quiz to engage passers-by

Another tactic to engage passers-by used by LWV Cooperstown is to ask them to take a Civics Quiz – a piece of candy as a reward even if answers were incorrect.

Below are some of the questions. Contact the LWV Cooperstown at https://my.lwv.org/new-york/cooperstown-area for how they did it, more questions... and answers, if needed!

- 1) In what year did women get the right to vote?
- 2) How old does a person have to be to vote in US federal, state & local elections?
- 3) In New York State, does a person have to bring a photo ID to vote?
- 4) What percent of people of voting age voted in the presidential election in 2020?
- 5) True or False: In New York State, if you're not registered to vote, can you register at the polling place on Election Day, right before voting—just allow a little extra time.
- 6) True or False: The primary purpose of the League of Women Voters is to campaign for female candidates.
- 7) How can a citizen register to vote?
 - a) In person
 - b) Online
 - c) By mail
 - d) All of the above
- 8) Multiple Choice: The League of Women Voters
 - a) seeks to inform voters about important issues
 - b) is open to men and women
 - c) hosts candidate debates
 - d) welcomes new members
 - e) encourages ALL qualified people to register and vote
 - f) all of the above
- 9) Multiple Choice: The League of Women Voters
 - a) Does NOT endorse specific candidates or take a position on any issues
 - b) Endorses specific candidates, but does NOT take a position on issues
 - c) Does NOT endorse specific candidates, but DOES take a position on some issues.
- 10) True or False: If you're a registered voter and you move, you can vote in your new location by going to the polls with proof of your new address.

WHEN should you hold your drive?

Make sure you have sufficient lead time for the necessary preparations for your drive. The following are sites you can use to determine your time line:

Review the NYS Board of Elections Political Calendar for all dates relating to voter registration, change of party enrollment, change of address and/or name. https://www.elections.ny.gov/PoliticalCalendar.html

Primary and General Elections Dates for planning

https://www.elections.ny.gov/PoliticalCalendar.html

National Voter Registration Day

NVRD is a great day to kickoff your voter registration season. https://nationalvoterregistrationday.org/

Completing the following chart will provide you with essential deadlines and dates – for planning and for providing answers at the registration table.

Worksheet:	Important Deadlin	es to Remember	(enter the deadli	ines in left column)
Primary/Gen	eral Election:			
Early Voting	:			

Date	Deadline information		
February 14 (same date	An application to change one's party enrollment for the primary		
annually)	election in any year must be received by the board of elections no later		
	than February 14th of that year. Changes received on or after		
	February 15th until seven days after the June Primary will be set aside		
	and opened seven days following the June Primary and entered in the		
	voter's registration record.		
	Last day for the Board of Elections to receive absentee ballot		
	application by letter, telefax, or through the absentee request portal.		
	Last day for Change of Address.		
	Last day for in-person voter registration : Mail-In registration must be		
	received by the Board of Elections this day.		
	Last day to apply in person for Absentee ballot.		
	Last day to postmark ballot . Must be received by the local Board of		
	Elections no later than Military voter ballots must be		
	received no later than		
	Last day to deliver ballot in-person to the local Board of Elections		
	or to any poll site in your county.		

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WHERE will you hold your drive?

Depending on the location you select, various permissions and licenses, including insurance, may be required. Factor in time to obtain the required permits. LWVNY can help you with liability insurance coverage required by some venues.

It may be tempting to set up tables at where there is a lot of pedestrian 'traffic,' for example, at local parks, but remember, very often more tourists than qualified residents are visitors. For instance, Central Park in NYC is not always a great place to try to register voters.

HOW – Essentials for a Successful Drive...And Follow Up:

Included below are the materials – with Samples - for successful voter registration drives, including Forms, Brochures/Handouts, Reference information for Volunteers, Promotional Materials, Signage, including Vote411, and Equipment/Set Up. Having all hard-copy materials and supplies in portable bags or plastic bins with instructions makes it easy for volunteers. After each registration drive, refill them so they are ready for next drive.

Don't forget: You will also need to keep track of how you are registering voters with a data tracking form that's included below.

Forms

- 1. Voter registration forms in English and Spanish (and other languages as needed) with instructions
- 2. Early Mail Ballot
- 3. Absentee Ballot
- 4. Accessible Voting
- 5. "Remind Me to Vote" cards, pad etc.
- 6. Voter Registration Reporting Form

NYS VOTER REGISTRATION PAPER FORMS

Voter registration form in English is available at:

https://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/voteregform-eng-fillable.pdf

Voter registration form in Spanish is available at:

name, or county, and/or change party enrollment.

https://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/voteregform-eng-fillable.pdf

All volunteers must be familiar with all sixteen (16) fields to register to vote, change address,

| New York State Voter Registration Form
| Property Communication | Pro

NYS Voter Registration Basics

Who Can Register to Vote in NYS?

- Be a United States Citizen
- Be 18 years old (eligible citizens may pre-register at 16 or 17 but cannot vote until 18.)
- Live at your present address at least 30 days before an election
- Not be in prison for a felony conviction
- Not be adjudged mentally incompetent by a court
- Not claim the right to vote elsewhere

What Do You Need to Register to Vote?

- Social Security number or NYS Driver License or Permit/Non-Driver ID number
- If you do not have any of those, when you vote, you will need to provide other verifiable ID information (i.e., a valid photo ID, bank statement, paycheck, a utility bill, a government check, or other government document that shows your name and address
- Note: Even if a voter does not have their ID with them when registering, they must check the "I do not have" box in this field. They will need to provide their NYS Driver

License or Permit/Non-Driver ID number or the last four digits of their Social Security number, or other form of ID as noted on the form at the poll location when they first vote as their registration will be flagged. Their local Board of Elections will send them a form to complete to add the correct ID to their registration.

How to Cancel Your Voter Registration

In order to have your name removed from the voting rolls, pursuant to N.Y. Election Law section 5-400, you must send a written letter to the local board of elections where you lived requesting to have your registration cancelled. You must send a written letter; you cannot accomplish this via email. Contact information for all local boards is available at the <u>county board of elections</u> page.

Victims of Domestic Violence

N.Y. Election Law (5-508) allows victims of domestic violence to apply for a confidential registration by delivering a sworn statement to their local county Board of Elections stating they are a victim of domestic violence and they wish to have their voter registration record kept confidential because of the threat of physical or emotional harm to themselves or a family or household member. Their voter registration record will be kept separate and apart from other registration records for four years and not be made available for inspection or copying by the public or any other person, except election officials acting within the course and scope of their official duties. Under a separate section of the law (11-306), they can also be excused from going to their polling place to vote and get a special ballot. For further information, please contact your local board of elections for their confidential registration and special ballot procedures. New York State Statement of Confidential Voter (pdf 201KB)

Meeting Voter Access Needs

The New York State Board of Elections has also made registering to vote accessible to all voters by offering multiple methods for <u>completing a Voter Registration Form on our Voter Registration page</u>.

Voters with a print disability, which means any disability that interferes with the effective reading, writing, or use of printed material, that require a ballot with accessible features may apply using the online Accessible Absentee Ballot Application portal. Print disabilities include blindness, low vision, dyslexia, dysgraphia, learning disabilities, and physical disabilities that limit writing abilities.

Instructions: How to Fill Out the NYS Voter Registration Form

- Obtain the form you need
- Complete ALL fields as needed. Legibly print all information neatly using blue or black ink.
 - Field 1: Check yes or no. (U.S. Citizen means either by birth or naturalized.)
 - Field 2: Check yes or no. (Must be U.S. citizen) You can register to vote if you are 16 or older, with the understanding that you must be 18 years of age by election day to vote. Until you are 18, your application will be marked "pending.")
 - Field 3: Enter all requested information
 - Field 4: Date of birth using numbers for your month, day, and year
 - Fields 5, 6, and 7 are optional.
 - Note: If a voter does have the proper ID but not with them at time of registration, they will follow the instructions of providing ID when voting for the FIRST time as noted previously.
 - Field 8: Address where you live. Include your county name.
 - Field 9: Mailing address if different from where you live.
 - Field 10: Check yes if you have voted before, even if in another state or other NYS County
 - Field 11: Fill in the most recent year you previously voted or leave blank if you do not remember
 - Field 12: Change of address, name, or County (see below)
 - Field 13: Record ID information, or select "I do not have" even if they have the requested IDs but just not with them when registering. (See page 18 for info.)
 - Field 14: Check one box to enroll in a political party or check "I do not wish to enroll in a party." Only registered voters in a particular party can vote in that party's primary election. Choosing a party does not require a voter to vote for that party's candidate in a general election.
 - Field 15: Optional
 - Field 16: Read, sign, and date. (Blue or black ink!)
- Change of Address: Enter NEW address in field 8; Enter PREVIOUS address in field 12. The voter registration form or NYS BOE Voter Registration Online Portal should be used as a change of address form. Notices of change of address from registered voters received at least 15 days before a special, primary or general election by a county board of elections must be processed and entered in the records in time for that election.
- Change of Name: Enter NEW name in field 3; Enter PREVIOUS name in field 12.
- Change of County: Enter NEW county in field 8; Enter PREVIOUS county in field 12.
- Change of Party Enrollment: The voter registration form should be used to change your party enrollment from one party to another or to enroll for the first time in a party. An application to change one's party enrollment for the primary election in any year must be received by the board of elections no later than February 14th of that year. Changes received on or after February 15th until seven days after the June Primary will be set aside and opened seven days following the June Primary and entered in the voter's registration record.
- Sign the form in blue or black ink.
- Mail or drop off your completed registration form to your local Board of Elections.

Types of Ballots

At voter registration events, voters or passers-by sometimes inquire about the types of ballots available in NYS so be prepared to talk about the types of ballots. Inform them that applications and deadlines may be applicable, and they can find all necessary details on the NYS Board of Elections website.

https://elections.ny.gov/ways-vote

- **Absentee Ballot** You may qualify to vote absentee for the following reasons. You must apply for an absentee ballot.
 - Absent from your county or, if a resident of New York City absent from the five boroughs, on Election Day.
 - Unable to appear at the polls due to temporary or permanent illness or disability.
 - Unable to appear because you are the primary care giver of one or more individuals who are ill or physically disabled.
 - o A resident or patient of a Veterans Health Administration Hospital.
 - In jail or prison for any reason other than a felony conviction. This includes anyone
 who is awaiting grand jury action, awaiting trial, or serving a sentence for a
 misdemeanor.
- Affidavit Ballot- description and when to use, with a link to site for instructions Poll
 workers will explain how to complete so not needed in this Kit
- Early Vote Ballot Any registered voter may apply for an early mail ballot. Each person must apply for themselves. It is a felony to make a false statement in an application for an early mail ballot, to attempt to cast an illegal ballot, or to help anyone to cast an illegal ballot.

REMIND ME TO VOTE Postcards, Pads

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS REMIND ME TO VOTE			
MY NAME:			
CELLPHONE NUMBER: ()			
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
Remind me for the 2022 General Election Remind me for subsequent elections			
The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates or parties			

Voter to self-address the postcard on mailing side. Local League to mail it prior to early voting period.

Brochures and Handouts

https://lwvny.org/publications/

Brochures

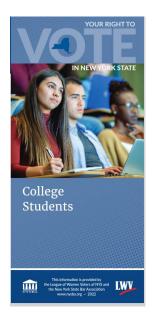
- 1. LWVNYS "Voters Guide Part I and II" (when available)
- 2. "First Vote" in English and Spanish

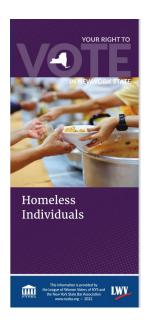


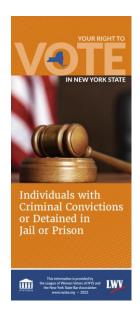


3. "Your Right to Vote in New York"

- o College Students
- o Homeless Individuals
- o Individuals with Disabilities
- o Individuals with Criminal Convictions and Those Detained in Jail or Prison









Handouts

Bookmarks, Palm cards, and Flyers with Dates and Deadlines Important Registration, Early Voting, and Absentee Voting Deadlines for Primary and General Elections in 2024 – links to NYS Election info using QR codes to all of your handouts.

- Remind Me to Vote Postcards
- "I Voted" Stickers
- If You Are A College Student and Want to Register
- How to Change Your Party Enrollment
- Absentee and Early Voting Applications

Examples:

Bookmarks



Front/Back Bookmark from LWV Oneonta





Front/Back Bookmark from LWV Cooperstown

Promotional Flyers: Front/back flyers to print, distribute, and/or post online.





Front/Back Bookmark from LWV Northwest Westchester

Reference Information for Volunteers

It's vital that your volunteers have information on hand so that they can quickly look up and answer likely voter questions. Here are some basics:

- 1. Voter Registration Resource Sheet with election dates, registration dates, deadlines, etc.
- 2. Voter Registration Fact Sheet
- 3. NYS Political Parties at a Glance
- 4. How to Register Online

For Primary and General Elections in 2024 – links to NYS Election info

https://www.elections.ny.gov/PoliticalCalendar.html

Worksheets:

Primary/General Election	:		
Early Voting:			
, ,			
Date	Deadline information		
February 14 (same date	An application to change one's party enrollment for the primary		
annually)	election in any year must be received by the board of elections no		
	later than February 14th of that year. Changes received on or		
	after February 15th until seven days after the June Primary will		
	be set aside and opened seven days following the June Primary		
	and entered in the voter's registration record.		
	Last day for the Board of Elections to receive absentee ballot		
	application by letter, telefax, or through the absentee request		
	portal.		
	Last day for Change of Address.		
	Last day for in-person voter registration: Mail-In registration		
	must be received by the Board of Elections this day.		
	Last day to apply in person for Absentee ballot.		
	Last day to postmark ballot. Must be received by the local		
	Board of Elections no later than Military voter		
	ballots must be received no later than		
	Last day to deliver ballot in-person to the local Board of		
	Elections or to any poll site in your county.		

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Voter Registration Fact Sheet

Keep a fact sheet handy for any questions that arise.

LWV	VOTER REGISTRATION FACT SHEET		
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®	If	Then	
AGE	18 by December 31 16- or 17-year-olds 18 on election day	Allowed to register Allowed to preregister Allowed to vote in the election	
RESIDENT	Forgot to change address and moved within county Forgot to change address and moved from another county in NYS	Request an affidavit ballot from either the BOE or at the polling location. Request affidavit ballot at your new polling location.	
	Moved and it is 30 days before the election	Fill out new voter registration form.	
HOMELESS	Homeless Living on the streets	 Write "homeless" above the section entitled: "The address where you live" Write the cross streets close to where you typically sleep to determine your polling place. Identify an address (can be a shelter) where you receive mail. 	
	Have a relationship with a shelter	Ask shelter if you can receive mail and use the shelter's address as mailing address.	

COLLEGE STUDENT	If attending college and not living at home	family lives via absentee ballot or registering to vote in your college community and going to the polls there. Check to see what the requirements are for the state where you are attending college.
CRIMINAL HISTORY	If convicted of a felony and on parole If convicted of a felony and in prison If convicted of a felony	As of 2021, all parolees can vote. Must re-register. Denied voting privileges Allowed to register and vote
	and on probation If convicted of a misdemeanor Held in jail while awaiting sentencing	Allowed to register and vote Allowed to register and vote
NAME CHANGE	Changed names, but forgot to fill out the voter registration form before the election	Fill out a new voter registration form to updateyour information. Go to the polls, sign your former name in the appropriate place, and then sign your new name above it.
DISABLED OR ILL	Assigned polling place not accessible	Submit a request to your county's Board of Elections two weeks' prior to the election to be assigned to an accessible polling place.
	Handicapping condition makes it impossible to travel to the polls	Apply to your county's BOE to obtain permanent disabled status and receive absenteeballots automatically from the BOE.
PARTY ENROLLMENT	Wish to change party enrollment before next primary election	Fill out voter registration form. You have untilFeb. 14 of each year to change party enrollment for June primary. Changes received on or after February 15th will be set aside and opened the seventh day following the June Primary and entered in the voter's registration record.

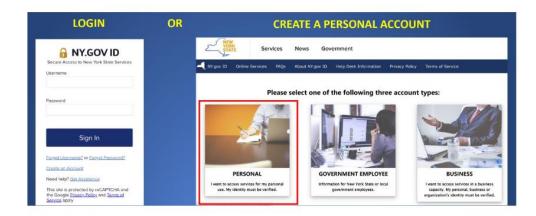
How to Register Online on the NYS Board of Elections Portal

https://www.elections.ny.gov/OnlineVoterReg.html

You can use the Board of Elections' Online Voter Registration system to register to vote or to update your voter registration information.

Updated information could include providing your County Board of Elections with your new name, new address, or changing your party enrollment. Completed applications are sent to the appropriate County Board of Elections for approval and processing.

To register online at NYS BOE website, you will need to use a NY.Gov ID. If you have previously used NY.Gov with another agency, you may use the same login to access the Online Voter Registration portal. If you have not used NY.Gov, you will need to create an account. Once you have a NY.Gov account, you may register to vote online.





Example: Promotional Flyer



Publicize Your Event

It is important to promote your voter registration event well in advance to ensure good turnout.

- If collaborating with partners, ensure they have all the information needed to promote the voter registration event.
- Send a press release or flyer to your media contacts.
- Post information on your website.
- Send e-blasts; distribute/post flyers.
- Use the media and social media op-eds, articles, your League's Facebook, and Twitter pages – to promote voter registration and share photos of your events.
- Promote registration deadlines and requirements.
- Publicize your voter registration drives, including the sites and times where voter registration will take place.
- After your event, publish the results and THANK volunteers!



For more ideas...

https://www.lwv.org/educating-voters/election-report-supporter-toolkit

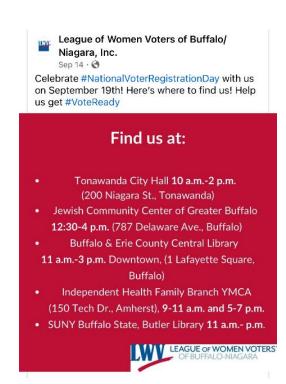
EXAMPLES: Promotional Flyer

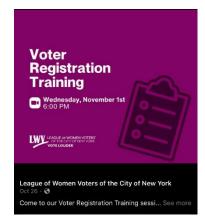


Social Media Posts









Vote 411.org A national voter registration website



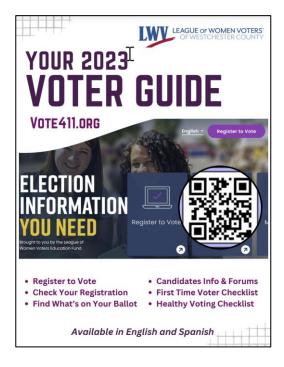
Launched by the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) in October of 2006, VOTE411.org is a "one-stop-shop" for election related information. It provides nonpartisan information to the public with both general and state-specific information on the following aspects of the election process:

- Absentee ballot information
- Ballot measure information (where applicable)
- Early voting options (where applicable)
- Election dates
- Factual data on candidates in various federal, state, and local races
- General information on such topics as how to watch debates with a critical eye
- ID requirements
- Polling place locations
- Registration deadlines
- Voter qualifications
- Voter registration forms
- Voting machines

An important component of VOTE411.org is the polling place locator, which enables users to type in their address and retrieve the poll location for the voting precinct in which that address is located. The League has found that this is among the most sought-after information in the immediate days leading up to, and on, Election Day.

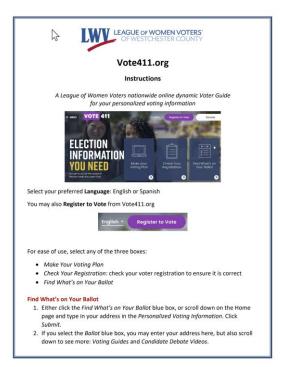
EXAMPLES:

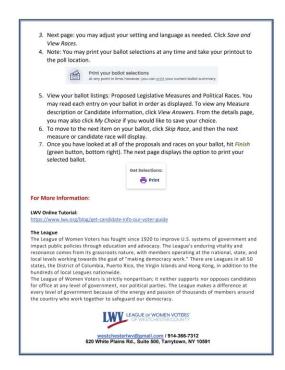
Flyers:





Instructions: How to Use Vote411.org





Social Media Posts







Set Up Your Event

- Table for putting out materials
- Portable chairs for LWV or other personnel plus one for people who may want to register
- Tent or shelter to protect against sun and other weather events
- Identifying pins, tags, aprons, and/or T-shirts for volunteers
- Giveaways Stickers, candies, beads, toys for kids while parents register
- iPad or laptop for online registration if available
- Blue and/or black pens for filling out voter registration forms
- Stamps to sell (except in NYC) if League can afford and is not collecting forms (optional)
- Box or folder to keep completed voter registration forms if collecting them

League of Women Voters Vot Date: Location: Contact person:	er Registration Schedule	
Time	Volunteer and Contact	Notes
	Number	

Gather and prepare materials for your registration table.

- o Provide blue or black pens as those ink colors are required on voter registration forms.
- Make your registration table as attractive as possible. Patriotic candy, necklaces, stickers, children's games, and other giveaways often attract interest. Provide Clipboards. Use a LWV tablecloth to cover table, or a red/white/blue tablecloth.
 Signage identifying the League of Women Voters is a must. Be sure to display signs and posters in the registration area.
- Provide handouts: First Vote, Voter Guides I and II, The LWVNYS series Your Right to Vote: College Student, Homeless Individuals, Individuals with Disabilities, Individuals

- with Mental Health Disabilities, Individuals with Criminal Convictions and Those Detained in Jail or Prison. Forms: https://lwvny.org/publications/
- Provide information on voters' rights: how to use the paper ballot optical screening system, information on political parties, information on the importance of voting in both Primary and General elections. Can also provide a Voter Registration Fact Sheet.
- Provide your League membership information and a "Want More Information" signup sheet
- Provide Reminder to Vote postcards: voter to self-address the postcard; League to mail prior to early voting and general election. Or, can provide a Reminder to Vote signup sheet.
- Provide Register to Vote Online flyers (English, Spanish) with QR code linked to NYS Board of Elections voter registration portal.
 https://www.elections.ny.gov/OnlineVoterReg.html
- Provide Laptop or iPad with Internet connectivity for voters to check their registrations and/or register to vote (optional).
- o Provide Vote411 poster or flyers with QR code linked to Vote411.org.
- Provide a list of voter registration information, election dates, deadlines etc. Include who needs to vote, ie, voters who have moved, want to change their name or political party.

















Tracking Sheet

Remember to keep track of the number of voter registrations you do. Here's a form for your totals. And here's how you can keep track of everything you're doing



In Summary

Here's a checklist that summarizes the what, when, where and how to conduct a VR Drive.

Checklist: Plan and Conduct a Voter Registration Drive

(You may print this 2-page checklist front/back for your use.)

□ Salact a Voter Registration Drive Coordinator

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	Colour a votor registration brive coordinator.
	Select targets of VR drive
	Select a date and time. Schedule voter registration drives well in advance of voter registration
	deadlines. Be strategic in your planning. Focus on groups or geographic locations that are
	underserved with low voter registrations and low voter turnouts.
	Choose a location to hold the drive and get written permission to use the site, if applicable. ~ Determine what licenses, permits, and insurance may be required and start process of obtaining them. Certain locations, such as farmers' markets, require advance permitting. ~ Inquire about set up: Table and/or chairs provided? Tent provided?
	Reach out to nonpartisan community organizations to partner, promote, or assist with voter registration event
	Determine materials and supplies needed
	Determine communication plan to promote and publicize voter registration event
40.	ath.

1 Month

- □ Train your volunteers including volunteers from nonpartisan partner organizations on registration requirements; schedule volunteers and assign responsibilities; confirm via email; provide them with checklist
 □ Publicize the event in organizational bulletins, community newspapers, flyers, and community social media sites to the populations you want to register. You can also announce the voter
- registration event through your personal or League website, Facebook, Instagram, or X (formerly Twitter), or other social media. Ask your nonpartisan partner organizations to help spread the word to their communities and members
- Gather all **materials and supplies** (take an inventory first); purchase/print materials and supplies:

<u>Forms</u>

- VR forms from your local Board of Elections, or download the forms and print.
- Voter Registration paper applications (English, Spanish, other languages) https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingRegister.html
- Absentee and Early Voting Ballot applications (English, Spanish, other languages) https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html

Handouts

- List of voter registration information, election dates, deadlines etc. Include who
 needs to vote, ie, voters who have moved, want to change their name or political party.
- First Vote, Voter Guides I and II, The LWVNYS series Your Right to Vote: College Student, Homeless Individuals, Individuals with Disabilities, Individuals with Criminal Convictions and Those Detained in Jail or Prison. Forms: https://lwvny.org/publications/
- Information on voters rights: how to use the paper ballot optical screening system, information on political parties, information on the importance of voting in both Primary and General elections.
- Voter Registration Fact Sheet.
- Reminder to Vote postcards: voter to self-address the postcard; League to mail prior to early voting and general election. Or, can provide a Reminder to Vote sign up sheet.

- Register to Vote Online flyers (English, Spanish) with QR code linked to NYS Board of Elections voter registration portal. https://www.elections.ny.gov/OnlineVoterReg.html
- League membership information and a "Want More Information" signup sheet

Equipment

- Laptop or iPad with Internet connectivity for voters to check their registrations and/or register to vote.
- Blue or black pens as those ink colors are required on voter registration forms.
- Clipboards, paper clips, scotch tape
- o Table, chairs, canopy, (as necessary)
- Make your registration table as attractive as possible. Patriotic candy, necklaces, stickers, children's games, and other giveaways often attract interest. Provide Clipboards. Use a LWV tablecloth to cover table, or a red/white/blue tablecloth. Be sure to display signs and posters in the registration area.

Signage

- Vote411 poster or flyers with QR code linked to Vote411.org.
- League of Women Voters banners, logos, posters.

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eeks
Continue to promote event
Follow up on all pending tasks
eek
Final check of venue logistics; volunteer logistics; materials and supplies inventory
of Event
Set up registration table/area as instructed
Conduct the voter registration drive; o Provide assistance to a registrant only if requested.

- If registrants complete their forms and turn them in to you, check that all fields are completed correctly, signed, and dated before the registrants leave the table. Store completed forms in a secure box or envelope.
- Designate the person who will deliver the forms to the local Board of Elections and deliver them as quickly as possible to ensure that the people you have registered can vote in the next election without incident. Do not hold the forms and submit them close to the registration deadline. The BOE is overwhelmed with forms close to the deadlines and mistakes can be made.
- A registrant may take a form and mail it to the BOE, however, stress the importance of meeting the deadline. Point out the required document list on the registration form upper right side. Mailed-in registration forms of first-time voters require ID. If an ID number is not provided on the form, or is not provided in response to a letter of request from the BOE, the voter will be asked to provide identification at the polling location the first time they vote.

Part III. The Finish

What to Do with Completed Voter Registration Forms

IMPORTANT: A person should be designated to deliver the completed forms to your Board of Elections. Plan to deliver the forms to the BOE office as quickly as possible to ensure that the people you have registered can vote in the next election without incident. Do not hold on to the forms and turn them in close to the registration deadline. The Board may be overwhelmed with forms close to the deadlines.

Thank Your Volunteers!

Texting For Voting Updates and Reminders



Text: VOTENY to 474747



Data Gathering to Measure Results

For your League's growth and strategic planning, collect and record data from all your voter registration events. Gathering data as your complete events will also assist you in completing the LWVNYS Voter Service Survey(s) during the year.

NEW: Data Tracking Tool

If you prefer to use the new Data Tracking Tool instead of a form, meet with your League's leadership team to decide who is going to transfer the sheet to your League's Google account. When that has been decided, have them email milly@lwvny.org. You won't be able to access the template until you do this. This system ensures that your League has one copy that everyone can add to. If you have any questions or want to set up a more personal training session for your League, feel free to reach out to me at milly@lwvny.org.

Voter Registration Data Form

1.	How many in person voter registration drives did you conduct?					
	a.	Number of drives:				
	b.	Number of voters registered:				
	C.	Number of forms taken:				
	d.	How many volunteers participated in voter registration drives?				
	e.	How many drives were in or targeted under-resourced communities?				
	f.	How many times did you partner with other groups to do a drive?				
		i. Which organizations?				
2.	How ma	ny high school voter registration drives did you do?				
	a.	How many schools?				
	b.	Number of voters registered:				
	C.	Number of forms taken:				
3.	How ma	ny college voter registration drives did you do?				
	a.	How many schools?				
	b.	Number of voters registered:				
	C.	Number of forms taken:				

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a.	
a.	Number of voters registered:
b.	Number of forms taken:
C.	How did you register or provide registration info:
d.	Information distributed to new citizens:
u.	information distributed to new ditizens.
instagram,	digital signs, webpage, videos, etc.)?
Describe tl	any voter registration trainings for League members did you have? he types of training for your League members (e.g., in-person workshop, rial, training aid, FAQ's, etc.)

How many voter registration trainings for partner organizations, external ganizations or groups did you have? a. Which organizations or groups did you train?
How does your league promote online voter registration? How do you promote online voter registration? How do you implement online voter registration at
drives/events (e.g., provide tablets, provide laptops, provide a QR code so that voters may register on their own devices, etc.?