

Do you plan to vote in the upcoming elections?

I want to vote but can't.

Don't assume you can't vote and don't take just anyone's word for it! Take the action shown below to double check and see if you might in fact be able to vote:



I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO

Go to www.headcount.org/verify-voter-registration/ and enter required information to find your polling place.



I HAVE SCHEDULE CONFLICTS OR WILL BE OUT OF TOWN

Most states have a method for any eligible voter to cast a ballot before Election Day, either during the early voting period or via absentee ballot. Check your state here: www.vote.org/absentee-voting-rules/



I DON'T HAVE AN ID

If you don't have a drivers license, alternate forms of identification may be acceptable. Check your state's ID requirements here: www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/



I DON'T HAVE A RIDE

Check with your local government to find out if they can coordinate a ride for you, or check with ridesharing services like Lyft and Uber who have provided free rides to vote in some locations.



I'M NOT SURE IF THE POLLING PLACE WILL BE ACCESSIBLE

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires polling places to be accessible for voters with disabilities. The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 requires each polling station to have at least one accessible voting booth or machine. As a last resort, election administrators may provide 'curbside voting' to allow persons with disabilities to vote outside the polling place or in their cars.



I HAVE DIFFICULTY READING OR FILLING OUT THE FORM

You have the right to get help from a person of your choice or an election worker.



I DON'T THINK I'M ELIGIBLE

Make sure. Check your eligibility here: www.headcount.org/verify-voter-registration/



I'M NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE (OR RECENTLY MOVED)

In some states, you can register to vote as late as Election Day. Check your state here: www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/



I'M TOO YOUNG TO VOTE

While the legal voting age in the U.S. is 18, voter registration and pre-registration rules are different in every state. Check your state here: www.usa.gov/voter-registration-age-requirements

I don't want to vote.

No one can make you vote — that is your right as a U.S. citizen. However, there are many excellent reasons to exercise your right to vote, even when you have objections to the candidates or the process:



VOTING NEVER CHANGES ANYTHING

Not voting to protest against the government can become a self-fulfilling prophecy. When 71% of people 65 years and older vote versus only 46% of 18- to 29-year-olds (as happened in the 2016 U.S. elections), it stands to reason that laws will be swayed towards the interests of the older segment.



MY ONE VOTE WON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Never underestimate the power of your single vote! Yes, one vote will not likely be a deciding factor, but if lots of voters with similar values decide to cast their votes, that definitely WILL make a difference.



IT'S JUST THE PRIMARIES

Having a voice in who we select to be on the ballot in November is as important as voting in November. Your vote in the primaries helps make sure your party's candidate is the one who best represents you and your values.



THIS ISN'T AN IMPORTANT ELECTION

Local government supports and feeds into state government, and state government supports and feeds into our federal government. By voting for your values at all elections, you are helping influence more than just the outcome of the election and issues at hand.



I FEEL PRESSURED TO VOTE AGAINST MY WISHES

The voting booth is private and your vote belongs to you alone. You are under no obligation to vote as your spouse, parents, family members, friends or others in your political party vote. You are free to vote your conscience!



I FEAR HARASSMENT AT THE POLLING PLACE

Federal law states that "no person ... shall intimidate, threaten, coerce ... any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of [that] person to vote or to vote as he may choose." If you experience intimidation at the polls, you can call the Justice Department Voting Rights Hotline at 800-253-3931; TTY line at 877-267-8971 or email the Justice Department Civil Rights Division at voting.section@usdoj.gov



I DON'T LIKE THE CANDIDATES/ISSUES

Rarely if ever will you have a candidate whose ideas and values perfectly reflect your own. But if you vote for the candidate nearest your values and large number of voters with similar values do the same, you help the political landscape shift closer to your ideal.



I'M NOT POLITICAL

The number of political issues and opinions can be overwhelming. If you are discouraged from voting because you aren't familiar with the issues, you might make a start by choosing two or three issues that affect your life (even if they are not current hot button issues), and see if you can spend a little time each day learning how those issues are addressed at the local, state and federal levels.



Yes, I can and will vote!

Excellent decision! Did you know that you can make an even greater impact by doing one (or more) of the following:



SHARE THIS INFOGRAPHIC on your blog, web site, and social media accounts. Tag anyone you know who isn't planning to vote.



OFFER A RIDE TO GO VOTE to one or more people in your community. You can also contact your local government and ask if they are coordinating rides for those who need one.



GET INVOLVED IN LOCAL POLITICS where you can help the "get out the vote" effort and much more! Find your local election official's info here: www.usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm

P.S. Do you have a voting plan?

Here are the three pieces of information you'll need to create a voting plan:

1. What time of day will you be voting?

Polling places are open 6:00am to 9:00pm. If you are not sure where to go, find your polling location here: www.headcount.org/verify-voter-registration/

2. What ID is required to vote in your state?

Check your state's current identification requirements here: www.vote.org/voter-id-laws/

3. How will you get to your polling location?

If you cannot drive, ride or walk to vote, ask friends and neighbors if you can ride along when they go. Or check with your local government, Lyft or Uber to ask about free ridesharing.

