

The November 3, 2026 Midterm Elections are here.

The League of Women Voters recommends that you prepare, plan, decide, and cast your ballot EARLY. Do not wait—get ready and vote NOW!

STEP 1: CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION

October 19 is the deadline to register to vote in the Midterm Elections.

If you are already registered, you must update your information if any of the following applies:

- You changed your residence address or mailing address.
- You changed your name.
- You changed your political party choice.

You can register or update your registration immediately at one of the following websites:

- California Secretary of State: <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>
- L.A. County Registrar: <https://www.lavote.gov/vrstatus>
- VOTE411: <https://www.vote411.org/check-registration>

Even if your information has not changed and you are registered, you should check: Make sure you are registered to vote and your information is up to date!

STEP 2: MAKE YOUR DECISIONS

You don't need to wait for your ballot to arrive. Start getting informed and making decisions NOW. Your voter guidelines and ballot choices are already available online!

- Consult the League of Women Voters' **EASY VOTER GUIDE** in the language you prefer. [CLICK HERE](#)
- Go to the [League's VOTE411](#) website, where you can register. Update your registration, and start working on a secure sample ballot. You will enter your address to find your personalized ballot, which will have all the same candidates and propositions you will see on your official ballot. This site provides details on candidates, links to their websites, and information on the propositions. You can work on an online ballot over multiple sessions or keep your own notes offline. Either way, you will be prepared when you mark your ballot.
- **The L.A. County Registrar of Voters** also offers an online [Interactive Sample Ballot](#) where you can securely store your choices until it's time to complete your official ballot. Or you can print out your sample ballot with your choices in place and save time if you vote in-person at a Vote Center.

STEP 3: VOTE!

Official mail-in ballots are sent to every registered voter in California. They are scheduled to go out on October 5 or earlier, so you may have yours by now. Read the instructions carefully, and follow them to the letter. Using your sample ballot or notes, fill in your official ballot by carefully following its instructions to the letter. **Do not forget to enclose all your ballot pages in the official envelope. Then sign and date the envelope as instructed.**

STEP 4: CAST YOUR BALLOT

The earlier you cast your ballot, the better—but no later than **November 3, Election Day**.

You can return your ballot using one of these methods:

- In person at any Vote by Mail Ballot Box location, starting on October 6. [Click here to find Ballot Drop Box locations.](#)
- At any Vote Center in L.A. County, starting on October 24. [Click here to find Vote Center locations.](#)
- By mail. Remember, no postage is necessary. However, you must make sure your ballot is postmarked on or before Election Day, November 3. [Watch this USPS video for details.](#)
- The League warns against last-minute voting and against using USPS in this election. Avoid mailing your ballot through USPS unless you are unable to deliver your ballot to an official Ballot Drop Box or Vote Center instead. If you must mail your ballot, we advise you do so before October 24, 2026, because USPS service may be unreliable.

STEP 5: DID YOUR BALLOT GET COUNTED? FIND OUT!

You can sign up for [BallotTrax by clicking here](#), and you will get emails indicating when your ballot was mailed, received, and counted. You can also find where your ballot is during the process by using the California Secretary of State's "[Where's My Ballot?](#)" tracker.