



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

# New York City Voter Registration Training Guide



## The League of Women Voters of the City of New York

4 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street – Suite 615  
New York, NY 10036  
212-725-3541

<http://www.lwvnyc.org>  
[office@lwvnyc.org](mailto:office@lwvnyc.org)

Revised May 2018

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Voting System in New York City	2
How to Plan and Conduct a Voter Registration Drive	3
Are You Eligible to Register and Vote in NYC?	4
Registration Deadlines	4
Voter Registration Online for DMV Account Holders	5
Registering People Who Do Not Have a Home Address	5
The Right to Vote in New York State for Individuals with Mental Health Disabilities	5
Voting with a Criminal Record	6
Voting Options for College Students in New York State	6-7
Victims of Domestic Violence	7
New York State Voter Registration Form	8
Registration Form Instructions	9-10
Checking Voter Registration Status	11
Looking Up Your Pollsite Location	11
Affidavit Ballot	12
Sample Ballots Online	12
Absentee Voting & Sample Absentee Ballot Application	12-15
2018 Dates To Remember	16
2018-20 Elections Summary Page	17
How to Use the Paper Ballot Optical Scan Voting System	18-20
Questions & Answers Related to Voting	21
Why Vote?	22
Political Vocabulary	23-24
2018-2020 Comprehensive Ballot	25-30
New York State Political Parties	31-33
Key Dates and Other Information	33

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to help you and your organization conduct your own voter registration drives in New York City. The information covers many aspects of this process, from the actual completion of the registration form to instructions about the ballot.

Over the past several years there have been a number of significant changes in the registration process. New voters must provide identification when first registering to vote. We will discuss the identification requirement in detail in the section on Registration Form Instructions (p. 9-10).

New voters must enroll in a political party if they wish to vote in primary elections. There are eight political parties listed on the New York State Voter Registration form: the Democratic Party, Republican Party, Conservative Party, Women's Equality Party, Reform Party, Working Families Party, Independence Party, and Green Party. These parties each secured 50,000 votes on their lines in the last gubernatorial election, the pre-requisite for securing a permanent line on the ballot and registration form. First time registrants are also given the opportunity to write in the political party in which they wish to enroll. And, of course, there is a box to check if the registrant chooses not to enroll in any party.

Registration is not the end of the process. It is only the beginning. Our responsibility is to see that all of those who are registered VOTE. Democracy and majority vote mean very little if fewer than half of those eligible to vote perform their civic duty and vote.

## VOTING SYSTEM IN NEW YORK CITY

Since 2010, voters in New York have been filling out paper ballots which they then feed into an optical scanner which records and tabulates the votes for all of the election districts at the poll site. As they are recorded by the scanner, the paper ballots drop into a locked box below the scanner, which also retains a facsimile of each ballot. This system allows for audits and recounts which were not possible with the lever machines that were in use through the 2009 elections.

In addition to the optical scanners, at least one Ballot Marking Device (BMD) is available in each polling place. The BMDs do not count votes. They enable the voter to mark a paper ballot which can then be inserted in the optical scanner and counted with the other ballots cast at the poll site. Any voter, including voters with disabilities, may use the BMD to view or listen to the ballot in any of the required languages (English, Spanish, Chinese – Mandarin or Cantonese, Bengali and Korean). The voter can then use the ATM-style touch screen, Braille-Enhanced keypad, sip and puff device, or rocker paddles to mark the ballot.

For more information on the electoral process and the 2018 Primary and General Elections, visit the NYC League of Women Voters website - [www.lwvnyc.org](http://www.lwvnyc.org) and the Board of Elections website: [www.vote.nyc.ny.us](http://www.vote.nyc.ny.us). You may also call the League's Telephone Information Service at 212-725-3541 and the Board of Elections at 212-VOTE-NYC (212-868-3692).

## HOW TO PLAN AND CONDUCT A VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

- 1 Select a Voter Registration Coordinator.
- 2 Choose a location to hold the drive and get written permission to use the site.
- 3 Publicize the event in organizational bulletins, community newspapers and flyers to the residents or the populations you wish to register. You can also announce the voter registration event through your website, Facebook, Twitter or other social media.
- 4 Get registration forms from your borough Board of Elections Office (addresses and phone numbers below). The Board of Elections will mail up to 250 registration forms to individuals. Registration forms are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Bengali.
- 5 Brief your volunteers on registration requirements before the event begins.
- 6 Have **black or blue pens** available for people to fill out the forms.
- 7 Display signs and posters in the registration area.
- 8 Have information available on voters' rights: how to use the voting machine, the political parties, as well as literature on the importance of voting.
- 9 If the registrant completes the form and turns it in to you, check to make sure the form is completed correctly before the registrant leaves the table.
- 10 The coordinator, or another representative of the organization sponsoring the event, should deliver the completed forms to the appropriate borough office of the Board of Elections or to the Board's central office in Manhattan at 32 Broadway, 7<sup>th</sup> floor. **We advise you to deliver the forms to the Board of Elections office as quickly as possible to ensure that the people you have registered can vote in the next election without incident. Don't hold on to the forms to turn them in close to the registration deadline (June 1 for the federal primary, August 17 for the state and local primary and October 12 for the General Election). The Board is overwhelmed with forms close to the deadlines and that's when mistakes are made.**
- 11 If a registrant wants to take a form and mail it in, that is fine as long as you explain that June 1 is the last day to register for the June 26 Federal Primary, August 19 is the last day to register for the September 13 State Primary and October 12 is the deadline to register to vote in the General Election. The NYC BOE Commissioners will decide what offices will be open on that day to receive In-Person registrations.
- 12 Mailed registrations should be put in postal boxes by Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> so as to be postmarked by Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 13 Mailed-in registration forms of first-time voters require identification. If ID is not provided on the form, or in response to a letter of request from the Board, the voter will be asked to produce identification at the polling place the first time he or she votes.

### **Borough Offices of the Board of Elections:**

<b>Bronx</b>	<b>1780 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10457</b>	<b>(718) 299-9017</b>
<b>Brooklyn</b>	<b>345 Adams St, Brooklyn NY 11201</b>	<b>(718) 797-8800</b>
<b>Manhattan</b>	<b>200 Varick Street, New York, NY 10014</b>	<b>(212) 886-2100</b>
<b>Queens</b>	<b>118-35 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, NY 11375</b>	<b>(718) 730-6730</b>
<b>Staten Island</b>	<b>1 Edgewater Plaza, Staten Island, NY 10305</b>	<b>(718) 876-0079</b>

### **Citywide Board of Elections Information:**

<http://vote.nyc.ny.us/>      **32 Broadway, 7th Fl., NY, NY**      **212-VOTE-NYC (212) 868-3692**      **TTY (212) 487-5496**

## ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER AND VOTE IN NEW YORK CITY?

Yes You Are, If You Are:

- A Citizen of the United States (born in the U.S. or naturalized). Persons born in Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands are U. S. citizens.
- A resident of New York City for at least 30 days before the election.
- At least 18 years of age by Election Day. If your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday falls in 2018, but after November 6 (date of General Election, 2018), you may register but you are not eligible to vote in the November election.
- **You can register any time during the year, but your form must be delivered or mailed at least 25 days before the next election for it to be effective for that election.**
- Not serving a jail sentence or on parole for a felony conviction.
  - Not adjudged by a court to be mentally incompetent to vote.
  - Not claiming the right to vote elsewhere (outside the City of New York).
- Once Registered You Remain on the Rolls Unless You:
  - Move
  - Change your name
  - Have not voted for 5 years, in which case your name may be on a computer file, but not on the registration list at the polls. In this case ask to vote on an affidavit ballot
  - Are convicted of a felony

### REGISTRATION DEADLINES

In New York State Voter Registration Forms must be received by the Board of Elections or postmarked 25 days before the election in which the applicant wishes to vote.

Any qualified person who has been honorably discharged from the military after the 25<sup>th</sup> day before a general election or has become a naturalized citizen after the 25<sup>th</sup> day before the general election may personally register at the Board of Elections in the applicant's county of residence and vote in the general election held at least ten days after such registration.

Any change of registration, i.e., a new address or name, must be received by the Board of Elections 25 days before the election.

**Only new** voters can register and enroll in a political party 25 days before the primary and vote in the primary of the party in which they enrolled.

**Changing Party Enrollment** - A registration form submitted to change enrollment from one party to another or from "blank" to a party designation must be received by the Board of Elections. **Please note:** you cannot CHANGE your enrollment and vote in the NEW PARTY of your choice in the same year. A change of enrollment will go into effect one week following the General Election. The last day to change your enrollment for the following year's primary is the same as the last day to register for the General Election (25 days prior to the date of the General Election). This means that it is too late to change your party enrollment for the 2018 primaries. The deadline to change your party enrollment and vote in your new party's primary in 2019 is October 12, 2018.

***In a General Election, a voter may vote for any candidate regardless of party enrollment***

**Voter Registration Online for DMV Account Holders**

If you have a Driver's License, Non-Driver's ID card or Learner's Permit issued by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, you may register to vote or update your voter registration on the DMV website ([www.dmv.ny.gov/mydmv](http://www.dmv.ny.gov/mydmv)).

Upon signing into the MyDMV application, you may select ***Electronic Voter Registration Application*** to complete a voter registration form online. You will be asked a series of questions which are on the Board of Elections registration form, including the affirmation of an affidavit stating that you are eligible to register and that all of the information you are providing is truthful. You will also be asked to agree to the NYS DMV attestation which authorizes the DMV to send the Board of Elections the digital signature they have on file from your application for a Driver's License, Non-Driver ID or Learner's Permit. The Board of Elections has agreed to accept that attestation as the legal equivalent of a handwritten signature. The DMV does not approve or deny voter registration applications, it simply forwards the online applications to the County Boards of Elections for processing.

**REGISTERING PEOPLE WHO DO NOT HAVE A HOME ADDRESS**

Homeless individuals may register using the location where they stay at night, which can be the closest building address to a street corner, a shelter, a bus station, train station or any other location. This address will be used by the Board of Elections to assign the voter to the appropriate poll site. A mailing address should also be provided on the Voter Registration form and can be that of a local advocacy organization, shelter, outreach center or anywhere else where someone is willing to accept mail on the voter's behalf. The mailing address does not have to be a residential address.

**THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN NEW YORK STATE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITIES**

**Do I have a right to vote if I have a mental health problem?**

Yes! According to the New York State Election Law, if you are otherwise eligible to vote, **you are only prevented from voting if you have been adjudged incompetent or incapacitated to vote by order of a court.**

No person is prohibited from voting simply because he or she has been subjected to civil commitment.

**Will my benefits and services be affected by my registering to vote?**

No, there is no relationship between registering to vote and your eligibility for benefits and services.

## **VOTING WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD**

### **Can I vote if I have been convicted of a felony? You may NOT register or vote if**

- You have been convicted of a felony and:
- You are currently incarcerated or
- You are under parole supervision

### **You MAY register and vote if**

- You were convicted of a felony and
- You were sentenced to probation
- You were not sentenced to incarceration or your prison sentence was suspended
- You have served your maximum prison sentence
- You have been discharged from parole or
- You have received a pardon

### **How do I register to vote?**

You must complete a voter registration form and sign the sworn affirmation that is contained in the form. Then you must mail or deliver the form to your local county Board of Elections. The address for the New York City Board of Elections is 32 Broadway, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10014. See page 3 for addresses and phone numbers.

You do not need to provide any documentation about your criminal history in order to register.

### **Can I vote from jail?**

You may vote from jail as long as you are registered and not serving time on a felony conviction. If you are awaiting trial or disposition of your case, or if you are serving time on a misdemeanor, you may vote from jail as long as you are already registered.

### **How do I vote if I'm in jail?**

You must request an absentee ballot from the Board of Elections. To obtain an absentee ballot you must first submit an absentee ballot application. In New York City, an application should be available at your facility, on the Internet at [www.vote.nyc.ny.us](http://www.vote.nyc.ny.us), or you can call 1-866-VOTE-NYC.

### **What address should I put on the voter registration form if I am in jail?**

You should put your permanent home address on the registration form, not the address of the facility where you are incarcerated.

## **VOTING OPTIONS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS IN NEW YORK STATE**

Some states won't allow students to register! The right to vote is fundamental in a democratic society. The following information will help make it easy for you to exercise this right. To be eligible to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen who will be at least 18 years old on Election Day, and you must also have registered to vote. If you are in college, the following information will help you to decide whether to vote in your prior district/state or at your college address. There are many good reasons for registering and voting at either residence, but keep in mind, in most cases the final choice is really yours.

*Should I register and vote in my college community?*

You *do* have a stake in the local issues of your college community. Issues such as off-campus housing and zoning restrictions, the environment, taxes, transportation and personal safety all affect your quality of living. Voting in your college community also is more convenient and relieves you of the need to apply for and return an absentee ballot.

**Every voter needs to have information about the issues and the candidates. Registering and voting at college can give you the opportunity to become involved with, and informed about, the local issues in your college town or city. Becoming involved in the issues, and learning about local politics, are some of the ways in which you can begin to build a relationship with other residents of the community. If you consider the college community your primary residence, you should vote in that location.**

*Am I really a resident of my college community?*

Yes. Students live in their college towns anywhere from nine to 12 months of the year, for at least four years. This means that students are no more transient than the average American family, which typically moves once every four years. Students contribute to the college community in many valuable ways. They work as volunteers in a host of civic organizations, help to create jobs in the community, bolster the local economy, and pay sales and gasoline taxes.

*Why should I register at my prior address?*

If you do not consider your college community your primary residence and/or you have a special interest in the local issues at your prior address, you have a good reason for voting there. The people and issues you vote for will have an impact that is more lasting on you if you intend to return to this location to live. It is also possible that you are still subject to taxes and student loan/scholarship regulations at your prior address. If this is the case, having a voice in the policy decisions about these issues might be important for you. Just remember, if you want to vote at your prior residence, you must be registered at that address and be aware of absentee ballot regulations and procedures.

## **VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

N.Y. Election Law (5-508) allows victims of domestic violence who obtain a court order from NY Supreme Court in the county where they are registered to have their voter registration record kept separate and apart from other registration records 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), you can also be excused from going to your polling place to vote and get a special ballot. For further information, you should contact your local board of elections for their confidential registration and special ballot procedures.



# New York State Voter Registration Form

## Register to vote

With this form, you register to vote in elections in New York State. You can also use this form to:

- change the name or address on your voter registration
- become a member of a political party
- change your party membership

### To register you must:

- be a US citizen;
- be 18 years old by the end of this year;
- not be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction;
- not claim the right to vote elsewhere.

## Send or deliver this form

Fill out the form below and send it to your county's address on the back of this form, or take this form to the office of your County Board of Elections.

Mail or deliver this form at least 25 days before the election you want to vote in. Your county will notify you that you are registered to vote.

### Questions?

Call your County Board of Elections listed on the back of this form or 1-800-FOR-VOTE (TDD/TTY Dial 711)

Find answers or tools on our web site [www.elections.ny.gov](http://www.elections.ny.gov)

## Verifying your identity

We'll try to check your identity before Election Day, through the OMV number (driver's license number or non-driver ID number), or the last four digits of your social security number, which you'll fill in below.

If you do not have a OMV or social security number, you may use a valid photo ID, a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or some other government document that shows your name and address. You may include a copy of one of those types of ID with this form - be sure to tape the sides of the form closed.

If we are unable to verify your identity before Election Day, you will be asked for ID when you vote for the first time.

Información en español: si le interesa obtener este formulario en español, llame al 1-800-367-8683

Información en español: si le interesa obtener este formulario en español, llame al 1-800-367-8683

Information in Spanish: if you are interested in obtaining this form in Spanish, call 1-800-367-8683

Information in Spanish: if you are interested in obtaining this form in Spanish, call 1-800-367-8683

It is a crime to procure a false registration or to furnish false information to the Board of Elections. Please print in blue or black ink.

## 0 Qualifications

Are you a citizen of the U.S.?  Yes  No

If you answer No, you cannot register to vote.

Will you be 18 years of age or 2 older on or before election day?  Yes  No

If you answer No, you cannot register to vote unless you will be 18 by the end of the year.

## Your name

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix \_\_\_\_\_  
First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial LJ

## More information

Items 5, 6 & 7 are optional

4 Birth date 11-11-1983 5 Sex  M  F  
6 Phone 516-367-8683 7 Email \_\_\_\_\_

## The address where you live

Address (not P.O. box) \_\_\_\_\_  
8 Apt. Number \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code 11701  
City / Town / Village \_\_\_\_\_  
New York State County \_\_\_\_\_

## The address where you receive mail

Skip it same as above

Address or P.O. box \_\_\_\_\_  
9 P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_ code 1-11701  
City / Town / Village \_\_\_\_\_

## Voting history

10 Have you voted before?  Yes  No 11 What year? 11

## Voting information that has changed

Skip it this has not changed or you have not voted before

12 Your name was \_\_\_\_\_  
Your address was \_\_\_\_\_  
Your previous state or New York State County was \_\_\_\_\_

## Identification

You must make 1 selection

For questions, please refer to Verifying your identity above.

13  New York State OMV number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last four digits of your Social Security number 1111 - 1111  
 I do not have a New York State driver's license or a Social Security number.

## Political party

You must make 1 selection

Political party enrollment is optional but that, in order to vote in a primary election of a political party, a voter must enroll in that political party, unless state party rules allow otherwise

14 I wish to enroll in a political party  
 Democratic party  
 Republican party  
 Conservative party  
 Green party  
 Working Families party  
 Independence party  
 Women's Equality party  
 Reform party  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
I do not wish to enroll in a political party  
 No party

## 0 Affidavit: I swear or affirm that

- I am a citizen of the United States.
- I will have lived in the county, city or village for at least 30 days before the election
- I meet all requirements to register to vote in New York State.
- This is my signature or mark in the box below.
- The above information is true, I understand that if it is not true, I can be convicted and fined up to \$5,000 and/or jailed for up to four years.

Sign

Date

## Optional questions

15  I need to apply for an Absentee ballot.  
 I would like to be an Election Day worker.

# REGISTRATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

(See sample form on the preceding pages. Forms are available in English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean)

**THE FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT IN BLUE OR BLACK INK  
THE NUMBERS BELOW FOLLOW THE FORM**

Qualifications	Are you a citizen of the U.S.?	Yes	No
	If you answer No, you cannot register to vote.		
	Will you be 18 years of age or older on or before election day?	Yes	No
	If you answer No, you cannot register to vote unless you will be 18 by the end of the year.		
Your name	Last name	Suffix	
	First name	Middle Initial	
More information	Birth date	Sex M F_	
	Telephone		
The address where you live	Email		
The address where you receive mail Skip if the same as above			
Voting history	Have you voted before? Yes No_	What year?	
Voting information that has changed Skip if this has not changed or you have not voted before	Your name was		
	Your address was		
	Your previous state or New York State County was		
Identification You must make 1 selection.  For questions, please refer to <i>Verifying your identity</i>	New York State DMV Number		
	Last four digits of your Social Security Number		
	I do not have a New York State driver's license or a Social Security number.		
Political party You must make 1 selection.  To vote in a primary election, you must be enrolled in one of these listed parties – except the Independence Party, which permits non-enrolled voters to participate in certain primary elections.	Democratic party		Affidavit: I swear or affirm that: (see below)*
	Republican party		
	Conservative party		
	Working Families party		
	Independence party		
	Green party		
	Women's Equality Party		
	Reform Party		
	Other		
I do not wish to enroll in a party: No party ____			
Optional questions	I need to apply for an Absentee ballot (optional)	Sign	
	I would like to be an Election Day worker (optional)	Date	

**Verifying Your Identification Requirements (Box 13)**

If you do not have a DMV or social security number, you may use a valid photo id, a current utility bill, bank statement, pay check, government check, or some other government document that shows your name and address. You may include a copy of one of those types of ID with this form – be sure to tape the sides of the form closed.

**Why Enroll in a Political Party? (Box 14)**

To vote in a primary election, you must be enrolled in one of these listed parties - except the Independence Party, which permits non-enrolled voters to participate in certain primary elections.

**\*Affidavit (Box 16)**

Affidavit: I swear or affirm that

- I am a citizen of the United States.
- I will have lived in the county, city or village for at least 30 days before the election.
- I meet all requirements to register to vote in New York State
- This is my signature or mark in the box below.
- The above information is true; I understand that if it is not true; I can be convicted and fined up to \$5000 and/or jailed for up to four years.

**ON THE BACK OF FORM**

**OPTIONAL ORGAN DONOR REGISTRATION** -- If you would like to donate organs or tissues to the NYS Department of Health's "Donate Life Registry" you can fill out the form or register online.

## CHECKING VOTER REGISTRATION STATUS

If a voter does not receive an Acknowledgment Notice from the Board of Elections that his or her registration was received within 4-6 weeks after submission of their registration form (or sooner if election day is getting close), or a voter is not sure if he or she is registered, his or her status can be checked with the New York City Board of Elections by calling 212-VOTE-NYC (212-868-3692) or online at <https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/>. Click on the Voter Registration Information section at the bottom of the home page and then click on Voter Registration Status. This search requires inclusion of the voter's birth date to complete the status request.

The screenshot shows the NYSVoter Public Information - Voter Registration Search page. At the top right, there is a logo for the New York State Board of Elections and NYSVoter. Below the header, a message states: "To use this page, you must be a registered voter in the New York State. Please enter your Last Name, First Name, Date of Birth, County and Address information and press the 'Search' button. Mandatory Fields are indicated by \*". The form is titled "Voter Information" and contains the following fields: Last Name (with a red asterisk), First Name (with a red asterisk), Date of Birth (with a red asterisk and a placeholder "MMDDYYYY"), County (a dropdown menu with "Select" and a red asterisk), and ZIP Code (with a red asterisk). At the bottom of the form are "Search" and "Clear" buttons.

## LOOKING UP YOUR POLL SITE LOCATION

<https://nyc.pollsitelocator.com/search>

Provides most current location of poll site with map, election district and exact address.

The screenshot shows the nyc.pollsitelocator.com website. The page is titled "Poll Site Locator" and is part of "The Board of Elections in the City of New York". It features a search form with the following fields: "House #:" (with a red asterisk), "Street Name:" (with a red asterisk), and "Zip Code:" (with a red asterisk). A blue "Lookup Address" button is located below the form. To the right of the form, there is a map showing the location of "J K Onassis HS" at "120 West 46 Street, New York, NY 10036". Below the map, there is a table of election districts and their corresponding numbers:

Political Subdivision	Number
Section/Assembly District	075/75
Judicial District	01
Congressional District	12
Statewide District	27
County District	04
Municipal Court District	09
Assembly District	75

## AFFIDAVIT BALLOT

If your name does not appear on the rolls at the polling place and you believe that you are registered and enrolled at the address given, ask the poll worker for an affidavit ballot. Fill out the paper ballot, place it in the affidavit envelope, complete the information requested on the envelope. This information includes the information required on the voter registration form. Seal the envelope and give it to the election district inspector. The envelope will be forwarded to the Board of Elections where the enclosed affidavit ballot will be counted if it is confirmed that you are registered at the address provided. If the Board determines that you were not registered at the address, the Board will accept the information in the affidavit as a voter registration form, and you will become registered.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If a voter, registered in New York City, moves WITHIN the City and fails to re-register from his/her new address BEFORE the cut-off date, OR, if a voter moves WITHIN the City AFTER the deadline to register, he/she should go to the NEW polling site on Election Day and vote on an affidavit ballot. His/her name will not appear in the poll list book, hence, the affidavit ballot.

## SAMPLE BALLOTS ONLINE

Voters can find out who is on the ballot in their Election District before they go to the poll site on Election Day. The sample ballots can be accessed through the Board's website <http://vote.nyc.ny.us> or through the League's website [www.lwvnyc.org](http://www.lwvnyc.org).

The League of Women Voters has long advocated for online availability of sample ballots. As a result of a collaboration with the city's Department of Information, Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) and the Board of Elections, sample ballots have at last been added to the Board's online poll site locator.

## ABSENTEE VOTING

Absentee voting is available for:

- Registered voters who cannot make it to their poll site on Election Day because they will be outside the City of New York on Election Day (i.e. Primary/General/Special).
- If you are awaiting sentencing, or incarcerated for a misdemeanor charge you may vote by absentee ballot. However, if you have been convicted of a felony, you lose your right to vote and can only re-register once you are no longer serving your sentence.
- If you are ill, disabled, or in a hospital or long-term care facility, you may vote by absentee ballot.

There are two options for New York City voters wishing to cast an absentee ballot:

1. Vote in person at your Board's Borough office, prior to Election Day.
2. Vote by mail.

### **In-Person Absentee Voting**

In-person absentee voting begins as soon as the absentee ballots have been certified and are sent to the Borough Office. Absentee voting in person ends the day before Election Day.

In-person absentee voting is conducted during the above period, at the Board of Elections' Borough Offices. The hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday and on the weekend prior to Election Day. Check the Board of Elections in the City of New York's website for a list of dates pertaining to each election.

### **By-Mail Absentee Voting**

Requests for an absentee ballot sent by mail must be in writing and must reach the New York City Board's office no later than the seventh day before an election. Absentee ballot applications can be obtained from the Board of Elections in the City of New York. The absentee ballot application must include the following information:

- Name
- Address on voter registration application
- Mailing address (if different)
- Reason for requesting absentee ballot application
- The type of election (primary, general, special ) and the date of the election
- Signature

To be counted, the voted absentee ballot (and completed application form) must be postmarked by the day before Election Day and must reach the Board of Elections in the City of New York no later than seven (7) days after the election.

# New York State Absentee Ballot Application

Please print clearly. See detailed instructions.

This application must either be personally delivered to your county board of elections not later than the day before the election, or postmarked by a governmental postal service not later than 7th day before election day. The ballot itself must either be personally delivered to the board of elections no later than the close of polls on election day, or postmarked by a governmental postal service not later than the day before the election and received no later than the 7th day after the election.

BOARD USE ONLY:

Town/City/Ward/Dist: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration No: \_\_\_\_\_

Party: \_\_\_\_\_

voted in office

1. I am requesting, in good faith, an absentee ballot due to (check one reason):

<input type="checkbox"/> absence from county or New York City on election day	<input type="checkbox"/> patient or inmate in a Veterans' Administration Hospital
<input type="checkbox"/> temporary illness or physical disability	<input type="checkbox"/> detention in jail/prison, awaiting trial, awaiting action by a grand jury, or in prison for a conviction of a crime or offense which was not a felony
<input type="checkbox"/> permanent illness or physical disability	
<input type="checkbox"/> duties related to primary care of one or more individuals who are ill or physically disabled	

2. absentee ballot(s) requested for the following election(s) :

Primary Election only       General Election only       Special Election only

Any election held between these dates: absence begins: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ absence ends: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

3. last name or surname \_\_\_\_\_ first name \_\_\_\_\_ middle initial \_\_\_\_\_ suffix \_\_\_\_\_

4. date of birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ county where you live \_\_\_\_\_ phone number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

5. address where you live (residence) street \_\_\_\_\_ apt \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**NY**

6. Delivery of Primary Election Ballot (check one)       Deliver to me in person at the board of elections

I authorize (give name): \_\_\_\_\_ to pick up my ballot at the board of elections.

Mail ballot to me at: (mailing address)

\_\_\_\_\_ street no. \_\_\_\_\_ street name \_\_\_\_\_ apt. \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

7. Delivery of General (or Special) Election Ballot (check one)       Deliver to me in person at the board of elections

I authorize (give name): \_\_\_\_\_ to pick up my ballot at the board of elections.

Mail ballot to me at: (mailing address)

\_\_\_\_\_ street no. \_\_\_\_\_ street name \_\_\_\_\_ apt. \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

## Applicant Must Sign Below

8. I certify that I am a qualified and a registered (and for primary, enrolled) voter; and that the information in this application is true and correct and that this application will be accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an affidavit and, if it contains a material false statement, shall subject me to the same penalties as if I had been duly sworn.

Sign Here:   X   Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

If applicant is unable to sign because of illness, physical disability or inability to read, the following statement must be executed: By my mark, duly witnessed hereunder, I hereby state that I am unable to sign my application for an absentee ballot without assistance because I am unable to write by reason of my illness or physical disability or because I am unable to read. I have made, or have the assistance in making, my mark in lieu of my signature. (No power of attorney or preprinted name stamps allowed. See detailed instructions.)

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Name of Voter: \_\_\_\_\_ Mark: \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the above named voter affixed his or her mark to this application in my presence and I know him or her to be the person who affixed his or her mark to said application and understand that this statement will be accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an affidavit and if it contains a material false statement, shall subject me to the same penalties as if I had been duly sworn.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(address of witness to mark)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of witness to mark)

Board Use Only  
2010 regular ab app2\_rev (6/15/10)

**Instructions:****Who may apply for an absentee ballot?**

Each person must apply for themselves. It is a felony to make a false statement in an application for an absentee ballot, to attempt to cast an illegal ballot, or to help anyone to cast an illegal ballot.

**Information for military and overseas voters:**

If you are applying for an absentee ballot because you or your family are in the military or because you currently reside overseas, do not use this application. You are entitled to special provisions if you apply using the Federal Postcard Application. For more information about military/overseas voting, contact your local board of elections or refer to the Military and Federal Voting sections at: <http://www.elections.state.ny.us/Voting.html>

**Where and when to return your application:**

**Applications must be mailed seven days before the election, or hand-delivered to your county board of elections by the day before the election.** If the address of your county board of elections is not provided on this form, contact information for your local election office can be found on the New York State Board of Elections' website, under "County Boards of Election" directory" at: <http://www.elections.state.ny.us/CountyBoards.html>

**Options available to you if you have an illness or disability:**

If you check the box indicating your illness or disability is permanent, once your application is approved you will automatically receive a ballot for each election in which you are eligible to vote, without having to apply again. You may sign the absentee ballot application yourself, or you may make your mark and have your mark witnessed in the spaces provided on the bottom of the application. Please note that a power of attorney or printed name stamp is not allowed for any voting purpose.

**When your ballot will be sent:**

Your absentee ballot materials will be sent to you at least 32 days before federal, state, county, city or town elections in which you are eligible to vote. If you applied after this date, your ballot will be sent immediately after your completed and signed application is received and processed by your local board of elections. If you provide dates in section 2, identifying the time frame within which you will be absent from your county or from the City of New York, you will be sent a ballot for any primary, general, special election or presidential primary election which might occur during the time frame you have specified. If you prefer, you may designate someone to pick up your ballot for you, by completing the required information in section 6 and/or section 7, as appropriate. Contact your local county board of elections if you have not received your ballot.

## BOROUGH OFFICES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Manhattan, 200 Varick Street, New York, N.Y. 10014 (212) 886-2100  
Bronx, 1780 Grand Concourse, Bronx, N.Y. 10457 (718) 960-0730  
Brooklyn, 345 Adams Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201 (718) 797-8800  
Queens, 126-06 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, N.Y. 11415 (718) 730-6730  
Staten Island, One Edgewater Plaza, Staten Island, N.Y. 10305 (718) 876-0079

## 2018 Dates To Remember

---

### FEDERAL PRIMARY – TUESDAY, JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup>

- Register or change address in person by Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Register or change address by mail: postmarked by June 1<sup>st</sup> and received by Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>
- Apply for absentee ballot in person by Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup>
- Apply for absentee ballot by mail: postmarked by Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>
- Deliver ballot in person by Tuesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>
- Deliver ballot by mail: postmarked by Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and received by Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>

### STATE AND LOCAL PRIMARY – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>

- Register or change address in person by Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. *\*\*Since August 19 is a Sunday, the forms should be mailed on or before Friday, August 17 to ensure that they are postmarked no later than Saturday, August 18\*\**
- Register or change address by mail: postmarked by Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> and received by Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup>
- Apply for absentee ballot in person by Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>
- Apply for absentee ballot by mail: postmarked by Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>
- Deliver ballot in person by Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>
- Deliver ballot by mail: postmarked by Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and received by Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

### GENERAL ELECTION – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

- Register or change address in person by Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>
- Register or change address by mail: postmarked by Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> and received by October 17<sup>th</sup>
- Apply for absentee ballot in person by Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>
- Apply for absentee ballot by mail: postmarked by Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>
- Deliver ballot in person by Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>
- Deliver ballot by mail: postmarked by Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> and received by Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

### DEADLINE TO CHANGE PARTY AFFILIATION IN TIME TO VOTE IN THE **2019** PRIMARIES:

- Change party affiliation in person by Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>
- Change party affiliation by mail: postmarked by Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> and received by October 17<sup>th</sup>

## **2018-20 Elections Summary Page**

### **2018 Ballot**

**(June (TBD) 2018 Federal Primary, September (TBD) 2018 State Primary,  
November 6, 2018 General Election)**

New York State Governor & Lieutenant Governor  
New York State Attorney General  
New York State Comptroller  
United States Senate, Member  
United States House of Representatives, Members  
New York State Senate, Members  
New York State Assembly, Members  
New York State Supreme Court Justices  
New York City Civil Court Judges

### **2019 Ballot**

**(June (TBD) 2019 Federal Primary, September (TBD) 2019 State Primary,  
November 5, 2019 General Election)**

New York State Supreme Court Justices  
New York City Civil Court Judges  
District Attorney, Queens

### **2020 Ballot**

**(April (TBD) 2020 Presidential Primary, June (TBD) 2020 Federal Primary,  
September (TBD) 2020 State Primary, November 7, 2020 General Election)**

President of the United States & Vice President of the United States  
United States Senate, Member  
United States House of Representatives, Member  
New York State Senate, Members  
New York State Assembly, Members  
New York State Supreme Court Justices  
New York City Civil Court Judges  
District Attorney, Bronx  
District Attorney, Staten Island

# HOW TO USE THE PAPER BALLOT OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEM

## Paper Ballot Completion Demonstration

Voters in New York City vote on a paper ballot which is then fed into an Optical Scanner which reads and tabulates your ballot. Here is the general process used for completing your paper ballot before scanning it.



After checking in at your polling site, an Inspector provides you with a paper ballot and a privacy sleeve.

The privacy sleeve is used to shield your completed ballot from view.

You will be directed to a booth where you can complete your ballot in privacy. A pen will be provided in the booth with which you can mark your ballot.

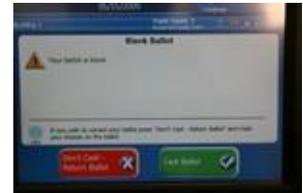


If you haven't voted before with a paper ballot, make sure to ask the inspector for a demonstration.



Inspectors are trained to show you how to fill in the ballot and process it on the scanner and are always happy to help.

The paper ballot has voting instructions, office titles, candidates, and/or issues for this election printed on both sides.



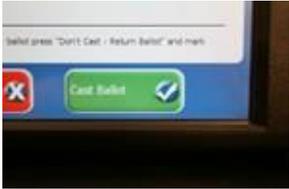
Make sure to mark every contest by completely filling in the oval to the upper right of the name of the candidate or issue of your choice.



Do not use an 'X' or other notation.

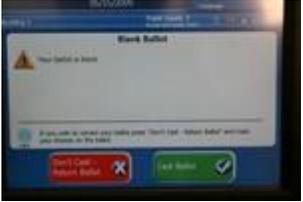
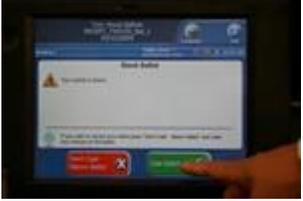
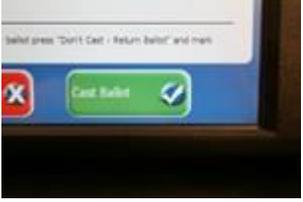
Don't try to erase or cross out a choice after it has been made. Ask for a new ballot if you make a mistake in marking a candidate.

Do not make stray marks on the ballot.

<p>You should also avoid rolling or folding the ballot.</p>	
<p>If you make a mistake or damage the ballot, return it to the Inspector for a replacement. Be aware that a limited number of replacement ballots are allowed.</p>	
<p>You can also include write-in candidates. Fill in the oval next to the words “WRITE-IN” and write the candidate’s name on the line.</p> <p>After voting, insert the ballot into the privacy sleeve. An Inspector will direct you to the ballot scanner.</p>	
<p>If for any reason you cannot or do not want to fill out your ballot by hand, then there is a ballot marking device (BMD) available in each poll site which will enable you to complete the ballot with a variety of assistive devices – touch keyboard, large type, head phones, sip and puff device or a rocker paddle.</p> <p>Once completed you can insert your ballot in the optical scanner and it will be counted in the same way as every hand written ballot.</p>	

## SCANNING INSTRUCTIONS

<b>Paper Ballot Scanning Instruction</b>	
<p>Once your ballot is completed, it is time to scan it.</p> <p>Scanning your ballot in the DS200 is easy. But, remember, if you need assistance; don’t hesitate to ask your helpful inspector.</p>	
<p>Many elections provide on-screen messages in multiple languages. In this case, select the language of your choice by touching the corresponding button on the display screen.</p>	
<p>The ballot may be inserted into the ballot slot in any orientation.</p>	

<p>If you have any questions regarding your ballot, please ask an Inspector for clarification <i>before</i> inserting your ballot into the DS200. The Inspector will stand back from the scanner when you are inserting your ballot and will only provide assistance if requested.</p>	
<p>After inserting your ballot, check the display screen to see if there are any error messages.</p>	
<p>If the ballot message is <b>Blank Ballot or Over Voted Ballot</b>, press <b>Don't Cast — Return</b> on the touch screen to get the ballot back to make changes.</p>	
<p>If you'd like to submit your ballot as-is, select <b>Cast Ballot</b> on the touch screen.</p>	
<p>If the ballot is damaged and not accepted by the scanner, return it to the Inspector for replacement.</p>	
<p>To complete the process and cast your ballot, press the <b>Cast Ballot</b> button.</p>	
<p>The display screen notifies you when your ballot has been cast successfully.</p>	
<p>Your ballot is stored in the secure ballot box.</p>	

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS RELATED TO VOTING

***Q) Why do we register in order to vote?***

A) To determine eligibility to vote and as a means of identifying voters.

***Q) Once registered, am I registered forever?***

A) Yes, unless you move, change your name or fail to vote for five years, in which case your name may be placed in a computer file but not printed in the enrollment book at the polls.

***Q) Why should I enroll in a political party?***

A) If you are enrolled in a political party, you may vote in that party's primary election and help select the candidates who will run on that party's ticket in the general election. You may sign party petitions to get a party candidate on the ballot. At the general election, you may vote for any candidate of any party, regardless of your enrollment.

***Q) When were changes made in the U. S. Constitution regarding eligibility for voting?***

A) In 1870, the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment gave the right to vote to all citizens regardless of 'race, color or previous condition of servitude'. In 1920, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment gave the right to vote to women. In 1964, the 24<sup>th</sup> Amendment removed the poll tax as a requirement for voting for President, Vice President, and U. S. Congress (Senators or Members of the House of Representatives). In 1971, the 26<sup>th</sup> Amendment gave the vote to 18 year olds.

***Q) May you register potential voters who do not live in one of the 5 boroughs in New York City?***

A) Yes, if they live in other parts of New York State and an appropriate registration form is available.

***Q) Will I be called for jury duty if I register?***

A) Jury duty lists come from many sources – the Department of Motor Vehicles, tax rolls, etc., as well as voter registration lists.

***Q) How do I judge a candidate?***

- A)
1. Decide which issues are of most importance to you and what qualities you want in a leader
  2. Gather information about the candidate
  3. Evaluate the candidate's stands on issues
  4. Learn how other people view the candidate
  5. See through distortion techniques – name calling, appeals to prejudice, passing the blame, promising the sky, evading real issues
  6. Watch and listen to televised, radio or online debates

## WHY VOTE?

*Have you ever heard a person say “I don’t vote because ...I don’t believe the candidates will do most of the things they are promising the people... jobs, safety on the streets, better schools, better transportation, etc?”*

**FACT:** Politicians know who votes and who doesn’t vote; which groups turn out in large numbers; and which groups stay home.

**FACT:** Politicians respond to the needs of those groups of people who have the best record of turning out voters on Election Day.

**FACT:** Politicians give serious consideration to the needs of those people who could vote them out of office.

**FACT:** Your elected official, in order to be able to make effective changes in your community, must be able to assure the appropriate head of government (Mayor, District Attorney, Judges, Governor, President) that his/her constituents have the voting power to make the difference.

**FACT** Your clout begins in the privacy booth and your paper ballot.

## POLITICAL VOCABULARY

<b>AFFIDAVIT BALLOT</b>	A paper ballot used by a voter whose name does not appear in the registration book at the polls who signs a statement attesting to his or her identity and right to vote
<b>AMENDMENT</b>	Revision or change in an existing law or provision of a Constitution
<b>ASSEMBLY DISTRICT</b>	A geographical division of New York State entitled by reason of population to have one representative in the New York State Assembly; the political unit which forms the basis for designating election districts
<b>AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION (AVR)</b>	Process by which eligible citizens who interact with government agencies are registered to vote unless they decline, and agencies transfer voter registration information electronically to election officials
<b>BALLOT MARKING DEVICE (BMD)</b>	A piece of equipment which enables a physically or visually disabled voter to mark a paper ballot independently and in private at a poll site on Election Day through the use of an ATM-style touch screen, Braille enhanced key board, audio directions, a sip and puff device or rocker paddles. The voter can view or listen to the ballot in any of the required languages (English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese –Mandarin or Cantonese)
<b>BI-PARTISAN</b>	Cooperation between the two major political parties
<b>CABINET</b>	Advisory group appointed by an executive, and usually composed of department heads
<b>COALITION</b>	Two or more groups that join forces in pursuit of the same political goals
<b>CONSTITUENCY</b>	The residents of a legislative district; the district itself
<b>DESIGNEE</b>	Person named by a party petition for a place on the primary ballot, either to be that party’s candidate for political office or as a candidate for a party office
<b>EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING</b>	Process by which voters are permitted to cast votes early, either at traditional polling places or conveniently located voting centers
<b>EARLY VOTING</b>	Process by which voters can <b>vote</b> prior to the scheduled election day. Types of early voting systems include no-excuse absentee voting, early in-person voting and vote-by-mail
<b>ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION (EDR)</b>	Process by which eligible voters who do not appear on the rolls complete a new registration application on election day and are permitted to vote in that election
<b>ELECTION DISTRICT</b>	The smallest physical subdivision of an Assembly District into which voters are grouped
<b>ELECTORATE</b>	People as a whole who are entitled to vote
<b>GERRYMANDER</b>	The division of a state, city, or county into voting districts in a way that gives unfair advantage to one party in an election
<b>INCUMBENT</b>	The current office-holder
<b>INDEPENDENT</b>	A member of a group or organization of voters which nominates a candidate for public office and is not one of the recognized parties
<b>INSURGENT</b>	A designee for public office or party office who opposes the incumbent or established political ‘organization’ designee
<b>LOBBYIST</b>	Spokesperson for an interest group who presses for passage of legislation in the interest of its members
<b>NO-EXCUSE ABSENTEE VOTING</b>	Process by eligible voters may acquire and cast an absentee ballot without any justification
<b>NONPARTISAN</b>	Election in which candidates are not designated by party affiliation

<b>ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE</b>	Phrase describing the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that required legislative districts of equal population
<b>OPTICAL SCANNER</b>	Electronically operated equipment which records and tabulates votes marked on a paper ballot
<b>POLITICAL PARTY</b>	An organization of voters who nominate and/or support candidates for public office. In order to have a permanent line on the New York State ballot a political party must have received at least 50,000 votes in the most recent gubernatorial election
<b>PATRONAGE</b>	Policy of awarding jobs and business favors in return for political support
<b>PLANK</b>	Section of a party platform that states a position on a particular issue
<b>PRIMARY ELECTION</b>	Political party election for choosing party leaders and candidates who will run with the party's endorsement in the general election. One must be enrolled in a political party in order to vote in its primary, unless a party specifically does not require it or one is in a jurisdiction with an open primary.
<b>PROPOSITION</b>	A law for which the State Constitution requires voter approval. It deals with the issuance or sale of State bonds and does not amend the Constitution.
<b>QUORUM</b>	Number of members of a committee or organization who must be present before business may be transacted
<b>RATIFICATION</b>	Procedure whereby legislatures, conventions, or the voting public accept or reject changes in government
<b>REAPPORTIONMENT</b>	Based on the population determined by the U.S. census, which is conducted every ten years, the 435 Congressional Districts of the House of Representatives are redistributed to the states, to assure that to the greatest extent possible, each district has roughly the same population as every other district in the country
<b>REDISTRICTING</b>	The process of redrawing Congressional, state legislative and local legislative district lines after the decennial census to assure equal representation, based on the current population
<b>RESCIND</b>	To cancel, repeal, or revoke a law
<b>SPECIAL ELECTION</b>	An election held to temporarily fill a vacancy resulting from an elected official's resignation, removal or death.
<b>SUFFRAGE</b>	The right to vote granted by a constitution or law

# Comprehensive Ballots 2018-2020

## The 2018 Ballot

### *United States, Legislative*

#### **1. US Senate, Member**

Term of office: 6 years

Salary: \$174,000

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be at least 30 years old
- Must have been citizens of the US for at least the past 9 years
- Must be residents in the states they seek to represent

Functions of office:

- Writing, introducing and debating legislation
- Assigned to specific committees divided by issues
- Tries impeachments
- Signs treaties

#### **2. US House of Representatives, Member**

The U.S. House of Representatives has 435 Representatives from the 50 states, including 29 from New York State, 13 of which represent districts that are wholly or partly in New York City. Each member represents approximately 717,000 people.

Term of office: 2 years

Salary: \$174,000

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be at least 25 years old
- Must have been citizens of the US for at least the past 7 years
- Must be residents in the states they seek to represent

Functions of office:

- Writing, introducing and debating legislation
- May join specific committees divided by issues
- Introducing laws and legislation specific to revenue and taxes
- May elect POTUS if electoral votes are tied
- Sets in motion impeachment proceedings
- Participates in Joint Committees with Senate members

# *New York State, Executive*

## **3. Governor of the State of New York**

Term of office: four years with no restriction on the number of terms

Salary: \$179,000 per year

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a citizen of the United States
- Must be at least 30 years of age
- Resident of New York State for at least 5 years prior to the election

Functions of the office

- State chief executive, oversees management of all state departments and agencies
- With the 'Advice and Consent' of the Senate, appoints Judges to the Court of Appeals, commissioners of most departments, boards and commissions, and may remove them from office
- Submits an executive budget and supporting revenue proposals to the legislature
- Can call the Legislature into special session
- Signs into law, or vetoes bills passed by both houses of the legislature
- If the Governor vetoes a bill, it takes a 2/3 vote of both houses to override the veto

## **4. Lieutenant Governor**

Term of office: 4 years

Salary: \$151,000

Eligibility Requirements: same as the Governor

Functions of office:

- Acts in the absence of the Governor
- Serves as presiding officer of the Senate

## **5. Attorney General of the State of New York**

Term of office: 4 years

Salary: \$151,500

Eligibility Requirements: same as the Governor

Functions of the office:

- Heads the Department of Law and represents New York in legal actions
- Regulates the sale of securities as well as real estate and cooperative and condominium sales through administration of Section 23A of the General Business Law, "The Martin Act"
- Administers the Charities Bureau

## **6. Comptroller of the State of New York**

Term of office: 4 years

Salary: \$209,050

Eligibility Requirements: same as the Governor

Functions of the office:

- Chief Fiscal Officer of the State
- Member of the New York City Financial Control Board
- Auditor of city and state agencies and public authorities
- Sole trustee of the state and local government pension system, managing and investing their assets.

### ***New York State, Legislative***

THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE is comprised of two houses, the Senate and the Assembly, both of which must pass all legislation in identical form for it to become state law.

## **7. New York State Senator**

Each voter can vote for one member of the 62-member New York State Senate. Each State Senator represents approximately 307,000 people.

Term of office: 2 years, with no restriction on the number of terms

Salary: \$79,500

Eligibility requirements:

- Citizen of the United States
- Resident of the State for five years
- Resident of the Senate district for 12 months immediately preceding the election

Functions of the office:

- Introduces and votes on legislation which, if passed in identical form by both house of the Legislature, become state law
- Can vote to override a bill vetoed by the Governor
- Approves the budget, subject to passage by the Senate and signature of the Governor
- ‘Advises and Consents’ on the Governor’s nominees to the Court of Appeals
- Passes amendments to the New York State Constitution at two consecutively elected Legislatures before they can be approved or rejected by the State’s voters in a general election

## **8. New York State Assembly Member**

Each voter can vote for one member of the 150-member New York State Assembly. Each member of the Assembly represents approximately 129,000 people.

Term of office: 2 years with no restriction on the number of terms

Salary: \$79,500

Eligibility Requirements:

- Citizen of the United States
- Resident of the State for five years

- Resident of the Assembly district for 12 months immediately preceding the election.

Functions of the office:

- Same as the Senate, but does not advise and consent on the Governor's nominees to Court of Appeals

## *New York City and New York State, Judiciary*

### **9. NYS Supreme Court Justices**

Term of office: 14 years

Salary: \$141,500

Eligibility Requirements:

- State resident
- Member of bar for at least 10 years

Functions of the position:

- Handles civil cases dealing with monetary amounts outside jurisdiction of lower courts, felony prosecutions, divorces, separation, annulments, and mortgage foreclosures

### **10. Civil Court Judges**

Term of office: 10 years

Eligibility Requirements:

- State resident
- Member of the bar for at least 10 years

Salary: \$179,500

Functions of the position:

- Handles civil cases involving amounts under \$25,000.
- Includes small claims court.

## **The 2019 Ballot**

### *New York City and New York State, Judiciary and District Attorney*

#### **1. NYS Supreme Court Justices**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

#### **2. Civil Court Justices**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

#### **3. District Attorney (Queens)**

Term of office: 4 years

Salary: \$212,800

Function of office:

- Responsibility and authority to investigate and prosecute crimes

## **The 2020 Ballot**

### ***United States, Executive:***

#### **1. President of the United States**

Term of office: 4 years, 2 maximum terms

Salary: \$400,000

Eligibility:

- Natural born citizen of the United States
- At least 35 years old
- 14 years a resident within the US

Functions of office:

- Commander-in-chief of the US Military
- Executes and enforces laws created by Congress
- Appoints members of Cabinet and independent federal commissions
- Appoints members of Supreme Court
- Signs or vetoes bills
- Negotiates and signs treaties with other nations, in conjunction with Senate ratification
- Addresses the American people in the “State of the Union”
- Unlimited power to extend pardons and clemencies
- Power to issue executive orders

#### **2. Vice President of the United States**

Term of office: 4 years, 2 maximum terms—concurrently with President

Salary: \$230,700

Eligibility: same as President

Functions of office:

- President of Senate and as such may cast a vote in the event of a Senate deadlock and to certify official vote count of Electoral College
- Oversees procedural matters and may break ties
- May preside over impeachment trials of federal officers, but not President
- Assumes presidency should president die, become disabled, or be removed from office

### ***United States, Legislative***

THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT is the United States Congress. Congress is comprised of two houses of equal authority: the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives. Members of Congress propose and vote on laws affecting the entire country and its relations with the world. They also raise revenues and appropriate funds.

In the case of a tie in a Presidential election, the House of Representatives chooses the President, and the Senate chooses the Vice President. The House of Representatives has the sole power to impeach federal officials.

### **3. US Senate, Member**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

### **4. US House of Representative, Member**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

### **5. New York State Senator**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

### **6. New York State Assembly Member**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

## *New York State, Legislative*

## *New York City and New York State, Judiciary and District Attorneys*

### **7. NYS Supreme Court Justices**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

### **8. Civil Court Justices**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

### **9. District Attorney (Bronx and Staten Island)**

Refer to 2018 Ballot Information

## New York State Political Parties

Following, in alphabetical order, are the eight (8) political parties listed on the New York State Voter Registration form. These parties have permanent positions on the New York State ballot because they attained the 50,000-vote threshold needed to retain a permanent ballot line. Each of these parties may have primary elections in which those enrolled in the party may vote. The registration form also permits registrants to write in a party in which they may want to enroll, other than those listed. Registrants may also choose not to enroll in any party. If you would like more information about the parties, registration, or your rights as a voter, contact your local Board of Elections or find your local League of Women Voters at [www.lwvny.org/LLresources/LLcontacts.html](http://www.lwvny.org/LLresources/LLcontacts.html)

*Party Contact Information statement provided by each party:*

**Conservative Party** [www.cpnys.org](http://www.cpnys.org) [www.facebook.com/cpnys](http://www.facebook.com/cpnys)  
Chairperson Michael R. Long;  
486 78th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209, (718) 921-2158

“Since 1962, the Conservative Party has been the voice of the conservative movement in New York State. Votes cast on the Conservative Party line have provided the margin of victory for many state-wide, congressional, and local races. After decades of fighting soaring taxes and liberal social experiments, the Conservative Party stands at the forefront of a revolution in New York State government. It is not our desire to see the growth of bureaucracy, rather to see bureaucracy dismantled by cutting taxes on families and businesses, turning public services and assets over to the private sector, ending welfare to those who refuse to work, respecting traditional family values, and limiting the terms of politicians. It is only after these reforms are enacted that Conservatives can claim victory on behalf of New York’s forgotten middle class”

**Democratic Party** [www.nydems.org](http://www.nydems.org)  
[www.facebook.com/pages/New-YorkState-Democratic-Party/](http://www.facebook.com/pages/New-YorkState-Democratic-Party/)  
Chairperson: Byron Brown;  
420 Lexington Ave., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10170, 212 725-8825

“The Democratic Party today continues to offer New Yorkers and Americans across our nation hope and opportunity. As Ron Brown, former Chairman of the Democratic Party, wrote: “The common thread of Democratic history, from Thomas Jefferson to Barack Obama has been an abiding faith in the judgment of hardworking American families, and a commitment to helping the excluded, the disenfranchised and the poor strengthen our nation by earning themselves a piece of the American Dream.” Democrats understand the value of hard work, education, and opportunity. That’s why every single day, across New York State and in Washington, D.C., Democrats are working hard to bring more people into the economic mainstream, to improve our public schools, to protect our homeland, to make quality health care accessible, and to keep our air and water clean.”

**Green Party** [www.gpnys.org](http://www.gpnys.org) [www.facebook.com/pages/Green-Partyof-New-York-State](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Green-Partyof-New-York-State)  
[info@gpnys.org](mailto:info@gpnys.org)

“The Green Party is committed to ecology, social justice, grassroots democracy, and nonviolence; Greens are renewing democracy in the United States through community-based organizing without the support of corporate donors. Greens provide real solutions for real problems. Whether the issue is universal healthcare, corporate globalization, alternative energy,

election reform or decent, living wages for workers, Greens have the courage and independence necessary to take on the powerful corporate interests opposed to reform.”

**Independence Party** [www.independencepartyny.com](http://www.independencepartyny.com) Chairman Frank Mackay, [frankmackay@yahoo.com](mailto:frankmackay@yahoo.com) 225 Broadway #2010, NY, NY 10007; (212) 962-1699

“The Independence Party promoted the position that candidates and elected officials should be free to tell the voters what their views are, without dictates from political party bosses, special interest groups, and restrictive party platforms. We stand for honest dialogue with the American People and an end to empty political posturing and rhetoric that has long been fortified by the media, in collusion with the two party system.”

**Reform Party** [www.reformpartyny.org](http://www.reformpartyny.org) Chairman: Bill Merrell, [profmerrell@optonline.net](mailto:profmerrell@optonline.net) 1461-16 Lakeland Avenue, Bohemia, NY 11716; (631-563-7720)

“The Reform Party represents the interests of voters who are concerned with out-of-control spending, growing budget deficits, an unsustainable national debt, as well as gross mismanagement in government and unethical behavior from our elected representatives. It is our belief that the American public and the Reform Party share many of the same core principles when it comes to our local, state, and federal government. We believe that our government functions best when it lives within its means, sets reasonable and common-sense objectives and implements sound policy.”

**Republican Party** [www.nygop.org](http://www.nygop.org) [www.facebook.com/NewYorkGOP](https://www.facebook.com/NewYorkGOP) 315 State Street, Albany, NY 12210; 518-462-2601 [frontdesk@nygop.org](mailto:frontdesk@nygop.org)

“Our heritage is rooted in the philosophy that government must be limited for people to be truly free, to prosper, and to achieve their goals. Our candidates and our officials work tirelessly to defend the rights of every taxpayer against the uncontrolled government spending that is weighing down the promise of our great state. The New York Republican Party and its message reach every New Yorker from every background. We are Asian small business owners, middle-income suburban families and upstate dairy farmers. We are trade union members who know a better business environment means more work. We are Hispanics and African-Americans who want school choice and women balancing the family budget. We are the Party of the small businesses on Main Street, the start-up entrepreneur and large businesses we need to keep in our state. As New York Republicans, we know that cutting taxes, cutting spending, and reducing regulations are the only ways to grow our economy and create jobs.”

**Working Families Party** [www.workingfamilies.org/states/newyork](http://www.workingfamilies.org/states/newyork) [www.facebook.com/WorkingFamilies](https://www.facebook.com/WorkingFamilies) 1 Metrotech Center North, 11th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201; (718) 222-3796 [wfp@workingfamiliesparty.org](mailto:wfp@workingfamiliesparty.org)

“Working Families is New York’s progressive political party. The Working Families Party is focused on tackling the political, economic, and educational inequality that deprive working and middle class families of opportunity. Our vision is to build a New York that is fair for all of us, not just the wealthy and well connected. We’re known for our legislative fights on issues that cut to the core of New Yorkers’ concerns today—raising the minimum wage and guaranteeing paid sick days, fighting the influence of big money over politics, and defending quality public schools.”

**Women's Equality Party** [www.womensequalityparty.org](http://www.womensequalityparty.org)  
[www.facebook.com/WomensEqParty](https://www.facebook.com/WomensEqParty)

“The Women’s Equality Party (WEP) is an answer to the assaults on the basic rights of women and our lack of progress here in New York towards passing the full 10-point Women’s Equality Act. Women have come too far to accept anything less than full and absolute equality. We will not tolerate elected officials who block our basic rights and we will not allow our votes to be taken for granted. It is time for women and our allies to stand up and make sure our voices are heard.”

## **KEY 2018 DATES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Key Dates**

**Friday, June 1:** Deadline to mail or drop off registration forms in time for voter to vote in June 26 Federal Primary (*if sent by mail, must be postmarked by June 1*)

**Tuesday, June 26:** Federal Primary

**Friday, August 17:** Deadline to mail or drop off registration forms in time for voter to vote in September 13 State and Local Primary (*if sent by mail, must be postmarked by August 19*)

**Thursday, September 13:** State and Local Primary

**Friday, October 12:** Deadline to mail or drop off registration forms in time for voter to vote in November 6 General Election (*if sent by mail, must be postmarked by October 12*)

**Tuesday, November 6:** General Election

### **Website Links**

**NYS Voter Lookup:** <https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/voterSearch.aspx>

**General Voter Information:** <http://www.vote411.org/>

**LWVNYC Voices Political Advocacy Tool:** <https://tryvoices.com/lwv>

### **Phone Numbers:**

**League of Women Voters of the City of New York:** 212-725-3541

**NYC Board of Elections:** 212-VOTE-NYC or 866-VOTE-NYC (from outside NYC)