

VOTER REGISTRATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Students may register to vote where they reside while attending college.

➤ **If from out of state and you would like to register and vote at your South Carolina college address while retaining your out-of-state driver's license, you need to...**

- Register in person at your county board of voter registration, or
- [Download a form](#), complete it, and mail it to your county board of voter registration, or
- [Download a form](#), complete it, and fax it to your county board of voter registration, or
- [Download a form](#), complete it, scan it, and email it as a file attachment to your county voter registration office.

NOTE REGARDING ADDRESS: Many college students receive their U.S. Postal Service mail at a campus post office box. When registering to vote, it must be at the physical (street) address of your residence. The student's P.O. Box can be provided for mailing and contact purposes.

If you register to vote at your county board of elections, or if they come to campus to offer voter registration, you may present your college ID and obtain a SC voter photo ID card.

If you are mailing, faxing or scanning your form, you will then receive a voter registration card in the mail with where you will go to vote, and your U.S. House, SC Senate & House, County Council, School and Municipal voting districts. You are not required to show your voter registration card (unless serving as your photo ID) when you go to vote, but you will need to show one of the accepted five options for photo ID.

➤ **If you are from in state and would like to register and vote at your South Carolina college address, you may either....**

- **Go online to first change your permanent address for your driver's license to your college address (keep in mind ramifications that may result from doing so) ...**
 - [Update your address with DMV](#) where there is a **Permanent Address** option. This must be completed with the actual college residence street address (not PO Box). The temporary address option cannot be utilized for voter registration.

- **REGISTER ONLINE to Vote or to Update with your college address.** Be certain to enter your **mailing address** which may be what you entered as temporary address at the DMV site or your college PO Box, depending on how mail is received via the U.S. Postal Service at your college location. This online voter registration form can be used whether you are registering to vote for the first time anywhere, for the first time in the county in which your college is located, or are if you are already registered to vote in the county and are updating your address so you can vote from your college location.

▪ **Or, if you do not want to change your permanent address, you can....**

- Register in person at your county board of voter registration, or
- Download a form, complete it, and mail it to your county board of voter registration, or
- Download a form, complete it, and fax it to your county board of voter registration, or
- Download a form, complete it, scan it, and email it as a file attachment to your county voter registration office.

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If you register to vote at your county board of elections, or if they come to campus to offer voter registration, you may present your college ID and obtain a SC voter photo ID card.

If you are mailing, faxing or scanning your form, you will then receive a voter registration card in the mail that you can use when you go to vote at your polling location. You will also need to show one of the accepted five options for photo ID.

Deadline to Register to Vote

Voter registration closes 30 days prior to any election. For example, the voter registration deadline for a November 5th election would be October 5th.

- Online applications must be submitted on or before the deadline to be valid for any specific election. Online voter registration does not "turn off" at the deadline. Applications submitted after the deadline will be processed but will not be valid for that particular election.
- Fax and email applications must be received by the voter registration office by the deadline to be valid for a particular election. Applications received after the deadline will be processed but will not be valid for that particular election.
- Mail-in applications must be postmarked by the deadline. Most registration deadlines fall on a Saturday. Check with your local post office about receiving a Saturday postmark.

County Boards of Voter Registration Contact Information

Who Can Register?

In order to vote, South Carolina law requires one must first register to vote at least 30 days prior to the election. To be eligible to register in South Carolina you **MUST**:

- be a United States citizen -be at least eighteen years old on or before the next election
- be a resident of South Carolina, this county and precinct
- not be under a court order declaring you mentally incompetent
- not be confined in any public prison resulting from a conviction of a crime
- have never been convicted of a felony or offense against the election laws **OR** if previously convicted, have served the entire sentence, including probation or parole, or have received a pardon for the conviction.

There is no length of residency requirement in South Carolina in order to register to vote. You can register at any time.

WHEN YOU GO TO VOTE AT YOUR POLLING LOCATION

(listed on your Voter Registration Card)

South Carolina requires a photo ID when you go to vote. Any on the following will qualify:

- S.C. Driver's License
- ID Card issued by S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles

(**Note:** The address on your driver's license or DMV ID does not have to match the address on your voter registration card.)

- S.C. Voter Registration Card with Photo
- Federal Military ID
- U.S. Passport