2020 VOTER REGISTRATION

The Political and Civic Engagement (PACE) program at IU has prepared a state-by-state guide sheet that is designed for students to efficiently register to vote and request a vote-by-mail ballot.
Welcome to the Indiana University 2020 state-by-state voter registration (and vote-by-mail) quick-start guide sheets!

Students away at college have two legal residences. They may select to vote in either jurisdiction or may request a vote-by-mail ballot if desired. Each state has its own procedures and timelines, which are explained in the state-by-state quick-start guide sheet below. Choose which state you wish to vote in and click on its name below.

→ help me choose ←

We're here to help you!

Please reach out to us for help with any of these things, or any questions or problems.

- If you need a printer, we can print something for you and mail it to you
- If you need stamps for your forms, or to return your ballot
- If you need a notary or witness
- If you need somewhere to have your vote-by-mail ballot sent where you can reliably pick it up (your dorm might be closed, do not send it there)
- If you have other questions and would like a one-on-one chat

Contact information

Reach us at: pace@indiana.edu
Phone: (812) 856-1747
Address: 1100 E 7th St, Bloomington, IN 47406
Office Location: Woodburn Hall 221
**Getting Started**

**Step 1:** Choose a state to vote in.

**Step 2:** Make sure you have all required materials.

**Step 3:** Get registered: voter registration deadlines are near, so please note the deadline in your state.

**Step 4:** Request your vote-by-mail ballot/absentee ballot.

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Students away at college have two legal residences.

They may select to vote in either jurisdiction or may request a vote-by-mail ballot if desired. Each state has its own procedures and timelines, which are explained in this state-by-state quick-start guide.
Getting Started

1. Choose a state to vote in.
2. Make sure you have all required materials.
3. Follow your state's directions to get registered.
4. Request a vote-by-mail ballot or absentee ballot.
Choose which state you wish to vote in and click on its name.

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Note: Each state guide sheet will be updated as election processes change between now and Nov. 3rd, 2020.
“Can I vote in Indiana if I’m an out-of-state resident?”
Yes!

To register in Indiana you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States
- Have resided in the precinct at least 30 days before the next election
- Be at least 18 years of age on the day of the next general election
- Not currently be imprisoned following a criminal conviction

- The government allows students to submit absentee ballots if they are still registered in their home state but are attending school out of state.
- By submitting your ballot by mail before the election, you can participate as an absentee voter, with no need to travel to your hometown polling location.
- **HOWEVER**, you cannot be registered in two places at once.
Important Indiana Election Dates:

- Voter Registration Deadline
  - October 5th
- Absentee Ballot Request Deadline
  - Request by postal ballot by October 22nd
  - In-person request by November 2nd
- Absentee Ballot Return Deadline
  - Noon (12:00 pm), November 3rd
- In-Person Absentee Voting Available
  - October 6th-November 2nd at 12:00 pm
#BigTenVotingChallenge

- The goal of Indiana University Bloomington's (IUB) Big Ten Voting Challenge is to increase student voter registration, non-partisan education, and voter turnout in November 2020 and beyond.

- IUB’s efforts to enhance student-citizens is part of the nationwide Big Ten Voting Challenge (BTVC) through which Big 10 schools are engaging in a friendly competition to see which campus rises above the rest.
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Before you get started, have these things out:

✔ Indiana Driver’s License or State ID ([Click here if you don’t have one](#))
✔ Address where you would like to be registered to vote and county ([lookup my county](#))
✔ Mailing address (where you would like your vote-by-mail ballot to be sent) [how to choose](#)

If you have any questions about this process, please see the [FAQ](#) or get connected to someone at our office through our [contact page](#).

This is a resource of Ask Every Student, a project of the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, the Campus Vote Project, NASPA, and the Students Learn Students Vote Coalition. Learn more about Ask Every Student at [studentvoting.org](#).

**LAST UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 22, 2020**
First make sure you’re eligible to vote!

Who is eligible to vote?

You can vote in U.S. elections if you:

- Are a U.S. citizen
- Meet your state’s residency requirements
  - You can be experiencing homeless and still meet these requirements.
  - College students, like all individuals, are entitled to register and vote in the community that they regard as their principal residence.
- Are 18 years old on or before Election Day
  - In almost every state, you can register to vote before you turn 18 if you will be 18 by Election Day. See a table of voter registration age requirements by state.
- Are registered to vote by your state’s voter registration deadline
  - North Dakota does not require voter registration.

Who isn’t eligible to vote?

- Non-citizens, including permanent legal residents
- Some people with felony convictions. Rules vary by state.
- Some people who are mentally incapacitated. Rules vary by state.
- For president in the general election: U.S. citizens residing in U.S. territories

Check with your state or local election office for any questions about who can and cannot vote.
Where should I vote this year?
IF YOU ARE A COLLEGE STUDENT, WHERE SHOULD YOU VOTE THIS YEAR?

Due to the changes from COVID-19, there are a number of different scenarios for where college students should register to vote this year. This guidance follows general principles of residency for voting purposes, but you should check with your local election officials for the specific voter registration rules where you live.

Some states have fail-safe procedures that allow a voter to vote at a prior registration address if they have not yet established residency at a new address or move close to Election Day, for example. These procedures are different in every state and can be difficult to navigate, so check with your local election officials for the specific voter registration rules where you live.

States may have several definitions of residency for different purposes. For example, most states have a specific definition and requirements for residency for in-state tuition purposes that is different from the definition and requirements of residency for voting purposes.

If you are concerned that you have gotten inaccurate information about registering to vote, even from an election official, contact us at info@campusvoteproject.org. You can see more information about registering and voting in all 50 states and D.C. in our student voting guides at: www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

What do I do if I’m currently staying somewhere that isn’t campus and isn’t my home?

You can choose to register or remain registered at your last permanent address if you consider that to be your home. Residency laws do differ from state to state, though, so check out our student voting guides at www.campusvoteproject.org/state-student-voting-guides for more information.

What if I know that I will stay registered at my campus address for years to come even though I won’t be there this semester? What if my campus is my permanent address?

You can still register at your campus address, if you intend to return after your temporary absence due to COVID 19. Learn more at howto.vote.

What happens if I register on campus and then have to leave campus partially through the semester due to COVID-19?

You may be able to reregister at the address that you’ve been displaced to. As long as it’s before the deadline. Check the registration deadlines at howto.vote.

If you choose to stay registered at your campus address, make sure that you have a mail-in ballot delivered to an address that you’re confident you can access mail from in any scenario.

Vote by mail laws vary from state to state. Learn more about voting by mail at howto.vote and monitor changes from COVID-19 at tvote.org/COVID19.

Fair Elections Center and Campus Vote Project intend the information contained herein to be used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed legal professional.
IF YOU ARE A RETURNING STUDENT...

Were you registered previously at your campus address?

**NO**

Were you registered anywhere?

**NO**

Are you maintaining your campus address for the 2020 fall semester?

**NO**

You need to register to vote at the address where you will be for the 2020 fall semester. Learn more at howto.vote.

**YES**

You can still register at your campus address, if you intend to return after your temporary absence due to COVID-19. Learn more at howto.vote.

**YES**

Great! You should check your registration status with your election officials just to be sure.

Are you maintaining that address for the 2020 fall semester?

**NO**

Otherwise you need to register at the address where you will be located for the 2020 fall semester. Learn more at howto.vote.

**YES**

IF YOU ARE AN INCOMING STUDENT...

Will you be moving to a new location to attend your institution?

**YES**

You should register to vote at your current address. Learn more at howto.vote.

**NO**

You have a choice about where to register.

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Registering to vote by paper form

**Register by mail** (only if you can't register online) by completing a [Voter Registration Application](#) and printing and mailing it to your [local elections authority](#) together in the same envelope with your vote-by-mail ballot request in the next section.

**Common errors to watch out for:**

➔ **Signatures, beware!** The signature on your registration and vote-by-mail ballot request (and on your voted ballot) will be compared to the signature or your State ID/Driver’s License.
  
  ◆ **Make them match.** Signing with a mouse may cause a problem, so it may be better to sign on paper & mail.

➔ **Make sure your name is written the same as it is in on your ID, including hyphens and special characters.**

➔ **Make sure you write the correct dates.** Don’t mix up today’s date with your birthday!

➔ **List your residential address as where you want your vote to count.**

➔ **List your mailing address for where you want your mail delivered.**

If you have any questions about voter registration, you can look through the [FAQ](#).
If you don’t have access to a printer, you can use to [iu.turbovote.org](http://iu.turbovote.org), to register to vote. They will send you a PDF of your form with a pre-stamped envelope. All you need to do is sign and send.
Voting in person:

It’s very possible that voting in person may be more difficult this year. While you do have the option to vote in person, make sure that if you do, you have a plan to do so safely, following public health guidelines.

Voting early. When you vote early, you ensure that school, work, long lines, or a bad commute on Election Day won’t stop your ballot from being counted!

You can still request a ballot even if you plan to vote in person. Even if you do prefer to vote in person, you can still request a mail-in-ballot. If you take your mail-in-ballot with you to the polling site, they will void it and let you vote in person. Also, if your ballot doesn’t arrive in the mail, you can still vote in person.
Where should I send my mail-in ballot?

Given the uncertainty of where you may be living due to COVID, instead of having your vote-by-mail ballot sent to your campus address, you may want to have it sent to a friend or relative's home—really anywhere you KNOW you will have access to receiving mail. They can get it to you wherever you are. However, ballots can't be "forwarded"; they have to be re-mailed in an outer envelope with new stamps.
Requesting your vote by mail ballot

Request online

If you are already registered to vote and have a IN State ID/Driver’s License, you can request your mail-in ballot here: Indiana Voters

Request by mail (only if you don’t have an IN State ID/Driver’s License)

1. Print neatly on the Application for Absentee Ballot in black or blue pen (including your signature, matching your registration signature).
   → Go to indy.gov and scroll down to the “Absentee by Mail Application”

2. Mail the completed application (along with your voter registration application, if necessary) to the address of your election authority

If you have any questions about voter registration, you can look through the FAQ.
What happens next?
If you registered to vote today, make sure to check your registration again in 2 weeks through the same link from before. If it doesn’t show up, contact your local election authority.
If you want to vote in a state other than Indiana, you can register to vote and request your online ballot through https://iu.turbovote.org/

If you have any questions about voter registration, you can look through the FAQ.
If you are voting by mail...

✓ You can track the status of your mail ballot by logging in to [Indiana Voters](#).

✓ After receiving your ballot, follow the instructions carefully (errors can lead to ballot rejection!)
  - Sign on all lines that require a signature and match the signature that appears on your State ID/Driver’s License, if applicable; some states also require mail-in ballot envelopes to be signed, and others require witness signatures.
  - Properly seal your ballot according to the instructions.
  - Don’t mark anywhere outside of the signature or voting sections.

✓ If requested, include a copy of your ID along with your mail ballot.
  - If you do not have a IN ID/Driver’s License, see the list of acceptable alternative ID documents [here](#).

✓ Make sure your printed name and signature match your driver’s license.

✓ Return your ballot via mail (or deliver in-person).

✓ Questions? Check out [SOS: Absentee Voting](#).

If you have any questions about vote by mail, you can look through the [FAQ](#).
If you are voting in person...

✓ **Check your voting location.** You should get a voter info card in the mail. This will tell you your voting location. It’s not required to take with you to the polls, but always good to have on you, just in case. You can also check your [polling place here](#).

✓ **Make sure to bring photo ID with you to the polls.** You can check [VoteRiders](#) to learn more about acceptable forms of photo ID in Indiana.

✓ **Vote safely.** Plan to vote early if possible to avoid crowds and long lines. Make sure to follow [COVID-19 hygienic procedures](#).
More information

✓ Find out what’s on your ballot. You can use guides such as BallotReady or the League of Women Voters’ VOTE411 Voter Guide.

✓ Sign up for election date reminders. Receive text reminders about important voting dates coming up through iu.turbovote.org.

✓ Have any other questions? See the FAQ, or you can get in touch with a voting expert from your school through the contacts page.
Contact us for any help!

Reach us at: pace@indiana.edu

Phone: (812) 856-1747

Address: 1100 E 7th St, Bloomington, IN 47406

Office Location: Woodburn Hall 221
“I’ve moved or changed my name since registering to vote”

If your address is incorrect or you have changed your name you must update/re-register to vote. If you are updating a previous registration due to a name change, you must also provide your previous legal name.

“The address on my State ID is incorrect/out of date”

The name or address on your ID doesn’t have to be current, however, you must provide an up-to-date home and mailing address. If you are registering to vote for the first time and your ID does not match your current home address, you will need to submit a valid proof of residence document along with a copy of your photo ID. More information can be found on Indiana voting document.

“I don't have a valid State ID/Driver’s License”

If you do not have an IN ID or Driver’s License, you can register or submit a vote by mail application using your SSN.

Any other questions? Contact us and we can help you out!
“I need to print/mail a paper form but do not have access to a printer”

Not a problem! Please email us at pace@indiana.edu with all the documents and/or proof of residence and identification requirements you need printed and we’ll take care of the rest.

“If I’m already registered at one address, can I register at another address without ‘unregistering’ from the first?”

Yes. You must only vote at one; don’t vote or request a vote-by-mail ballot at the other. Eventually your name will be removed from the registration rolls at the other. People move frequently, so there are lots of inactive names on the rolls. You are in good company. When you update your registration, there will be a line that asks you where you were registered before. Be sure to complete that so that your name is no longer associated with your previous address on the voter files.

Any other questions? Contact us and we can help you out!
“Why does it ask for my choice of political party?”

- November 3, 2020 is a general election, not a primary, so you don't need to specify a party for this election. You may still want to, though, for the next primary election.
- In primary elections, your ballots will have options from the candidates from the party you selected. Some states have “closed primaries” and so you choose your party in advance, when you register. Other states have "open primaries" meaning you can choose your party when you go to vote, or when you request your vote-by-mail ballot, and so you don't need to choose when you send in your voter registration form.
- Here's a [map and list of which states have open primaries](#).

Any other questions? [Contact us and we can help you out!](#)
Thank You for Voting!

IU VOTES

#B1GVotes  #VoteTogether
POLITICAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT