



Student Voting Guide for Nebraska

Registration Deadlines and Election Dates

- **General Election Registration Deadlines:** Mail-in registration forms must be postmarked by the 3rd Friday before Election Day. In-person registration ends the 2nd Friday before Election Day. Beginning September, 2015, those with a Nebraska drivers license or Nebraska identification may register online using the Secretary of State's Website. Electronic registrations must be submitted by the 3rd Friday before Election Day
- **Early Voting:** The last day to request an Early Voting ballot to be mailed is the Wednesday prior to Election Day at 4 p.m. All early voting ballots must arrive by the closing of the polls on Election Day.

Voter registration forms, polling place locations, and more information can be found at www.sos.ne.gov/dyindex.html

Register at School or Home?

Students have a choice about where to register to vote:

School residence:

- Students attending college in Nebraska may register to vote at their school address if they presently intend to make it their residence and to return there after any temporary absence like summer vacation. They do not have to plan to reside at that address permanently or after graduation.

Home residence:

- students may choose to register or remain registered at their home (prior) address in Nebraska or outside the state if they intend to return there after college. In this case, a student may need to vote by absentee ballot.
- Nebraska residents who move away for college can keep their Nebraska voting residency so long as they still consider Nebraska the location of their primary residence and do not register or declare residency elsewhere. These students may request to vote early by mail.

For other states' registration information visit: www.campusvoteproject.org/studentguides

What Type of ID Do I Need to Register?

Nebraska's voter registration form asks for your Nebraska driver's license number, or the last four digits of your Social Security Number. Failure to provide this information could lead to you having to show additional identification when you vote that shows your picture or your name and address. Make sure to provide this information on the registration form so the state can verify your identity and you don't run into problems when you cast your ballot.

What Type of ID Do I Need to Vote?

Two classes of Nebraska voters have to show ID before voting: first-time voters who registered by mail or a registration drive whose driver's license numbers or the last four digits of their Social Security numbers were not verified by the state; and those who did not include a copy of an eligible ID with the mailed or registration drive application.

These voters will need to either submit a copy of one of the acceptable IDs in advance, show ID while voting in person, or mail a copy with their absentee ballot.

Those voters must present both a current and valid photo identification, and current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document dated within 60 days of the Election Date that shows the voter's name and address as provided on the registration application.

www.campusvoteproject.org

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Where Do I Vote?

- Polling place locator online at www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/VoterView/PollingPlaceSearch.do
- Voters must cast their ballots in the correct precinct. Sometimes there are multiple precincts in one polling place, so confirm your precinct ahead of time and get in the correct line!

How Can I Vote?

By Mail

- Anyone may apply for early voting, no reason needs to be given. Students may apply by contacting their county clerk or election commissioner, or by printing the online early voting request form and mailing it or faxing it to the election commissioner. The form is available at http://www.sos.ne.gov/elec/pdf/earlyvote_app.pdf.

Early In Person

- Beginning 30 days before Election Day, you may apply and vote an early voting ballot in person at your County Election Office. The last day to vote an early voting ballot at the County Election Office is the Monday before Election Day.

On Election Day at the Polls

- The polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Central Time Zone and from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Mountain Time Zone.

According to the U.S. Supreme Court, students have the right to register and vote in their college towns if they meet the same requirements as everyone else. Misinformation, such as claims that registering to vote at school may jeopardize eligibility for financial aid or insurance, are sometimes used to discourage students from voting locally.

Common Questions

Will voting in Nebraska affect my federal financial aid?

Where you register to vote will not affect federal financial aid such as Pell Grants and Perkins or Stafford loans or your dependency status regarding FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

Will I lose my scholarship if I register to vote in Nebraska?

Generally, no. If you receive scholarship money from a state, county, town, or a private entity (i.e., an entity other than the federal government) you should confirm that residency in a particular place is not a requirement of the scholarship and/or that voter registration in Nebraska will not affect your eligibility.

Will registering to vote in Nebraska affect my driver's license or car registration?

As a full-time student in Nebraska, you may have to make these changes regardless of whether you register to vote in Nebraska. For more information, you may wish to contact the Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles.

Will registering to vote in Nebraska prevent my parents from claiming me as a dependent on their taxes?

No. Students are often told that registering to vote in a different state from their parents will make them lose their dependency status. This is not true. Where you register to vote will have no effect on your parent's tax status.

Does being an out-of-state student for tuition purposes affect my right to vote in my college community?

No. You may choose to vote in your college community or back home regardless of your tuition status.

This Guide was prepared by FELN staff who are not licensed to practice law in Nebraska and FELN intends that the information contained herein is used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Nebraska legal professional.

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