



# Student Voting Guide for Indiana

## 2016 Registration Deadlines and Election Dates

Voter Registration Deadline: 29 days before Election Day

Registration Deadline: October 11

Election Day: November 8

Online voter registration, registration forms, polling locations, and more information can be found at [indianavoters.in.gov](http://indianavoters.in.gov)

## Register at School or Home?

Students have a choice about where to register to vote.

School address:

- Students attending college in Indiana may register at their school address. You must plan to return after temporary absences, like summer break, but do not have to plan to reside at that address permanently.

Permanent address:

- Students may choose to register or remain registered at a permanent address in Indiana or outside the state. In this case, students may need to vote by absentee ballot.

**You may only be registered and vote in one location.**

For other states' registration information visit:  
[www.campusvoteproject.org/studentguides](http://www.campusvoteproject.org/studentguides)

## What Type of ID Do I Need to Register?

- To register online you need an Indiana Driver's License or ID number.
- Voters who registered to vote by mail must provide a driver's license number or last 4 digits of their Social Security number, or a copy of a photo ID, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck or government document with a current name and address, when they register or the first time they vote.

## What Type of ID Do I Need to Vote?

All voters must show ID. The ID must:

- Display your photo
- Display your name, and the name must conform to your voter registration record.
- Display an expiration date and either be current or have expired sometime after the date of the last General Election
- Be issued by the State of Indiana or the U.S. government

A student ID from an Indiana State school may only be used if it meets all four criteria specified above. A student ID from a private institution may not be used for voting purposes.

## Where Do I Vote?

Make a plan. Look up your polling location and hours at:  
[indianavoters.in.gov](http://indianavoters.in.gov)

*The Higher Education Act requires most colleges and universities to make a good faith effort to distribute voter registration forms to every student.  
Make sure yours does.*

[www.campusvoteproject.org](http://www.campusvoteproject.org)

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## How Can I Vote?

### By Mail via Absentee Ballot

To vote absentee-by-mail, one of the following must apply:

- You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 am until 6 pm).
- You have a disability.
- You are at least 65 years of age.
- You will have official election duties outside of your voting precinct.
- You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
- You are a participant in the state's address confidentiality program.
- You are a member of the military or a public safety officer.

### Early In Person

- All registered voters in Indiana are eligible to vote absentee-in-person at the county election board office beginning 28 days before Election Day.

### On Election Day

- The polls are open from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m.

**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 Indiana 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 Indiana?

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 Indiana will not affect your eligibility.

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

Out-of-state students who register to vote in Indiana will be considered residents under Indiana law and may need to obtain an Indiana driver's license or register their car in Indiana.

### Will registering to vote in Indiana 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 Indiana 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 Indiana legal professional.*

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