



Voting Information For College Students

Deciding where to register to vote

If you were living in Bexar County before college...

and you're still living at your family home—

Register/stay registered at your home address.

and you moved from your family home to another location in Bexar County—

Option 1

You can register at/update your voter registration to your new Bexar County address. Your ballot will include races from your new precinct.

Option 2

You can register/stay registered at your home address. In local or state elections, your ballot will reflect races from your family home's precinct.

and you will be attending college out of state—

Option 1

Register to vote in the county where you attend college. Go to vote411.org for information. You'll need to confirm whether registering outside your home county will affect any local or state scholarships you may have earned.

Option 2

Register/stay registered at your family home address. You will need to apply to vote by mail if you will not be in Bexar County during Early Voting or on Election Day.

If you moved from another county in Texas...

Option 1

Register to vote in Bexar County, where you attend college, and vote in person. If you were already registered in your home county, registering to vote in Bexar County will cancel your previous registration.

Option 2

Register/stay registered at your family home address, and choose one of these options:

You can go home to vote in person.

You can apply to vote by mail if/since you will be away from your county of registration during the Early Voting period and on Election Day.

You can vote a limited ballot in Bexar County, only during Early Voting at the Bexar County Elections Department, with your ballot only covering national and statewide races.

If you moved from another state...

Option 1

Register to vote in Bexar County. If you were previously registered in your home state, you should cancel that registration.

Option 2

Register/stay registered in your family home state and county, and vote absentee/by mail. Check your state's qualifications, deadlines, and instructions to vote by mail at vote411.org.

If you are going to vote in Texas...

How to register to vote

There is no online voter registration in Texas. The registration deadline is 30 days before Election Day.

Go to votetexas.gov and select **Register to vote**. You do have to print out your completed application, sign it, and mail it to your county election office. In Bexar County, send it to *Bexar County Elections Office, 1103 S. Frio St., Suite 100, 78207*. Or you can call 210-335-8683 and ask that a postage-paid, pre-addressed application be mailed to you.

If you are living in a dorm that does not have a street address, use the name of your dorm + main college address as your residence on the registration form. Be sure to put in your campus mailing address if you do not receive mail at your dormitory.

Does registering to vote affect my financial aid?

Where you register to vote will not affect federal financial aid, such as Pell Grants or Perkins and Stafford Loans. Being registered to vote at a different address from your parents will not affect your dependency status for FAFSA or on your parents' taxes.

However, be sure to confirm the terms of *any local or state scholarships or grants* you received in your home state to be certain you will not jeopardize that funding.

Voting absentee/By mail

If you are sick, have a disability, or are going to be away from the county where you are registered for all of Early Voting and on Election Day, you can apply to receive a mail-in ballot.

Go to votetexas.gov and select **Application for Ballot By Mail**. You will need to print out your completed application and mail it to your county election office no later than 11 days before an election, but you should send in your application at the earliest opportunity. In Bexar County, send it to *Bexar County Elections Dept., 1103 S. Frio St, Suite 100, 78207*.

Once you receive your ballot, complete it following all instructions carefully and submit it at the earliest opportunity. Be sure to sign it the same way you signed your application, as the signatures will be compared.

Voting in person

Where to get information

The best place to get up-to-date, reliable information about where and when to vote in person is from your county elections website. In Bexar County, go to elections.bexar.org.

Why vote early?

Lines are almost always shorter during early voting. You can also address any registration or ID issues should they arise and still have the opportunity to vote on another day.

What to bring?

In Texas you are required to show ID to vote (see reverse). In addition to bringing your ID, you may want to bring your voter registration card to speed the process and prove you are registered.

While you are not permitted to use a cell phone inside a polling place, it is good to have it with you in the event you have problems at the polls. You can step outside and call the voter protection hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE.

ID for voting

In Texas you may not use your college student ID for voting.

You will be asked to present one of these seven acceptable forms of photo ID when you vote.

- Texas driver license*
- Texas personal identification card*
- Texas Election Identification Certificate
- Texas handgun license by DPS
- U.S. military ID card with photo
- U.S. citizenship certificate with photo
- U.S. passport (book or card)

However, if you don't have one of the acceptable photo IDs, and cannot reasonably obtain one, you can bring another form of approved ID—for example, your **voter registration card** or a **current utility bill**—and sign a simple form at the polls to vote a regular ballot. Visit votetexas.gov to see more examples of other forms of approved IDs.

*If you have applied for, but not yet received, your TX driver license or personal ID, you can use your paper DPS temporary license or personal ID to vote.

Informing yourself

Use the nonpartisan **LWVSA Voters Guide** to learn about who and what is on the ballot. Pick up a printed copy at any San Antonio Public Library or visit vote411.org to compare candidate responses—in their own words—to a variety of policy questions and read unbiased explanations of arguments “for” and “against” propositions on the ballot.

Be sure to check the League's website at lwvsa.org for information about upcoming candidate forums.

For races in smaller Bexar County municipalities, school districts, and utility districts, check with these entities for information about the candidates and issues.

Additional Resources

lwvsa.org



LWVSA website for comprehensive, nonpartisan voting and elections information, including the *Texas Voters' Bill of Rights* in English and Spanish



VOTE411.org

online, interactive LWVSA Voters Guide

texasvoterprotection.org



866-OUR-VOTE

attorney-staffed voter protection hotline



elections.bexar.org

Bexar County Elections Department
210-335-8683

votetexas.gov



Texas Secretary of State Elections Division
800-252-VOTE

About the League

The League of Women Voters is a grassroots, all-volunteer organization that promotes the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League, strictly nonpartisan, does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

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