

Voter's Guide:

A voting checklist for advocates!



Election Day is every year in early November! Are you prepared to make your voice heard in your local, state, or federal election? Use this checklist to ensure you are prepared.

To learn more about voting and your right to vote, visit ndss.org/voting-resources.

Understand and Register

Understand the rules and procedures around voting. Then, register to vote at your current address.

- For more information on voting rules and procedures: <https://www.sabeusa.org/govoter/voting-info/register-to-vote/>
- Find out how to vote in your state: <https://www.rockthevote.org/how-to-vote/>
- Register to vote: <https://vote.gov/>

Options and Deadlines

Understand your options and deadlines for voting. Then, pick the option that is best for you.

ABSENTEE AND MAIL-IN VOTING: An option in every state, citizens can vote before Election Day by absentee or mail-in ballot. States often require voters to request a ballot and a valid reason for voting this way. Knowing the deadline and location to return your ballot is important to ensure your vote is counted.

- To register to vote by mail: <https://www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form>

EARLY VOTING: This is not an option in all states. Check with your state or local election office for the rules of your area and important deadlines.

- For more information on early voting visit: https://allintovote.org/learn_articles/how-do-i-vote-early/

ELECTION DAY VOTING: This is the traditional form of voting and is available in all states.

Values and Beliefs Inventory

Establish an understanding of your values and beliefs to ensure the candidate you are voting for aligns with what is important to you.

- Find the inventory worksheet at ndss.org/voting-resources.

Research Candidates and Compare

Make sure your chosen candidate aligns with your beliefs.

- Visit the candidate's website
- Watch candidate speeches and debates.
- Dive into informed, fact-based resources to learn more about key topics
- Compare your values inventory to your candidate research and see how your vote will align with your values and beliefs.

Make a Plan to Vote

- Mark your calendars for **Election Day**
- Consider **transportation time and needs**
- View a **sample ballot** to prepare for your vote
- Find your **polling place**: <https://www.usa.gov/find-polling-place>

Know Your Rights

1. Polling places for federal elections must be fully accessible to voters
 2. Reasonable accommodations must be made by election officials and poll workers to help an individual vote
 3. Voters with disabilities have the right to receive in-person help at the polls
- For more information on your rights: <https://www.sabeusa.org/govoter/voting-info/your-voting-rights/>