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REGISTER. . . ENROLL . . . VOTE



PREPARED BY YOUR ONEIDA COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

BIRTHPLACE OF GOVERNMENT

Q. What are the requirements for voting?

A. You must be:

- a citizen by birth or naturalization.
- eighteen years of age or over.
- a resident of New York State and your county, city or village for 30 days prior to Election Day.
- REGISTERED WITH YOUR COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Q. How do I register?

A. There are three ways; Central registration, Mail registration, Local registration.

- (a) Central registration - Until September 2nd, there is central registration, which means that you simply go to the offices of your local Board of Elections sign up any day except within 10 days before or five days after any primary or special election.
- (b) Mail registration - You may register by mail; forms may be obtained by calling this office and if received no later than October 4th, will be processed.
- (c) Local registration - Your county Board of Elections provides at least one day for local registration in the election district in which you reside. In this presidential year, we will provide two days for local registration; Saturday, October 2nd from 1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., and Tuesday, October 5th from 3:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Q. But I think I am registered.

A. Perhaps you are. Under Permanent Personal Registration, a person who is once registered need not register again so long as he votes at least once every two years and remains at the same address. But you should check your Board of Elections if you're not sure.

Q. What's the difference between "registration" and "enrollment"?

A. You can register to vote without enrolling in a political party. Failing to enroll in a recognized party, however, deprives you of important rights, including the right to vote in the Primary Election where candidates of the party are selected. You also cannot hold office in a political party, elect party officials or help make party policy if you are not enrolled. You may enroll when you register or change your enrollment during central or local registration periods.

Q. What if I'm ill or away from home?

A. If you cannot register because of illness or physical disability, or if you must be out of your county during local registration because of your job or vital personal obligations, you may obtain an Absentee Registration form from your Board of Elections. If your reason for being absent continues through Election Day, you may obtain an application for an Absentee Ballot at the same time.

Q. How does Absentee Voting work?

A. You may apply for an Absentee Ballot this year from October 5th until October 26th (or May 1st to October 26th for certain students, out-of-State VA hospital patients and several others). You are eligible to vote as an absentee if you will be away because of business, occupation or vacation, or if you are accompanying a family member on a trip. Application blanks may be obtained from officials at places and times of central or local registration. Your Absentee Ballot must be returned to your Board of Elections by, November 2nd.

Q. My son is in the military service. How can he vote?

A. Until October 21st, you may obtain an application for a Military Ballot from your local Board of Elections or by writing to the Division for Servicemen's Voting, 162 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12231. This application, when completed by you, will comprise your son's registration. A Military Ballot will be sent directly to him.

Q. What about college students?

A. For the most part, college students must register where "they make their home." This usually does not mean a college campus. If you will be at school during registration and cannot return home, follow the absentee registration procedure.

Q. Is absentee voting permitted in Primary Elections?

A. Yes. A qualified voter who is unable to appear personally at the polling place for a contested primary election because of business, occupation or vacation, may vote by absentee ballot. Application for an absentee ballot should be made this year to the local Board of Elections no earlier than August 14th and no later than September 7th. The completed absentee ballot must be returned to the Board of Elections no later than, September 14th.

ANGELA J. PEDONE (Democratic)
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