

OUT OF STATE COLLEGE STUDENT

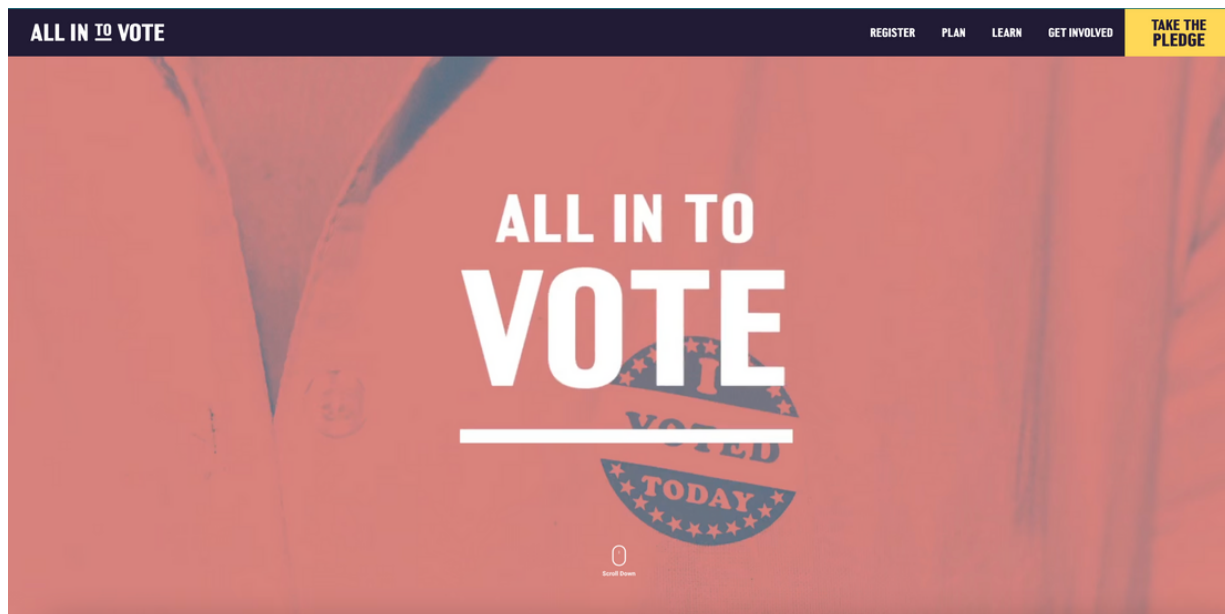
Voting guide



LEARN YOUR OPTIONS

As you enter this chapter in your life as a college student, it is important to learn about your options when it comes to registering to vote. You can be a resident of two states, but you can only vote in one. If you're a college student who has a permanent address in one state and attends school in another, you can choose where you want to register to vote and cast your ballot. This is because college students have dual residency, both at your home address and your campus residence.

For any questions, or if you are facing barriers to voting, connect with the Election Protections team by calling or texting 866-OUR-VOTE to speak with a trained election protection volunteer.



VOTING GUIDE:

Out of State College Student

Below are some considerations to help you decide which state you should register to vote and cast your ballot in:

RESIDENCY LAWS

Every state has different residency laws you'll want to look into before you register to vote. If you are moving to a new state or address within a state to attend your educational institution, you will be eligible to choose to register on your campus once you've met that state's residency requirements. Check out the ALLINtoVote.org resource, or visit the National Association of Secretaries of State website to learn more about residency requirements.

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

Research what elections are on the docket for your home state and college state (e.g. Congressional, Gubernatorial, State level officials, ballot initiatives, and more). Check out the [Ballotready](http://Ballotready.org) resource to learn more about what issues, candidates, and initiatives you can help make decisions about in your community.

MAKE A FINAL DECISION

Hone in on the candidates in either state that you want to support in the election. To make the final decision, you may decide to register to vote in your home state because you deeply care about your hometown and are invested within your community. On the other hand, you may choose to register where you attend school because that is where you live most of the year and want to influence decisions and elect candidates you feel will have a positive impact in the college or university community. You know best where your vote will make an impact.

WHAT YOU NEED TO REGISTER & VOTE IN YOUR STATE

Each state has its own set of voting laws - some states require voting ID, have different voter registration and early vote deadlines, and different methods to vote (e.g. by mail, early in person, in person on election day). Check out the ALLINtoVote.org resource, or visit the National Association of Secretaries of State website to learn more about each state's voting requirements.

VOTING GUIDE:

Out of State College Student

IF YOU ARE VOTING IN YOUR HOME STATE BUT ARE AWAY IN COLLEGE

Ensure your voter registration is up to date with your home address – by visiting your state secretary's website.

Research primary voting rules – do you have to declare a political party?

Request your absentee ballot once available and mail back it as soon as you can. Be sure to verify information related to voting by mail/absentee voting deadlines.

Track your ballot to ensure its safe arrival.

IF YOU ARE VOTING IN YOUR COLLEGE STATE

Register to vote with your educational institution address.

Upon meeting the state's residency requirements by the state's deadline. Some states have same-day registration as well ensuring you have the right forms of identification.

Research primary voter registration rules – do you have to declare a political party?

Create a voting plan – Will you vote early in person? On Election day via a polling location? Know the details of all of your voting options in advance of election day.

Ensure you have everything you need when you are voting (Identity verification, proof of residency)

Many of the answers to the aforementioned questions can be found at the ALLINtoVote.org resource, or on the National Association of Secretaries of State website.

VOTING GUIDE:

Out of State College Student

A FEW LAST THINGS

- Your vote matters and you have the right to express your voice free from intimidation and peer pressure. Choosing where you'll vote and what you'll vote for is a big decision to make, and ultimately your own to make. By committing to doing diligent research you will be able to vote with confidence.
- Keep track of deadlines for voter registration and election days. To check your state's rules by visiting the National Association of Secretaries of State website or ALLINtoVote.org resource.
- If you have questions and want to talk through your voting strategy, many US colleges and universities have different on campus voting initiatives and efforts to help educate students about voting, to find if your school has one search "your school's name and votes"
- You may hear phrases like "Swing State" or "Battleground state" which means that the election can be reasonably won by either the Democratic or Republican presidential candidate by a swing in votes.
- The youth vote is a significant determinant in elections - student bodies can impact communities for the better. Talk to your friends, your dorm neighbors and your lab partner about the importance of voting. It can be as easy as asking if they are registered to vote and the conversation can go from there. By creating a welcoming and healthy dialogue around voting, we can shift the culture of voting.