



# Fact Sheet: College Students

Thurston County Auditor's Office - Elections Division  
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, Washington 98502  
(360) 786-5408 [www.thurstonvotes.org](http://www.thurstonvotes.org)



Q. What address should I use to register to vote?

A. You can use either your hometown address, or the address where you are living now. The choice is up to you. To register in Thurston County go to: [www.ThurstonVotes.org](http://www.ThurstonVotes.org).

Q. How do I decide which address to use?

A. The address you choose depends on where you consider yourself a resident. Many students choose to establish residency in their college town to help lower the cost of tuition. Others choose to keep their residency in their hometown where they intend to return after graduation.

Q. If I keep my registration in my hometown, how do I vote while I'm away at college?

A. Call the office which handles voter registration and elections in your hometown (phone numbers for every state are provided on page 2), and tell them you want an absentee ballot. Ask if they can send you a ballot for all future elections so that you never miss an opportunity to have your voice heard.

Q. I've heard of something called a Provisional Ballot, or Special Ballot; is it possible to vote one of those?

A. You can. To do that, come to the Auditor's Office on Election Day. Please be aware that the laws regarding provisional ballots vary from state to state. We cannot guarantee your provisional ballot will be counted in your hometown.

Q. Can I vote by Email?

A. No, but you can receive your ballot by email. Other counties or states may have different rules, ask your hometown elections office and find out what their rules are.

In Washington state, you must register to vote or change your address at least 29 days prior to the election in order to vote using your new residence. If you are not currently registered in Washington, you may register in person at the Auditor's Office up to 8 days before the election to be eligible.



## Top Election Offices

These numbers represent a place to start your elections inquiry. You may be directed to contact a more local governing body.

**Alabama Secretary of State**  
800-274-8683 or 334-242-7210

**Alaska Lt. Governor**  
907-465-3021

**Arizona Secretary of State**  
877-THE-VOTE

**Arkansas Secretary of State**  
800-482-1127 or 501-682-5070

**California Secretary of State**  
916-657-2166

**Colorado Secretary of State**  
303-894-2200

**Connecticut Secretary of State**  
860-509-6100

**Delaware Comm. of Elections**  
302-739-4277

**Florida Department of State**  
850-245-6200

**Georgia Secretary of State**  
404-656-2871

**Guam - Elections Commission**  
671-477-9791/2/3

**Hawaii Office of Elections**  
808-453-VOTE

**Idaho Secretary of State**  
208-334-2852

**Illinois State Board of Elections**  
217-782-4141

**Indiana Secretary of State**  
317-232-3939

**Iowa Secretary of State**  
515-281-0145

**Kansas Secretary of State**  
785-296-4561

**Kentucky Secretary of State**  
502-564-3490

**Louisiana Secretary of State**  
800-883-2805

**Maine Secretary of State**  
207-264-7736

**Maryland Board of Elections**  
800-222-8683 or 410-269-2840

**Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth**

800-462-VOTE or 617-727-2828

**Michigan Secretary of State**  
888-SOS-MICH

**Minnesota Secretary of State**  
651-215-1440

**Mississippi Secretary of State**  
601-359-6359

**Missouri Secretary of State**  
800-NOW-VOTE or 573-751-2301

**Montana Secretary of State**  
888-884-VOTE or 406-444-4732

**Nebraska Secretary of State**  
402-471-2554

**Nevada Secretary of State**  
775-684-5705

**New Hampshire Secretary of State**  
603-271-3242

**New Jersey Secretary of State**  
609-984-1900

**New Mexico Secretary of State**  
800-477-3632 or 505-827-3600

**New York Board of Elections**  
518-474-6220

**North Carolina Board of Elections**  
919-733-7173

**North Dakota Secretary of State**  
800-352-0867 ext 8-4146

**Ohio Secretary of State**  
877-767-6446 or 614-466-2585

**Oklahoma Election Board**  
405-521-2391

**Oregon Secretary of State**  
503-986-1518

**Pennsylvania Secretary of State**  
717-787-5280

**Puerto Rico - Departamento de Estado**  
787-722-2121

**Rhode Island Secretary of State**  
401-222-2340

**South Carolina Secretary of State**  
803-734-2158

**South Dakota Secretary of State**  
605-773-3537

**Tennessee Secretary of State**  
615-741-7956

**Texas Secretary of State**  
800-252-8683 or 512-463-5650

**Utah Lt. Governor**  
800-995-VOTE or 801-538-1041

**Vermont Secretary of State**  
802-828-2304

**US Virgin Islands Election System**  
340-773-1021

**Virginia Board of Elections**  
800-552-9745 or 804-864-8901

**Washington Secretary of State**  
360-902-4180

**Washington DC Board of Elections**  
202-727-2525

**West Virginia Secretary of State**  
877-SOS-VOTE or 304-558-8000

**Wisconsin Government Accountability Board**  
608-266-8005

**Wyoming Secretary of State**  
307-777-7186