



Fact Sheet: College Students

Thurston County Auditor's Office - Elections Division
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, Washington 98502
(360) 786-5408 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.

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