

VOTING IN THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 ELECTION

We would like to stress the importance of the **VOTE** and voting early. If you are requesting a VOTE-BY-MAIL ballot do so NOW and mail it **at least 10 days** prior to the election to ensure your ballot is received and processed on time. VOTE-BY-MAIL ballots can also be dropped off at secure drop boxes at Supervisor of Elections' main and branch offices and early voting sites. This method avoids the potential postal service delays and risk in-person voting on November 3rd

AAUW has identified the following three issues important to women in the 2020 election. We will be contacting the Florida State candidates in our districts to determine their position on these issues and report to you their response prior to the election.

1. Economic Security
2. Education
3. Civil Rights

There are three ways to vote in Florida

1. Vote Early
2. Vote in Person
3. Vote-By-Mail

General Guidelines

Step one: Registered to vote or check your registration at the Florida Division of Elections website.

October 5: Last day to register to vote or update your voter registration. *

October 24: Last day to apply for a mail-in-ballot. **HOWEVER, DO NOT WAIT. DO IT NOW! APPLY FOR AN APSENTEE OR VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT**

October 19 -November 1: Early voting for Sarasota County. Check with your county Supervisor of Elections for location sites.

November 2: Find your polling place. If you prefer to vote in person, be sure to check your polling place. Many were moved in the primary because of Covid-19. Polls are open 7a.m- 7 p.m. on election day.

November 3: Election Day: Deadline to return your mail-in-ballot. Complete your ballot and send it back as soon as possible to avoid mail delays or drop it off at designated sites.

2020 November Election Schedule Sarasota County

Election Title **Election Date(s)** **Last Day to Register**
Early Voting: **Oct 19-Nov 1, 2020** **October 5***

Early voting takes place 8:30 PM to 6:30 PM daily at the Supervisor of Election offices listed below. Additional voting sites are probable but not yet determined.

Election Site **Election Date:** **November 3, 2020**

City of North Port General Election

NORTH PORT
Biscayne Plaza
13640 Tamiami Trail
North Port 34287
Tel: 941.423.9540

City of Sarasota General Election

SARASOTA
Terrace Building
101 South Washington Blvd
Sarasota 34236
Tel: 941.861.8600

City of Venice General Election

VENICE
R.L. Anderson Administration Building
4000 Tamiami Trail South
Venice 34293
Tel: 941.861.3760

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Polls are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on election day (November 3) -
IMPORTANT: Unless you VOTE-BY-MAIL**, you must vote in your precinct on election day.

*Call one of the three elections offices listed above on
November 2nd:*

*(open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. daily Monday-Friday) to
determine if your precinct has been changed prior to
election day.*

***Register to Vote or update your registration**

Online Voter Registration website
[RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov](https://www.RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov)

You must be registered for at least **29 days** before you can vote in an election (October 5, 2020).

**** Vote-By-Mail**

Florida law allows vote by mail without the need to give a reason or an excuse. But there are deadlines to be aware of. Use the information below so you will not miss a step.

What is Vote-by-Mail

A vote-by-mail ballot refers to a ballot that you request and pick-up or have delivered to you without having to vote at the polls during early voting or on Election Day. A voter must first be registered to vote before he or she can request a vote-by-mail ballot. Unless otherwise specified, a request to receive a vote-by-mail ballot covers all elections through the end of the calendar year for the second ensuing regularly scheduled general election. If a vote-by-mail ballot is returned undeliverable, it will cancel a request for future elections and must be renewed.

How to and Who Can Request a Vote-by-Mail Ballot

A request for a vote-by-mail ballot may be made in one of the following ways:

- Online application on your [county Supervisors of Elections' website](https://dos.myflorida.com/supervisors) (dos.myflorida.com/supervisors)
- By other writing (e.g., by email, fax, mail (to Supervisor of Elections);)
- In person at Supervisor of Elections
- By telephone call to Supervisor of Elections.

The request must include the following information:

- The voter's name
- The voter's address
- The voter's date of birth; and
- The voter's signature (if the request is written and the request is to an address other than the one on file). Note, an exception to this requirement exists for absent uniformed service voter or an overseas voter seeking a vote-by-mail ballot.

What is the Deadline to Request that a Vote-by-Mail Ballot be Mailed?

The deadline to request that a vote-by-mail ballot be mailed is no later than 5 p.m. on the 10th day before the election (**October 24**). A Supervisor of Elections must mail the ballot out within 2 business days after a request and the last day for a Supervisor to be able to mail out a ballot is 8 days before the election. **However, do not wait. Do it now! Apply for absentee or mail in ballot.**

Who Can Pick Up a Vote-by-Mail Ballot?

A voter can pick up their own vote-by-mail ballot at any time once the ballot becomes available, including Election Day.

How to Vote a Vote-by-Mail Ballot

Instructions are included with the vote-by-mail ballot. If the voter decides to go to the polls to vote, the voter should bring the vote-by-mail ballot (marked or not). The vote-by-mail ballot will be canceled, and the voter can vote a regular ballot at the polls. If the voter comes to the polls without the vote-by-mail ballot, the voter can vote a regular ballot if the supervisor of elections' office can confirm that it has not received the voter's vote-by-mail ballot. If it is confirmed that the supervisor of elections office has already received the voted vote-by-mail ballot or it cannot be determined, the voter cannot vote a regular ballot at the polls. However, if a voter believes that he or she has not already voted, he or she shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

What is the Deadline to Return a Vote-by-Mail Ballot?

A returned voted ballot must be received by the Supervisor of Elections' office no later than 7 p.m. (local time) on Election Day (November 3). The [United States Postal Service](#) recommends that domestic nonmilitary voters, mail back their voted ballots at least 1 week before the Election Day deadline to account for any unforeseen events or weather issues.

Vote-by-mail ballots may also be returned at secure drop boxes at Supervisor of Elections' main and branch offices and early voting sites in your county. Please contact your [Supervisor of Elections](#) or visit their website for the location of all vote-by-mail ballot secure drop boxes.

IMPORTANT - Vote-by-mail ballots cannot be forwarded so be sure the Supervisor of Elections has your correct mailing address on file. Even if the post office forwards your mail to your summer address, they will not forward vote-by-mail ballots. Please remember also to return your voted ballot as soon as possible so that it reaches their office not later than 7 p.m. on election day. If you return your vote-by-mail ballot to the Supervisor of Elections but forget to sign the ballot certificate, or are notified that your signature on the certificate does not match your signature on file with the elections office, your ballot may not count unless you complete and return the [Vote-by-Mail Ballot Cure Affidavit](#) to the elections office by 5 p.m. on the second day following the election. Please follow the instructions on the form carefully, as failure to follow these instructions may cause your ballot not to count

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What are the key races in Florida?

- U.S. President
- U.S. House: All 27 seats:
- All 120 seats in the state House of Representatives and 21 state Senate seats
- Six amendments to the state constitution

Get to know the candidate www.vote411.org/florida

www.vote411.org provides information about the candidates and their positions based on your address. Our National Senate Districts are FL 16 and FL 17. Our Florida Senate Districts is 23. The Florida House Districts are 72, 73, 74 and 75.

VOTE

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Any questions, please feel free to email Joyce Kamm at

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