Connecticut Voter Basics – 2022 General Election

Who may register to vote in Connecticut?

Anyone who is:

- A United States citizen
- A resident of Connecticut
- At least 17 years old (you must be 18 years old by the general election in November)

Where and when can I register to vote?

The easiest way to register is online! You can find the voter registration link here: https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do

REMEMBER: You must re-register if you move to a new city or town. If you move within a city or town or your name changes, you should notify your local Registrar of Voters.

If you are not sure whether or not you are registered to vote, you can look up your voter registration here: https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx

To vote in this year's general election on November 8, 2022 you must

- Register to vote online by November 1, 2022. Mailed voter registration forms must postmarked by November 1, 2022.
  OR
- You can register to vote on Election Day. Please note that Election Day Registration is not available at your polling place but at a designated location in each town, from 6 am to 8 pm. You can call your town hall to find out where the Election Day Registration location is in your town. You will register to vote and vote at this location. You will need proof of identity and residency.

Where and when can I vote in Connecticut's General Election?

You will be assigned to a specific polling place based on your address. Polling places are usually located in or near your neighborhood. For the November 8, 2022 general election, polls will be open from 6am to 8pm. Anyone who is in line by closing time will be allowed to vote.

Can I vote absentee?

Currently, Connecticut residents are permitted to cast their vote in a general election via an absentee ballot if they:

- Serve as an active member of the armed forces of the United States.
- Will be out of town or commuting during all hours of voting on Election Day.
- Have an illness that prevents them from voting in person on Election Day.
- Observe religious beliefs that prevent them from performing secular activities like voting on Election Day.

- Have a physical disability that prevents them from voting in person on Election Day.
- Out of concern related to COVID-19 for either yourself or someone you may be taking care of.

If you have a qualifying reason to vote absentee, you must first complete your absentee ballot application. You will then receive your absentee ballot.

Can I get time off of work to vote on Election Day?
Connecticut state statute dictates that employers must allow an employee two hours of unpaid time off from his or her regularly scheduled work on the day of a state election to vote. The employee must first request the time off at least two working days before the election.

Who will be on the ballot?
This year, you will have the opportunity to vote for state representative, state senator, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. senator, state treasurer, state comptroller, state attorney general, secretary of the state, lieutenant governor and governor.

Did I hear there will be a ballot question this year?
Yes! In addition to voting for political candidates, you will also get to cast your vote on a statewide ballot question. At the top of your ballot you will see the following question:

"Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?"

A "yes" vote means that you are in support of the Connecticut General Assembly (state legislators) being able to introduce and debate legislation allowing early voting in the state. A "no" vote means that you are not in support of this proposal.

CONNECTICUT VOTING STATISTICS:

- 79.7% of Connecticut voters voted in the 2020 general election.
- In 2020, the town of Burlington, CT had the highest voter turnout rate at 91.94%.

Your Vote Can Make a Difference!!

- **2006:** Congressman Joe Courtney won his Congressional race in Connecticut by fewer than 100 votes! It was the closest congressional election that year.
- **2000**: This was the closest election in US History! George Bush won by 4 electoral votes, but Vice President Al Gore won the popular vote by 337,576 votes. In the end, Florida decided the election; Bush won that state by just 537 votes!
- **1960:** One more vote per precinct would have elected Richard Nixon instead of John F. Kennedy.

- **1920:** 1 vote made Tennessee the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote.

KIDS: A GREAT REASON FOR YOU TO VOTE!

"I wish that everyone would vote because when they don't vote then they don't have a right to complain about who was chosen, but they still do" Cassie, age 12, Ohio

"I wish that people would listen to each other better and that we could take care of our communities better" Debbie, age 13, California

"I wish that every kid could have a good education from school" Cynthia, age 9, Maryland

Why should you vote in November?

- Elected officials make decisions that affect
  - ✓ The health care kids receive
  - ✓ The quality of life they can lead
  - ✓ The dreams they can fulfill
- Kids can't vote
- Kids have no voice in this year's elections unless you speak for them
- SPEAK UP FOR KIDS AT THE BALLOT BOX!

After you cast your vote, stay informed about issues that matter to kids! Sign up for our Connecticut Children's Champion advocacy newsletter for action alerts and updates. Sign up at connecticutchildrens.org/champion