Important dates

October 19 is Registration Day
Register to vote or update your address by October 19.

November 3 is Election Day
Polling places are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Find a location near you at your elections website.
Same-day registration is available at all polling locations.

Avoid the lines! Voting locations are usually less busy in the mid-morning or early afternoon.

Return your absentee ballot if you haven't done so already using one of these options:
- Return it in person:
  - At a secure ballot drop-off location.
  - At your elections office.
  - At an early voting location.
  - At a polling place on Election Day.
- Return it by mail:
  - Active voters are mailed a ballot.
  - Deadline to return your ballot:
    - Postmarked by Election Day, November 3
    - Received by November 20 for mailed ballots
    - Delivered by Election Day, November 3 at 8:00 pm

Vote early
From at least October 31 through November 2, vote centers are open for early voting. All early voting locations are also open on Election Day.
Same-day registration is available at all early voting locations.

Vote in person on Election Day
At least one voting location is open in each area on Election Day.
Find a location near you at your elections website.
Same-day registration is available at all Election Day voting locations.

Ways to vote in California

Your guide to a safe election for you and your community

General Election
November 3, 2020

HealthyVoting.org/California

More information

Healthy Voting
Up-to-date information on healthy voting options in California is available at HealthyVoting.org/California

California Board of Elections
Visit the state elections website for links to:
- Track your absentee ballot
- Register to vote or update your registration
- Find voting locations near you
- Contact your county elections office

sos.ca.gov/elections
(800) 345-VOTE

Partners: We Can Vote, American Public Health Association (APHA), National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), Center for Civic Design (CCD), Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL)
If you go out to vote—whether to drop off a ballot or vote in person—follow these common sense precautions.

- Wear a mask or other face-covering.
- Maintain a physical distance of 6 feet to protect yourself, election workers, and other voters.
- If you go to a post office, wear a mask or other face covering to protect yourself, the postal clerk, and others.
- Before and after voting, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

If you are sick or concerned that you have been exposed to the coronavirus, and don’t have an absentee ballot, contact your local election office for guidance about your voting options.

Voting by mail is a healthy option because you vote at home. If you go out at all, it’s only to mail or drop off your ballot.

- If you need to buy stamps, consider using the Post Office’s online store, usps.com.
- If you go to a post office or store to buy stamps, wear a mask or other face covering to protect yourself, the postal clerk, and other people.
- If you go outside to mail your ballot, wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds when you get home.
- You may be able to put your ballot in a drop box from a car.
- To seal the envelope after you have voted, use a damp sponge.

Voting in person usually means going to a voting center where there will be other people, but is where you can get assistance.

- Follow instructions for healthy voting at your in person voting location.
- Practice physical distancing and stay 6 feet away from poll workers and other voters.
- Don’t try to clean the voting system yourself. Ask an election worker. They know how to do it without damaging the machine.
- If you can, go when the voting center will not be as busy, usually mid-morning or early-afternoon.
- Use curbside or drive-through voting if available.

All in-person voting centers must have at least one accessible voting system.

- If you can, go when the voting center will not be as busy, usually mid-morning or early-afternoon.
- Use curbside or drive-through voting if available.
- You can bring your own headphone to use with the accessible system.