Voter Guide

Leon County
Florida



Ion Sancho
Supervisor of Elections

Call:

(850) 606-VOTE (8683)

Email:

Vote@LeonCountyFl.gov

Website:

LeonVotes.org

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 7357

Tallahassee, FL 32314-7357



WHO CAN REGISTER?

To register to vote in Leon County, Florida, you must:

- Be a U.S. Citizen
- Be a Florida resident and live in Leon County
- Be 18 years old (you may pre-register at 16 or 17)
- Not currently be adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting in Florida or any other state
- Not have been convicted of a felony in Florida, or in any other state, without your civil rights having been restored

If you qualify to register to vote in Florida based on the list above, please complete a Florida Voter Registration Application form and return it to the Supervisor of Elections in Leon County.

NOTE: If you are registering to vote in Florida for the first time, you must register 29 days before an upcoming Election in order to vote in that Election.

RESTORATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

A person who has been convicted of a felony by any court is ineligible to register to vote until they have had their voting rights restored. You may research your status and apply for Restoration of Civil Rights through the Florida Commission on Offender Review.



Phone: (800) 435-8286 or (850) 488-2952

Fax: (850) 488-0695

Email: clemencyweb@fcor.state.fl.us

Mail: 4070 Esplanade Way Tallahassee, FL 32399



3 WAYS TO REGISTER



REGISTRATION BY MAIL

Call our office at (850) 606-VOTE (8683) to have a Florida Voter Registration Application form mailed to you. Simply complete, sign and mail the form to:



Supervisor of Elections – Leon County

PO Box 7357

Tallahassee FL 32314-7357



REGISTRATION BY GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR BRANCH SITES

- Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Driver's License Offices
- Public Assistance Offices

AND

Florida Voter Registration Application Forms are available at all of the following locations:

- Public Library Branches
- Offices that serve persons with Disabilities / Ability 1st
- Armed Forces Recruitment Offices
- Public Education Institutions
- Supervisor of Elections Office
- Supervisor of Elections Branch Sites in Leon County

For a complete list of Branch Sites visit our website LeonVotes.org or call (850) 606-VOTE (8683).



REGISTRATION ONLINE

A Florida Voter Registration Application form is available in PDF format on our website LeonVotes. org. You may complete the application electronically as a PDF, but it must then be printed, signed, and submitted to our office.







Keep us up to date with you!

Update important voting information quickly prior to Election Day

includes your date of birth and signature.

Address Change – Can be made within or into Leon County from another Florida County. You may visit **LeonVotes.org**, call our office, complete a Florida Voter Registration Application form, or provide a signed written notice that

Party Change – Must be completed 29 days prior to a Primary Election to take effect. Complete a Florida Voter Registration Application form or provide a signed written notice that includes your date of birth and signature.

Name Change – Can be done by completing a Florida Voter Registration Application form.

Signature Change/Update – Must be done using a Florida Voter Registration Application form.

Voter Information Cards – Are mailed routinely to confirm new registrations, voter updates or changes in polling sites.

CONTACT US!

Phone – (850) 606-VOTE (8683) Fax - (850) 606-8601

Web – LeonVotes.org

Email - Vote@LeonCountyFL.gov

Mail - P.O. Box 7357

Tallahassee, FL 32314-7357





3 WAYS TO VOTE



VOTE EARLY

Cast your ballot at one of several convenient locations before Election Day. Go to LeonVotes.org to see a list of Early Voting sites in Leon County.



VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

Simply call our office at (850) 606-VOTE (8683) to request your Vote By Mail Ballot before Election Day.



VOTE AT YOUR PRECINCT

ELECTION DAY is your **LAST CHANCE TO VOTE!**

Be sure we have your current residence address so that you appear at your proper polling location. Bring your picture ID with your signature to present to the poll worker. To avoid lines and congestion at your precinct, vote in the 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. non-rush hour time frames of the day.

Visit LeonVotes.org for more information!

- Florida Voter Registration **Application**
- My Voter Info
- Vote By Mail Request and Status
- Interactive Mapping: Find your precinct/polling location before you vote









VOTING BY MAIL

Leon County Enjoys Voting by Mail!

Over 20,500 returned and tabulated for the 2014 General Election!

Vote By Mail Ballots

A Mail Ballot may be requested anytime up to the legal deadline of 6 days before an Election. This may be done in person, by mail, by telephone (850) 606-VOTE (8683), or online at our website.

Requesting a Mail Ballot is Easy!

Online Go to **LeonVotes.org**, click Vote by Mail button, fill in and submit the request form online 24/7!

Telephone Call **(850) 606-VOTE** (8683) to request by telephone

Mail Send your request form to: **Supervisor of Elections**, P.O. Box 7357, Tallahassee, FL 32314-7357

Please note that Mail Ballots cannot be forwarded by the Post Office. If any mail is returned as undeliverable, your ballot requests will be canceled.

Voters who have returned an unsigned Mail Ballot have until 5 p.m. on the day before an election to provide ID and sign an Absentee Ballot Affidavit to correct the unsigned ballot.

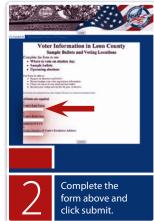


VOTING BY MAIL

Track Your Vote By Mail

Want to know if we received your voted Mail Ballot? Check your voter info at LeonVotes.org!







Has your signature changed from



to this?

John

If so, you need to update your signature with our office!

Call us to be mailed a Florida Voter Registration Application or print one from our website: **LeonVotes.org**, then complete, sign, and mail it back to us.



POLL WORKERS

Top 5 Reasons to be a POLL WORKER

- You'll work side by side with your neighbors and meet new people.
- You'll play a vital role in the democratic process.
- Your community needs you. Leon County must recruit 1,500 poll workers this year for our Elections to run smoothly.
- 2 It's a great opportunity to help people, serve your community and have fun doing it!

And the number one reason to be a Poll Worker...

You get paid to do a good thing!

Sign up to be a poll worker today!

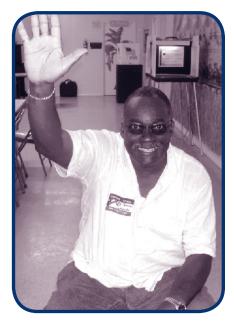
Your community needs more people

like you to work at the polls on Election Day. In fact, Florida must recruit and train thousands of poll workers in communities across the state every Election year. You can help.

The job isn't complicated and anyone who has worked at the polls will tell you it's one of the most rewarding ways to help your community!

Call (850) 606-VOTE (8683) or visit our website at LeonVotes.org.







2016 ELECTION DATES

March 15, 2016

REGISTER BY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Presidential Preference Primary Election

August 30, 2016

REGISTER BY MONDAY, AUGUST 1
Primary Election

November 8, 2016

REGISTER BY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11
General Election



OUTREACH EVENTS









Email Vote@leoncountyfl.gov or call (850) 606-VOTE (8683) for more information about these services.

Request a Speaker – The Supervisor of Elections or staff from the Elections Office will speak to your club or organization about the Election process. To make a request please complete Community Involvement Request form on our website.

Invite The Elections Office To Your Event – A representative from the Supervisor of Elections Office will set up a registration table at your event. Please contact our office 2 weeks in advance.

Student Government Elections – The Elections Office offers one Election per year for any school in Leon County as a means of voter education. Participating schools vote on the candidate of their choice using actual Election tabulation equipment.

Voter Registration/Education Program – Election staff provides voter registration and education services to area high schools, Tallahassee Community College, Florida State and Florida A&M Universities. Students can get registered or pre-registered to vote.



OUTREACH EVENTS

The deadline to register or change political party affiliation is 29 days prior to an election. To help serve Leon County, the Elections Office partners with local businesses to register voters or update voter information.

Elections staff are at the New Leaf Market and the Collins Main Library on Registration Deadline dates.



1235 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, FL 32301



200 West Park Avenue Tallahassee, FL 32301







VOTING MACHINES

All precincts are equipped with optical scan voting devices. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant voting devices are available for those voters with special needs. You must alert the poll worker when you sign in to vote if you wish to vote using the ADA compliant voting device.

Optical Scan – The optical scan voting device accepts a paper ballot with ovals filled in by the voter.

Voters can only cast one ballot in any Election.
 If you make a mistake marking your paper ballot, request a replacement. You have three attempts to mark your paper ballot.

Accessible Voting – The ADA compliant voting device has the ability to enlarge font size, play an audio ballot, and work with a manual device or your sip and puff device.

- Before you cast your ballot, be sure your ballot reflects your choices.
- Once your ballot is cast, you cannot receive another ballot in that Election.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE POLLS

Voting should be a quick, satisfying experience if you follow a few simple steps. Here are some tips on what to expect at the polls on Election Day:

First, you are required to vote in the precinct where you live. Your voter information card shows your precinct number and polling place location. The polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Avoid** the heavy turnout times of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. We suggest you vote between 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. to avoid any lines.

Any changes to your name, address or political party affiliation since the last Election should be updated with the Supervisor of Elections Office prior to Election Day. If you do not show a valid **picture and signature ID**, you must vote a Provisional Ballot. Our poll workers are able and ready to assist you with this process!

When you arrive at your precinct, a poll worker will ask to see your picture and signature ID, find your name in the precinct register and ask you to sign for receipt of your ballot.

It is important that you review your ballot for accuracy prior to casting your ballot. Once your ballot has been accepted by the voting equipment, no further changes or corrections can be made.

Current and valid picture identifications required at polls:

- (a) Florida driver's license
- (b) Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
- (c) United States passport
- (d) Debit or credit card
- (e) Military identification
- (f) Student identification
- (g) Retirement center identification
- (h) Neighborhood association identification
- (i) Public assistance identification



If the picture identification does not contain the signature of the voter, an additional identification that provides the voter's signature shall be required.

Polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day



PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

A Provisional Ballot is a time-saving tool for the voter when their eligibility to vote is uncertain. It allows the Supervisor of Elections Office to research the matter and present any evidence to Leon County's Canvassing Board.



Anyone who votes a Provisional Ballot has until 5 p.m. on the second day following the Election to present evidence of their eligibility.

The Canvassing Board decides if the Provisional Ballot will be counted when it meets on the third day following the Election.

Most Provisional Ballots are counted.

Provisional ballots are often issued when:

- Voter did not provide valid picture and signature identification.
- Voter's name was not found in the voter records on Election Day.
- Voter has not changed their previous Florida county address prior to Election Day.

Provisional ballots are often not counted when:

- Voter votes in the wrong precinct on Election Day.
- Voter has not registered 29 days before the Election.

Voters can track the status of their Provisional Ballot on our website.



DID YOU KNOW?

Florida's Closed Primary Elections

You are not required to choose a political party, however, Florida has Closed Primaries. In a Closed Primary, you are eligible to vote in a partisan primary race only if you are a registered member of the political party in the race. You may not participate in more than one political party's primary race. Party affiliation changes must be made 29 days before a Primary Election. In cases where a primary candidate faces no opposition in a General Election, the closed primary race becomes a "universal" primary race where voters may "cross" party lines to vote for a candidate.

Note: In Leon County's Primary Election there are many non partisan races that voters will be eligible for regardless of party affiliation. General Elections are open to voters regardless of party affiliation.

Registration With Special Circumstances

If you are homeless you may register to vote using a shelter address as your residence and if you have a place where you receive your mail, that address should be used as your mailing address. If you are U.S. military, or a U.S. citizen residing overseas more detailed voter registration information can be obtained at www.FVAP.gov.

You may also view information about Voting By Mail on our website: **LeonVotes.org**, or call our office at **(850) 606-VOTE (8683)**.

College Students in Leon County May Vote

If you reside in Leon County for school you are eligible to register to vote here. This may be the most convenient option considering that many voting precincts are located on or near our local campuses.

If you choose to maintain your voter registration at your parent's residence, you must request a Mail Ballot from that Florida County, or State jurisdiction.

This information is subject to change by Legislative Action. Updates will be posted on our website **LeonVotes.org** as well as on the Florida Division of Elections' website.

NOTES

NOTES



VOTER'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

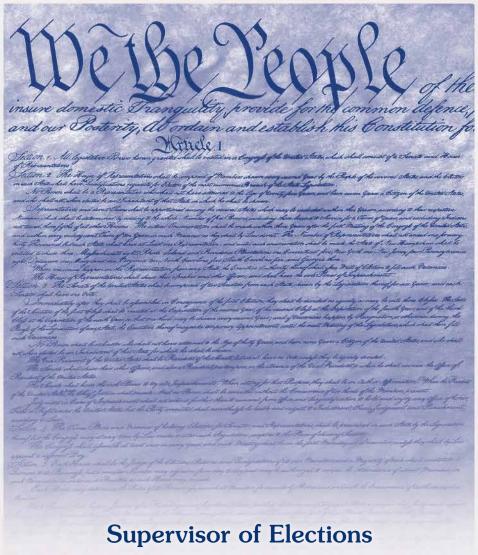
- 1. Vote and have her or his vote accurately counted.
- 2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
- 3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
- 4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
- 5. An explanation if her or his registration or identity is in question.
- 6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a Provisional Ballot.
- 7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from Elections Officers.
- 8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by Elections Officers or any other person.
- 9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.



VOTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Each registered voter in this state should:

- 1. Familiarize herself or himself with the candidates and issues.
- $2.\,Maintain\ with\ the\ office\ of\ the\ Supervisor\ of\ Elections\ a\ current\ address.$
- 3. Know the location of her or his polling place and its hours of operation.
- 4. Bring proper identification to the polling station.
- 5. Familiarize herself or himself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.
- 6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
- 7. Respect the privacy of other voters.
- 8. Report any problems or violations of Election laws to the Supervisor of Elections.
- 9. Ask questions, if needed.
- 10. Make sure that her or his completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station.



(850) 606-VOTE (8683)

email us at

Vote@LeonCountyFL.gov

or visit our website

LeonVotes.org

Voter Fraud Hotline (in English and Español): Toll Free 1-877-868-3737

To file a formal complaint regarding irregularities or fraud involving voter registration, voting, candidate petition, or issue petition activities, M-F 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. EST.