PREP for the POLLS

COLUMBIA, S.C. (January 2, 2024) – The State Election Commission is reminding voters that the registration deadline for the Democratic Presidential Primary is right around the corner. Voters **must** register by **Thursday, January 4** to be eligible to vote in the Primary. The deadline for the Republican Presidential Primary is on **Thursday, January 23**.

There are several ways to register:

- Register online at **scVOTES.gov** (information must be current with the DMV).
- Download a voter registration form from **scVOTES.gov**. Complete and return the form to your **county voter registration office** by fax, email, or mail.
- Register in person at your **county voter registration office**.

Already registered? Check your registration at scVOTES.gov today to make sure your address is up to date:

- If you have moved from one county to another, you must register in your new county by the deadline to be eligible to vote.
- If you've moved within your county or changed your name recently, update your information prior to election day to help ensure a smoother voting process.

Visit **scVOTES.gov** to find all the information you need to get Prepped for the Polls, including the 2024 **Voter/Absentee Go-To Guides**. Follow us on **Facebook**, **Instagram** and **Twitter** for more election updates.

PREP for the POLLS

VOTER GO-TO GUIDE

2024 Presidential Primaries
February 3 & February 24

Pick your Primary
- You can only vote in one primary.
  - The Democratic Presidential Primary is on February 3.
  - The Republican Presidential Primary is on February 24.

Registration
- Register by the deadline.
  - You must register by January 4 to vote in the Democratic Presidential Primary.
  - You must register by January 25 to vote in the Republican Presidential Primary.
- Register online at scVOTES.gov (requires Driver's License or DMV ID).
- Download and print an application at scVOTES.gov, complete it, and return it by mail, fax, or email to your county elections office.
  - If you have moved from one county to another, you must register in your new county to be eligible to vote.
  - If you've moved within your county or changed your name recently, update your information before election day to help ensure a smoother voting experience.
- Educate yourself on the candidates and issues by seeing who will be on your ballot at scVOTES.gov.
- **Make sure you have one of the following Photo IDs: SC Driver's License, SC DMV ID Card, SC Voter Registration Card with Photos, Federal Military ID, or US Passport.**
  - If you do not have one of the Photo IDs, make your voting experience fast and easy by getting a free one from the DMV or your county elections office.
  - If you forget to bring your Photo ID to the polling place, you can vote a provisional ballot that will count only if you show your Photo ID to the county elections office before the certification of the election (on Friday after the General Election).
  - If you can't get a Photo ID, remember to bring your non-photo voter registration card with you to the polling place. You may vote a provisional ballot after signing an affidavit stating you have a reasonable impediment to obtaining a Photo ID.

You're halfway there, now pick how you want to vote!

Vote Early
- Any voter can vote early at any early voting center in their county during the early voting period. Go to an early voting center in your county, present your Photo ID, and vote using the voting system like you would at your polling place on Election Day.
  - **The early voting period for the Democratic Presidential Primary starts on Monday, January 22, and ends Friday, February 2.**
  - **The early voting period for the Republican Presidential Primary starts Monday, February 12, and ends on Thursday, February 22.**
  - **Early voting centers are open 8:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. during the early voting periods.**
- Visit scVOTES.gov to find early voting locations in your county.

Vote Absentee
- Qualified voters can vote absentee by mail. An example of a qualified voter could be a person with a physical disability or someone who is age 65 or older.
  - To vote absentee by mail, get your application by contacting your county elections office.
- To learn more about absentee voting go to scVOTES.gov or see our absentee voting go-to guide.

Vote on Election Day
- Vote at your polling place on election day. Polls are open 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Find your polling place address at scVOTES.gov.
- **Don't forget to bring your Photo ID to the polling place.**

Find results & stay up to date on all election information at scVOTES.gov.
Follow scVOTES on

every vote matters.
every vote counts.

SOUTH CAROLINA
ELECTION COMMISSION

PREP for the POLLS

ABSENTEE VOTER GO-TO GUIDE
2024 Presidential Primaries
February 3 & February 24

What is absentee voting?
- Absentee voting allows qualified voters to cast a ballot by mail prior to election day.

Who can vote absentee?
- Only voters who have a qualifying reason can vote absentee. Common qualifying reasons can be:
  - Having a physical disability.
  - Being age 65 and older.
- For a full list of qualifying reasons, visit our absentee voting page on scVOTES.gov.

Step 1: Get your application
- You can submit your request for an application as early as January 1 of the election year.
- Call, visit, or send your request by U.S. mail to your county voter registration office.
  - You must provide your name, date of birth, and last four digits of your Social Security Number.
  - You will be mailed an application.

Step 2: Complete, sign, and return the application
- Return the application by U.S. mail or personal delivery to your county voter registration office as soon as possible.
- The deadline to return your application is 5:00 p.m. on:
  - **Democratic Presidential Primary – January 23.**
  - **Republican Presidential Primary – February 13.**
- You will receive your absentee ballot in the mail after your application is returned.

Step 3: Return your absentee ballot
- Return your ballot to your county voter registration office or an early voting center either by mail or personal delivery.
- You must present a Photo ID when returning the ballot in person.

- Acceptable Photo IDs include:
  - Driver's license issued by a state within the United States.
  - Another form of identification containing a photograph issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles or its equivalent by a state within the United States.
  - US Passport.
  - Military identification containing a photograph issued by the federal government.
  - South Carolina voter registration card containing a photograph of the voter.
- Place the ballot in the "ballot here-in" envelope and place the "ballot here-in" envelope in the return envelope.
  - Be sure to sign the voter's oath and have your signature witnessed.
  - Anyone age 18 or older can witness your signature. A notary is not necessary.
- Ballots must be received by your county voter registration office by 7:00 p.m. on:
  - **Democratic Presidential Primary – February 3.**
  - **Republican Presidential Primary – February 24.**
- Ballots returned by mail should be mailed no later than one week prior to election day to help ensure timely delivery.
- Visit scVOTES.gov to find information about how immediate family members and authorized representatives can make an absentee request or return a ballot for another person. All requestors are limited to five requests in addition to their own per election.

How can I track the status of my absentee request?
- Check the status of your absentee request and track your ballot online at scVOTES.gov. You can also contact your county voter registration office for updates regarding your absentee ballot.

Military and Overseas Citizens
- Special provisions are available for military and overseas citizens. Go to scVOTES.gov or FVAP.gov for more information.

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SOUTH CAROLINA
ELECTION COMMISSION

2024 Schedule of Elections

February 3,2024-Democrat Primary

- Early Voting Jan 22-27 and Jan 29-Feb 2(8:30am-6:00pm)

February 24,2024-Republican Primary

- Early Voting Feb 12-17 and Feb 20-22 (8:30am-6:00pm)

June 11,2024-Statewide Primary

- Early Voting May 28-June 7 (8:30am-5:00pm)

June 25,2024-Primary Runoff

- Early Voting June 19-June21 (8:30am-5:00pm)

November 5, 2024- Statewide General

- Early Voting October21-November 2 (8:30am-5:00pm)

Candidate Filling

- March 16th 12:00 noon- April 1st 12:00 noon