Frequently Asked Questions for Voters

Who can register to vote?
To be eligible to vote in Connecticut you must:
   Be a United States Citizen. Be a resident of a Connecticut town.
   Be at least 17 years old, provided that you will be 18 years old on Election Day.

Once I register to vote, do I ever have to reregister?
Yes, if you move your residence within your town or to another town, change your name, or alter your party enrollment.

Can I vote with a felony conviction?
Yes, if released from confinement and parole, if applicable. CT residents on probation can vote. See document entitled “Restoration of Voting Rights for Person with Felony Convictions.”

Can victims of crimes and domestic violence use a substitute address?
YES!!! The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) provides service to victims of crime. Call the Office of the Secretary of State at 1-860-509-6000 for specific information.

How do I know that my registration has been received and approved?
Within 3 weeks of handing in your registration, you should receive an approval form from the Registrar of Voters. If you do not receive the approval, then you should contact the Registrar of Voters.

Do I need to bring Identification when voting?
YES!!! Everyone needs to show proof of identification at the polls. Acceptable forms of ID are:
   (A) Your name and address
   (B) Your name and signature or
   (C) Your name and photo. If you forget to bring your ID, then you can sign a list under penalty of a false statement, verifying your identification. Not having an acceptable form of ID does not take away your right to vote.

Is my vote secret?
YES!!! You do not have to tell anyone how you vote in elections.

What Do I do if I have a disability and I need help voting?
Federal statutes, such as the “Help America Vote Act,” require that persons with a disability are able to vote privately and independently. If the polling place that you have been assigned is not able to meet your needs, then call the Office of the Secretary of State at 1-860-509-6000 for specific information.

What is an absentee ballot, and when can it be used?
An absentee ballot allows individuals to vote if they can’t be at their designated polling place on Election Day. Absentee ballots may be obtained through your Town Clerk in advance of the election.

When should I hand in my registration card in order to vote in this year’s election?
If you are going to mail in your voter registration card then it must be postmarked by October 21st. If you are going to hand deliver your card to the registrar of voters, it must be handed in by October 28th.

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