

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE in the NOVEMBER ELECTION?

The general election may be a few months off, but it is time to think about voter registration. U.S. citizens who will be 18 years old or older on election day are eligible to vote, but they must register to vote at least 15 days prior to the election. The deadline to register in California is October 19, 2020. Your registration must be submitted online or be postmarked no later than October 19.

Those who are 16 or 17 years old may pre-register to vote online or with a paper form. Their registrations will be automatically activated as soon as they turn 18.

How to register to vote in Santa Cruz County:

The easiest way to register to vote is online. You can fill out the voter registration form and submit it electronically on the County's election website, votescount.com. To submit the application online, you must provide your California Driver's license or identification number, date of birth, and last four digits of your social security number. If an exact match is found with your DMV record and an electronic signature image is available, your application will be complete. If there are any problems with your information, the online system will generate a printable, pre-filled voter registration application and instruct you to print, sign and mail it to your county elections office.

If you prefer, you can fill out a paper Voter Registration Card and return it to the County Elections Office. Forms are available at the Elections Office, post offices, government offices, public libraries and the DMV. You may also request that a Voter Registration Card be mailed to you by calling the Santa Cruz County Elections office at 831-454-2060 or 866-282-5900.

Who needs to re-register to vote?

You need to re-register to vote if you have moved, changed your name, or if your signature has changed. To re-register, you must complete a new voter registration card or fill out the form online at registertovote.ca.gov. *Submitting a change of address with the post office does not automatically update your voter registration.*

If you haven't moved, but have changed where you get your mail, you can use a simple online form to provide the Elections Office with your new mailing address.

Voters living overseas and members of the military

You must register and request a vote-by-mail ballot by completing the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and submitting it to the County Elections Office. For California voters, the website is www.fvap.gov/california. Voters who are residents of Santa Cruz County must mail their FPCA to Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections, 701 Ocean St., Room 210, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. FPCA cards may also be faxed or emailed as long as the hard copy with the original signature is mailed. FAX number is 831-454-2445 and email John Beck at john.beck@santacruzcounty.us. Ballots should be requested by early September, as military and overseas ballots will be sent out from September 4-19.