Registering to Vote as a Student

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who is eligible to vote in Minnesota?
A: You may register and vote in Minnesota if you:
- Will be at least 18 years of age on Election Day (November 6, 2012)
- Are a citizen of the United States
- Will have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding Election Day
- Have any felony conviction record discharged, expired, or completed
- Are not under court-ordered guardianship where a court has revoked your voting rights
- Have not been ruled legally incompetent by a court of law

Q: How do I register to vote?
A: Fill out a Voter Registration form and get it to your local election official.

Q: Can I vote in Minnesota if my permanent address is in another state?
A: Yes, so long as you have lived in Minnesota for at least 20 days immediately preceding Election Day. For instance, if you have lived in a dormitory for at least 20 days before Election Day, you may register and vote in Minnesota.

Q: If my permanent address is in Minnesota, but it is not my school address, can I vote at my school address?
A: Yes. You can register and vote at your school address, so long as you have lived there for 20 days. For example, if you live with your parents when you are not at College, you can register and vote at your school address, so long as you've been there for 20 days.

Q: What if I've already registered to vote or have voted before at a different address?
A: If the location at which you currently reside is different from where you lived when you registered or voted last, you should re-register for your current school residence.

Q: Will registering to vote at my school address change my permanent residence or affect my financial aid?
A: Absolutely not. Registering to vote at your school address will in no way affect your permanent residency or Financial Aid package; it will simply allow you to vote at your school address.

Q: What if I will be studying abroad on Election Day?
A: You should register to vote and then vote absentee. Voting absentee is easy. Go to http://www.sos.state.mn.us/, download and send in your “Absentee Ballot Application” and an absentee ballot will be sent to you.