

III. STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

STUDENT VOTING INFORMATION

Mount St. Joseph University provides election services to all students free of charge. To access our election services, please stop by the Service Learning & Civic Engagement Office in the Career & Experiential Education Center, or contact the Associate Director of Service Learning & Civic Engagement at 513-244-4634. There, we can help you:

- Register to vote/check your voter registration status
- Submit your absentee ballot request
- Ascertain your voter identification requirements
- Identify your polling location
- Access official issue and candidate lists

How do I know if I am eligible to register to vote?

You are eligible to register to vote in Ohio if you meet all the following requirements:

- You are a citizen of the United States;
- You will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the next general election. (If you will be 18 on or before the general election, you may vote in the primary election to nominate candidates, but you cannot vote on issues or party central committees until you are 18);
- You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote;
- You are not incarcerated (in prison or jail) for a felony conviction under the laws of this state, another state, or the United States;
- You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court; and
- You have not been permanently disenfranchised for violating the election laws.
- You are eligible to vote in elections held in your voting precinct 30 days after you are duly registered to vote in this state. You may request an absentee ballot during that 30- day period.

May a college student register and vote from his or her school address in Ohio?

It depends. A college student may vote using his or her Ohio school residence address if the student does not intend to return to a different permanent address. When a college student registers to vote from his or her school address, the school residence is considered to be the place to which the student's habitation is fixed and to which, whenever the student is absent, the student intends to return, and is considered by the student to be his or her permanent residence at the time of voting. Any other previous residence for voting purposes is no longer valid. It is illegal for a person to register and vote from two different addresses.

Registering at your campus address will not:

- Affect your federal financial aid;
- Prevent your parents from claiming you as a dependent on their taxes;
- Cost you any scholarships, unless they're tied to specific residency requirements;
- Affect your tuition status as an in-state or out-of-state student.

How can I vote absentee by mail?

All Ohio voters have the opportunity to vote in the next election from the convenience of their own homes by requesting an absentee ballot. You can request your ballot for each individual election beginning on January 1 or 90 days before the date of an election, whichever is earlier, but you must complete and submit a separate application for each election in which you want to vote. Your request must be received by your local county board of elections by noon the third day before the election (usually a Saturday).

However, you should submit your request as far in advance of the election as possible to ensure there is sufficient time for the board to mail you a ballot and for you to timely return that ballot.

<https://www.sos.state.oh.us/elections/voters/absentee-voting/>

What are ID requirements for voting?

To vote, whether at the polls or absentee, you will need one of these:

- An unexpired Ohio driver's license or current state ID card (for absentee, the license number will do);
- The last four digits for your SSN (for absentee only);
- Or a current military ID, utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government documents, including photo ID (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows your current name and address, including from a public college or university. If you're a student living on campus, your school may issue a current utility bill with a current address that you can use as voter ID, including a zero-balance bill indicating that you've already paid for utilities as part of your housing fee. Copies or originals of these documents are acceptable.