

Voter Education FAQs

Q: Where is the best place to find information about elections and voting in New York State?

A: The New York State Board of Elections and the County Boards of Elections across the state are the best sources for factual information about elections and voting. While outside groups may want to be helpful by communicating with voters, going to the source is the safest way to ensure the voter is receiving accurate information.

Q: What can a voter do to help prevent the spread of misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation (MDM) about elections and voting?

A: First and foremost, a voter should always go to the New York State Board of Elections and the County Boards of Elections for information about elections and voting. The State Board maintains an updated website with current information about upcoming elections, deadlines, and processes, as well as uses social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and X to communicate with New Yorkers regularly. County Boards of Elections also have websites, and many use social media too. Secondly, MDM tends to thrive in an absence of facts, so the best defense against these is for voters to arm themselves with correct information ahead of time (and ignore/dismiss MDM when it surfaces). Third, voters should take care to not spread MDM (intentionally or accidentally). MDM frequently preys on emotion particularly fear and anger - so if a voter sees something that causes an emotional response, the voter should verify the claim before spreading it further.



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Q: Where can voters learn about who has filed to run for elective office and the campaign finances of candidates and committees?

A: Both the New York State Board of Elections and the County Boards of Elections websites disclose who has submitted ballot access documents to run for office in races in which they certify. The State Board handles ballot access for federal, statewide, and state level offices where the district lines cross county borders. The County Boards handle ballot access for all local offices, as well as for state level offices contained within a single county. All candidates and committees for all state and local offices must register and file campaign finance disclosures with the New York State Board of Elections. All submissions can be searched on the Public Reporting application.

Q: How else can New Yorkers engage in the electoral process?

A: Besides learning about elections and voting from the New York State Board of Elections and the County Boards of Elections (from election officials, websites, social media accounts, etc.), New Yorkers have options to engage more with the electoral process in the state. New Yorkers can:

- Ensure their <u>voter registration</u> is up to date.
- <u>Make a plan to vote</u> by reviewing options to vote by mail or in person.
- Serve as a <u>poll worker</u> during Early Voting and/or Election Day to help your neighbors vote.
- Run for elective office in your community.



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Is there a question we haven't answered?

Feel free to reach out to us by calling

(518) 474-6220



