

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

STUDENTS VOTE PROJECT



**2025 Statewide
Special Election**

**College Student Voter
Resource Guide**

Register to Vote



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California Secretary of State



STUDENTS**VOTE****PROJECT**
CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

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California Students Vote Project Overview

California Students Vote Project

Established in 2016, the California Secretary of State (SOS) Students Vote Project (SVP) is a statewide nonpartisan program that elevates college student voices and promotes civic engagement efforts to build a more inclusive democracy. Through the creation of the Students Vote Project, California was the first state in the nation to build partnerships across the state's major higher education systems to empower students to participate in the democratic process. Program objectives include increasing college student voter education, voter registration, and outreach. The SVP achieves these objectives by hosting civic engagement events, creating educational resources, and partnering with campuses and outreach organizations.

Student Civic and Voter Empowerment Act (SCVEA)

In 2019, the Student Civic and Voter Empowerment Act ([California Education Code §66850-66852; California Elections Code §2148.5](#)) was enacted to give California colleges and universities the necessary tools to increase civic engagement and participation among young voters. In 2020, the California Secretary of State Students Vote Project was expanded to support and ensure implementation of the landmark law. The law requires the California SOS to work directly with the California Community Colleges (CCCs) and California State Universities (CSUs) to increase college student voter registration. Colleges and universities are encouraged to participate in SVP civic learning opportunities to receive and distribute voter education resources. While the University of California (UC) and the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU) campuses are not required to participate, they continue to be strong partners and supporters of student civic engagement.

To learn more about how your campus can implement the SCVEA, please view the [Student Civic and Voter Empowerment Act Implementation Guide](#).

Understanding the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election

What is Proposition 50?

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Proposition 50 (Prop 50) seeks to replace California's current congressional district maps with new legislatively drawn maps. If Prop 50 passes, the state would use Prop 50's maps for congressional elections starting in 2026. The state would use these congressional maps until the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) draws new congressional maps, following the 2030 U.S. Census.

What Does a YES Vote on Prop 50 Mean?

A **YES** vote on this measure means: The state would use new legislatively drawn congressional district maps starting in 2026. California's new congressional maps would be used until the Commission draws new maps following the 2030 U.S. Census.

What Does a NO Vote on Prop 50 Mean?

A **NO** vote on this measure means: Current congressional district maps drawn by the Commission would continue to be used in California until the Commission draws new maps following the 2030 U.S. Census.



Understanding the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election (Continued)

Important Dates and Deadlines

All California active registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot for the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election. To check your voter registration status, visit: <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov>.

- **Tuesday, October 7:** Ballot drop-off locations opened.
 - Vote-by-mail ballots can be returned by mail, at a drop-off location, or your county elections office. To find a location, visit: <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov>.
- **Monday, October 20:** The last day to [register online to vote](#) for the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election.
- **Tuesday, October 21 - Tuesday, November 4:** [Same Day Voter Registration](#) (Conditional Voter Registration) is available. Voters can use the Same Day Voter Registration process during this time.
- **Saturday, October 25:** Vote centers open for early in-person voting in all [Voter's Choice Act](#) counties.
- **Tuesday, November 4:** Election Day – Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 - Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by November 12, 2025.

For more information on the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election, please visit vote.ca.gov or view the [state voter information guide](#).



Make a Plan to Vote

College Student Voter Checklist

The deadline to register online to vote or update your registration is **Monday, October 20, 2025**. Make sure you are prepared to vote on Election Day, **Tuesday, November 4, 2025**, by completing the college student voter checklist below.



Register to Vote

- Register to vote or update your voter registration information as early as possible at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/collegestudents> to ensure your vote-by-mail ballot is sent to the correct address.



Choose How You Will Vote:

- **Vote by Mail:** Every active registered voter will receive a vote-by-mail ballot for the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election. Voting by mail is a safe and secure way to return your ballot.
- **Vote in Person:** In person voting locations offer important resources such as Same Day Voter Registration, ADA accommodations, replacement ballots, and other support in various languages.



Identify When and Where You Will Vote:

- **Early in Person:** All counties in California offer early in-person voting opportunities; visit <https://caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov> to find your nearest vote center or polling location.
- **Early by Mail:** Mark your ballot, sign the ballot return envelope, and place it in the mail early. Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by November 12, 2025.
- **Secured Drop Box:** Mark your ballot, sign the ballot return envelope, and place it in a secure drop box no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. The secure drop box are clearly and visibly marked as an "Official Ballot Drop Box" that shows language stating that tampering with the drop box is a felony.
- **Election Day:** Polling locations and vote centers will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. If you are in line by 8:00 p.m., then you have the right to vote. Stay in line until you are able to cast your ballot. For more information, view the [Voter Bill of Rights](#).



Voter Outreach Materials



- **Sample Email Message**
- **Voter Education Social Media Graphics**
- **College Student Voter Registration Website Button**
- **Voter Education Posters (16 in x 20 in)**
- **Voter Education Television Graphics**

The sample email message and graphics below can help prepare and inform college students for the upcoming Statewide Special Election. While we encourage campuses to create their own messages, these sample materials will help explain critical election dates and information.



Key Election Information and Dates Email

New Message

To

Cc Bcc

Subject Are You Ready? (November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election)

Hello <Campus Mascot>,

California has an upcoming Statewide Special Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Below is important information to help prepare voters on California college and university campuses to participate in the election.

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For more information on the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election, please visit vote.ca.gov or view the [state voter information guide](#).

Make a plan to vote, stay informed, and share this important information with friends and classmates!

Best,
<Insert Name/Department/School>

Send



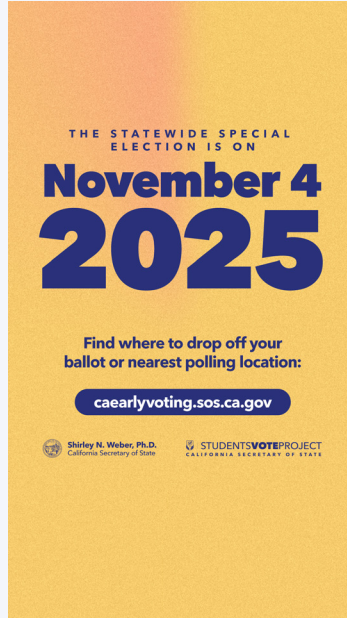
Voter Education Social Media Graphics

Graphic Set One



Instagram

Download



Snapchat

Download



Facebook

Download



X

Download

Graphic Set Two



Instagram

Download



Snapchat

Download



Facebook

Download



X

Download

Voter Education Social Media Graphics (Continued)

Graphic Set Three



Instagram

Download



Snapchat

Download



X

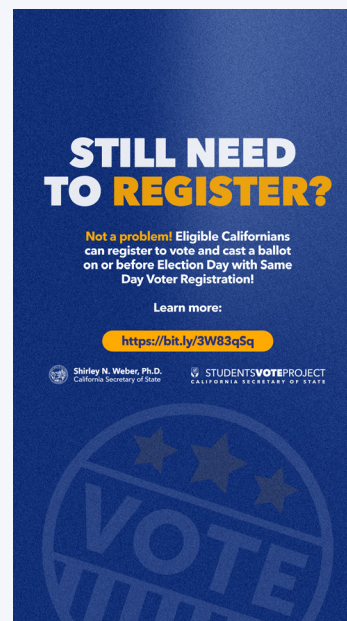
Download

Graphic Set Four



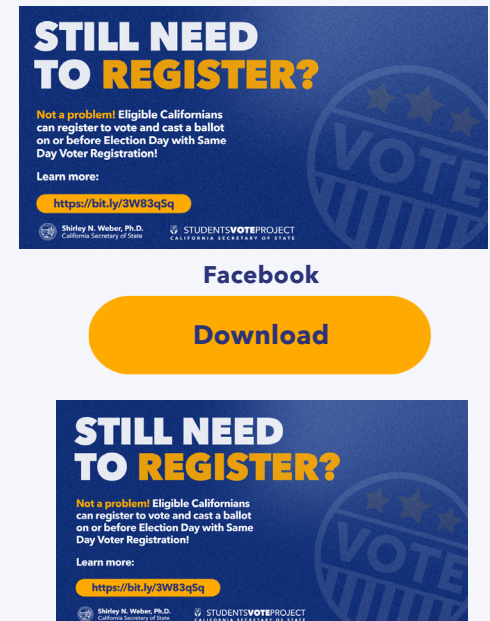
Instagram

Download



Snapchat

Download



X

Download

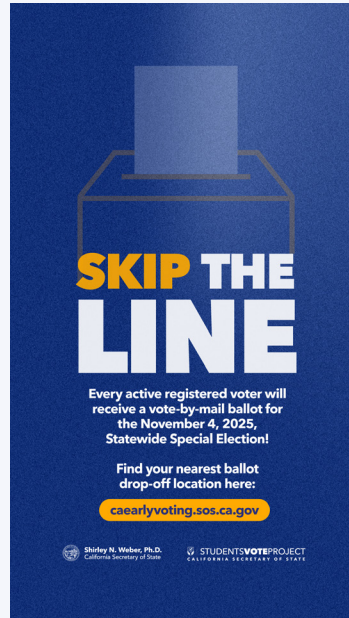
Voter Education Social Media Graphics (Continued)

Graphic Set Five



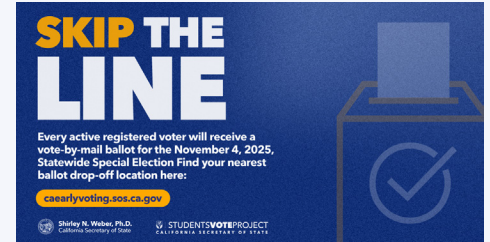
Instagram

Download



Snapchat

Download



Facebook

Download



X

Download

College Student Voter Registration Website Button



To share the college student voter registration link on a campus website, follow the instructions below:

Copy and paste the sample code to your web page.

```
<a href="https://registertovote.ca.gov/?t=s"></a>
```

Note: This website button leads to the college student voter registration link (<https://registertovote.ca.gov/collegestudents>), and will allow the name of the college you attend to be included in your voter registration.

Voter Education Posters (16 in x 20 in)



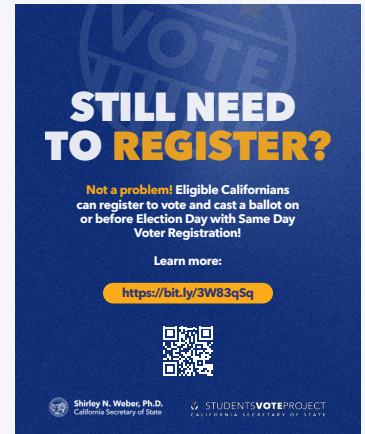
Download



Download



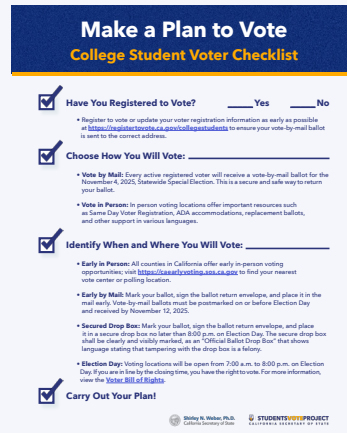
Download



Download



Download



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Voter Education Television Graphics (1920px x 1080 px)



Download



Download



Download



Download



Download

