



# YOUR VOTING GUIDE FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

# YOUR VOICE MATTERS.

Voting is one way we can all take back power and make sure our voices are heard. It's more than just a choice—it's a chance to create real change.

We know that many survivors of domestic violence face barriers that can keep voting out of reach. We understand how complex and personal these challenges can be. But your voice is important, and your lived experience matters in shaping a world where healing, safety, and support are the norm, not the exception.

For advocates, this is an opportunity to support survivors in reclaiming their power through voting. Whether you're navigating the system yourself or working alongside someone who is, each vote can help move us closer to a community where we all have what we need to thrive.

# THIS ELECTION, WE'RE ASKING YOU TO DO THREE THINGS TO MAKE AN IMPACT:

# 1

**Register to vote** at [VoteWA.gov](https://VoteWA.gov) or in person if you're eligible.

# 2

**Make a voting plan.** Think about which candidates align with your values and which issues are important to you.

# 3

**Share this information with five people** in your community before election day on November 5, 2024!

Casting your ballot is important but imagine the impact we could have by engaging our whole community to vote! Voter engagement helps uplift our issues, bring them into public policy discussions, and advance our mission to achieve a world free from violence.

# KEY DATES FOR THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

**OCTOBER 18** The 18-day voting period begins and ballots are mailed.

**OCTOBER 28** Last day to register to vote online or by mail (you can register in person up to Election Day).

**NOVEMBER 5** Election Day! Drop off your ballot at an official drop box by 8:00pm or make sure it is postmarked today if you are mailing it.



## VOTER ELIGIBILITY

In order to register to vote in Washington State, you must be:

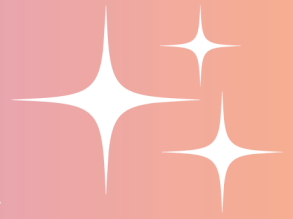
- A citizen of the United States;
- A legal resident of Washington State;
- At least 18 years old by election day;
- Not under the authority of Department of Corrections;
- Not disqualified from voting due to a court order.

**THERE'S REALLY NO  
SUCH THING AS THE  
"VOICELESS."**

**THERE ARE ONLY  
THE DELIBERATELY  
SILENCED, OR THE  
PREFERABLY  
UNHEARD.**

**ARUNDHATI ROY**

# ALL ABOUT VOTING FAQ



## **Does Washington State have automatic voter registration?**

No, you must register online at [VoteWA.gov](https://VoteWA.gov), by mail, or in person.

## **Do I have to vote in person?**

No, Washington is a vote-by-mail state. Return your ballot by drop box or mail by Election Day.

## **I lost my ballot! What should I do?**

Request a replacement from your county elections office or go in person if close to Election Day.

## **It's Election Day and I haven't registered yet. Can I still vote?**

Yes! Go to your county elections office to register in person.

## **Can I vote if I don't have a traditional home address?**

Yes! You can use a shelter, a park, a marina, or any other location where you stay. You will need to provide a mailing address to receive your ballot—you can use the address of a shelter, a friend or family member, or general delivery at a post office.

## **Can I vote if I have a felony conviction?**

Yes! As long as you are no longer under the authority of the Department of Corrections, your right to vote is restored automatically. You will still need to register to vote even if you were registered before.

## **I am from Washington, but I'm attending college in another state. Where do I vote?**

It's up to you whether you want to vote in the state you're currently residing or in Washington state. You can use your home (permanent) address if you'd like, or you can re-register in your new county.

## **What is the Future Voter Program for 16- and 17-year-olds??**

In Washington state, 16- and 17-year-olds can sign up as Future Voters and be automatically registered to vote when they become eligible.

## **I have a disability. How can I make sure that voting will be accessible for me?**

As a voter with a disability, you have the right to request reasonable accommodation or assistance with voting. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact your county elections office.

## **What about safety and confidentiality for survivors of domestic violence?**

Personal voter information including your address **can** be made available through public inquiry. To keep your address confidential, you can enroll in the WA State Address Confidentiality Program (ACP), a program that issues you a substitute mailing address. Make sure you update your voter registration with your substitute address.

## **I am enrolled in the Address Confidentiality Program. How do I vote?**

If you are already enrolled in the ACP, registering to vote will be different for you. Call the ACP at 360-753-2972 and they will send you a form so that you can be a Protected Records Voter.



# WHAT CAN I DO IF I AM NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

Not everyone is able to vote. Barriers like immigration status, age, or criminal convictions mean that a lot of people are left out of the voting process, even though the decisions being made directly impact them.

But there are many ways to stay engaged in shaping the future. You can educate and mobilize eligible voters and share information about issues that are important to you and your community. You can also influence local

decisions by attending city council meetings or joining neighborhood coalitions.

Using your voice is a form of power too. Whether it's through storytelling, advocacy, or direct action, you have the ability to shape public opinion and inspire others to act. It's not just about one vote—it's about building momentum, creating connections, and working toward a world where everyone's voice counts, no matter their voting status.



## Stay Informed

Stay up-to-date by reading trusted news outlets, fact-checking information, and signing up for action alerts or newsletters from organizations that align with your values. Libraries are also great resources for learning about the Constitution and political systems.

## Participate

Attend local government meetings and advocate for policies that support your community.

## Build Community

Volunteer, rally neighbors around local issues, and start community projects like murals or book clubs. Getting to know marginalized neighbors can help strengthen your community.

## Get Social

Host events like debate watch parties, support value-aligned businesses, and share important information with friends and family.

# TAKING ACTION BEYOND THE BALLOT

# NONPROFITS AND VOTING



**As a 501(c)(3) organization, you can:**

**Promote Voter Registration:** Conduct drives, encourage registration on your site, or send voting reminders.

**Help Survivors Vote:** Provide registration info, assist with forms, or help secure a mailing address for ballots.

**Host Candidate Forums:** Organize nonpartisan forums for all candidates or encourage attendance at others.

**Distribute Voter Guides:** Share sample ballots or trusted nonpartisan guides.

**Advocate for Ballot Measures:** Engage in issue advocacy and educate on ballot measures within lobbying limits.

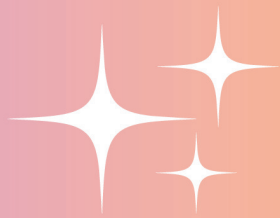
**However, you cannot:**

- Endorse or contribute to candidates.
- Rank or rate candidates.
- Allow candidates to use your facilities without equal access for all.



**Learn more at**  
**[wscadv.org/gotv](https://wscadv.org/gotv)**

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WASHINGTON STATE COALITION

**WSCADV**

AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE