Registration Deadlines and Election Dates
General Election Registration Deadline: October 9, 2012 by mail; October 22, 2012 in person
General Election: November 6, 2012

Where to vote
Polling place locator online at VOTE.UTAH.GOV.

Voters must cast their ballots in the correct precinct. Sometimes there are multiple precincts in one polling place, so confirm your precinct ahead of time and get in the correct line!

Register at School or Home?

Registering to vote at a school residence: Students can establish residency in Utah and register to vote there if they have a present intention to remain at their Utah school address and they do not intend to return to their prior residence after finishing college. Students who declare their school address as a legal residence are eligible to vote even if they are classified as “out of state” by their college or university.

Out-of-state students do not need to obtain a Utah driver’s license or register their car in Utah if they want to vote in the state. However, they may have to update their driver’s licenses and vehicle registrations as residents of the state. For more information, you may wish to contact the Utah Driver License Division.

Additionally, to avoid an eligibility challenge at the polls, first time voters with an out-of-state driver’s license should bring an alternative form of acceptable identification if they are a first time voter (see below under ID Requirements and Students IDs).

Registering to vote at a home residence:
Some students may choose to register or remain registered at their home (prior) address if they intend to return there after college. In this case, a student may need to vote by absentee ballot.

Voting By Absentee Ballot
Utah residents may vote by absentee ballot in Utah without providing a reason for doing so.

Applications may be completed online, mailed or delivered in person to the applicable county clerk’s office. Applications must be received no later than the Friday before Election Day.

If submitted by hand, completed ballots must be returned by the Friday before Election Day. If submitted by mail, completed ballots must be postmarked by the day before Election Day and received in the office of the election officer by the time ballots are fully counted.

Out-of-state students who are considering voting absentee in their home state outside of Utah should first determine absentee requirements for their state. Some states do not allow voting by mail for first-time voters. Also, some states require copies of identification be mailed with an absentee ballot. Out-of-state students should determine if they want to vote absentee in another state or register in Utah before the Utah registration deadline.
According to the U.S. Supreme Court, students have the right to register and vote in their college towns if they meet the same requirements as everyone else. Misinformation, such as claims that registering to vote at school may jeopardize eligibility for financial aid or insurance, are sometimes used to discourage students from voting locally.

**ID Requirements & Student IDs**

All Utah voters will be asked to present valid identification (“ID”) to a poll worker. Acceptable ID must have the name and photograph of the voter and include:

- a current valid Utah driver’s license;
- a current valid ID card issued by the state or federal government;
- a Utah concealed weapon permit;
- a U.S. passport;
- a current valid U.S. military ID card;
- a Bureau of Indian Affairs card (with or without picture)
- a tribal treaty card (with or without picture); or
- a tribal ID card (with or without picture).

In the alternative, a voter may provide two forms of ID that bear the name of the voter and provide evidence that the voter resides in the precinct. One of these forms of ID may be a Utah student ID. Other forms may include:

- a current utility bill, dated within the 90 days before the election;
- a bank or other financial account statement; a certified birth certificate;
- a valid Social Security card;
- a check issued by the state or the federal government;
- a paycheck from the voter’s employer;
- a currently valid Utah hunting or fishing license;
- certified naturalization documentation;
- a currently valid license issued by an authorized agency of the United States;
- a certified copy of court records showing the voter’s adoption or name change;
- a valid Medicaid card, Medicare card, or Electronic Benefits Transfer Card;
- a currently valid identification card issued by a local government within the state or an employer for an employee; or
- a current Utah vehicle registration.

Voters without ID may cast a provisional ballot. For that provisional ballot to be counted, the voter must go to the county clerk’s office by the close of business on the Monday following the election and show valid identification.

**First Time Voters**

While Utah does not, some states require voters to turn up in person the first time they vote in the state or in a new county. If your home state has this requirement, you should make sure you will be able to go in person to the relevant polling place on Election Day. If not, you should consider registering in Utah instead.

www.campusvoteproject.org
A Project of the Fair Elections Legal Network
Common Questions from Out-of-State Students

**Will I lose my scholarship if I register to vote in Utah?**

If you receive scholarship money from a state, county or town, or a private entity (i.e. an entity other than the federal government) you should confirm with the entity providing the scholarship that residency in a particular place is not a requirement of the scholarship and/or that voter registration in Utah will not affect your eligibility.

**Will registering to vote in Utah affect my driver’s license or car registration?**

With few exceptions, registering to vote in Utah will have no impact on changing your driver’s license and motor vehicle registration. However, as a full-time student in Utah, you may have to make these changes regardless of whether you register to vote in Utah. For more information, you may wish to contact the Utah Driver License Division.

**Will voting in Utah affect my federal financial aid?**

Federal financial aid such as Pell Grants and Perkins and Stafford loans will not be affected by where you register to vote. Registering in Utah will also not affect your dependency status regarding FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

**What do residency and domicile mean?**

Residency and domicile are legal terms that states use to describe where you currently live and where you intend to remain for the foreseeable future.

**Will registering to vote in Utah prevent my parents from claiming me as a dependent on their taxes?**

No. Students are often told that registering to vote in a different state from their parents will make them lose their dependency status. This is not true. Where you register to vote will have no effect on your parent’s tax status.

**Will registering to vote in Utah affect my tuition costs?**

It shouldn’t. Most schools will still consider you an out-of-state student even if you register to vote in Utah. Check with your school’s registrar for specifics of your school.