

A MAP TO VOTING

01

REGISTERING TO VOTE

If you will be 18 before November 3rd, and have not registered to vote yet, you can still participate in the upcoming election. The deadline for registration is **October 19th**, but if miss this, you can register in person at one of the many voting centers. All you need is a driver's license, or your California identification card number, or you can use the last four numbers on your Social Security card. After becoming registered, you'll be given a ballot to vote.

NOTE: Voter registration is for life! You only need to re-register to vote if you have moved, if you have changed your name, if you would like to switch political parties, or if you have not voted in the past **four** years.

02

VOTE BY MAIL

Everyone who has already registered to vote will automatically get a ballot in the mail. Voting by mail is safe! These ballots will be sent out on October 3rd. In case you do not receive a ballot, call your country's Registrar of Voters' office to request for it to be mailed to you. The number for Santa Clara is: [1-408-299-8640](tel:1-408-299-8640)

You can submit your vote by mail ballot in three ways:

- **Mail ballots in a postage-paid return envelope to your country's Registrar of Voters' Office**
(Ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 3rd and received by 17 days after Election Day, Nov. 20th)
 - Find your closest Registrar of Voters' Office here:
<https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/county-elections-offices/>
- **Place your ballot in an Official Ballot Drop Box**
 - Find your closest drop box here:
<https://eservices.sccgov.org/rov?tab=do>
- **Return your ballot to any Vote Center from October 31st to 8pm on Election Day**
(at a Vote Center, you can either vote by paper ballot OR use the voting machine)
 - Find your nearest Vote Center here:
<https://eservices.sccgov.org/Rov?tab=vc>

03

IN PERSON VOTING

For those who need in-person assistance, didn't get their ballot as planned, don't have a fixed address, or who need to replace a ballot that's been torn, lost, pet-chewed or food-splattered, counties still have in-person voting options. Visit this link or the QR code to find the closest voting center:
<https://eservices.sccgov.org/Rov?tab=vc>



04

MISTAKES THAT CAN DISQUALIFY MAIL BALLOTS

1. **Improperly filling out your ballot**
 - Ballots are scanned, so avoid stray marks, abnormal pen ink colors, and filling in multiple choices for the same office. You don't get a second chance, so make sure to follow the instructions carefully.
2. **Forgetting to sign your envelope**
 - Ballots are commonly rejected because the affidavit on the outside of the envelope containing the mail ballot is not signed. So make sure to sign in every place that requires a signature.
3. **Using a different signature from what your state has on file**
 - California uses signature verification to verify the authenticity of ballots. Election officials use the most recent signature on file with the elections office, DMV, or other gov. agency
 - Sloppy signatures may also lead to the signature being deemed "mismatched".
4. **Sending your ballot back too late**
 - The most common mistake that gets mail ballots rejected is when they arrive too late or lack a postmark. The Postal Service recommends that you put your ballot in the mail at least a week in advance.