Guide to Registration and Voting Process for Non-Citizens

November 8, 2022, School Board Election

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR NON-UNITED STATES CITIZENS

Any information you provide to the Department of Elections, including your name and address, may be obtained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other agencies, organizations, and individuals. In addition, if you apply for naturalization, you will be asked whether you have ever registered or voted in a federal, state, or local election in the United States. You may wish to consult with an immigration attorney, an organization that protects immigrant rights, or other knowledgeable source before providing any personal information to the Department of Elections and before registering to vote in San Francisco Board of Education Elections. You can find a list of nonprofit organizations that specialize in protecting the rights of immigrants on sfelections.org.
Important Dates and Resources

Monday, October 10
Early voting begins.
*Ballots begin arriving to voters’ mailboxes.*

Tuesday, October 11
The Voting Center in City Hall opens for in-person voting and ballot drop-off. Official ballot drop boxes are open in various locations across the City.

Monday, October 24
Last day to register to vote and receive a ballot by mail. 
*After this date, anyone who is eligible to vote can still register and vote a provisional ballot at the City Hall Voting Center or a polling place.*

Tuesday, November 8, Election Day
The City Hall Voting Center and all polling places are open for in-person voting and ballot drop-off from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

*Election materials, instructions, and official ballots are available in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Filipino. Voter registration forms are available in over 45 languages.*
Am I eligible to register to vote in the School Board Election?

Use the checklist below to confirm you are eligible to register to vote in the San Francisco School Board election on November 8, 2022. All of the statements must be true:

- I am not a United States citizen
- I live in San Francisco
- I do not plan to move before November 8, 2022
- I am the parent, legal guardian, or caregiver* of a child who lives in San Francisco and will be under 19 years old on November 8, 2022
- I will be at least 18 years old on November 8, 2022
- I am not in prison for a felony
- I have not been found mentally incompetent to vote by a court

*A caregiver is someone who signs the affidavit to enroll a minor in school and consents to school-related medical care on behalf of the minor. This is determined by state law, in CA Family Code §6550-6552.

Registering to vote in the San Francisco School Board election does not permit you to vote in any other federal, state, or local elections.
How do I register to vote?

1. Get a Registration Form
   - Call the Department of Elections at (415) 554-4375, or
   - Go to sfelections.org/NCV, or
   - Visit the Department of Elections in City Hall, Room 48.

2. Read and complete all parts of the Form
   - Read the Important Notice,
   - Use the checklist to confirm your eligibility, and
   - Fill out and sign the Form.

3. Return the Form by October 24
   - Mail the Form (postage-paid), or
   - Bring the Form to the Department of Elections in City Hall, Room 48.

Once your Registration Form is processed, the Department will mail you a Voter Notification letter to confirm your registration. If you do not receive the letter within a week, contact the Department.
How do I learn about candidates on the ballot?

The Department of Elections will mail you a Voter Information Booklet in early October. This booklet will provide information about voting in early October with information about candidates who want to be on the School Board. The booklet will include a sample ballot you can use to practice marking your selection(s) before marking your official ballot. You can also read the booklet online at sfelections.org/portal/NCV.

What are my voting options?

You can vote in the November 8, 2022 School Board Election by mail or in person at the City Hall Voting Center or at a polling place.
In early October, the Department will mail you a vote-by-mail packet containing your ballot, voting instructions, an “I Voted” sticker, and a postage-paid ballot return envelope. To vote by mail, you will need to complete these steps:

1. **Mark the enclosed ballot**

   Read the instructions printed on the ballot and fill in the ovals next to your selection(s) using a pen with dark ink or a pencil.

2. **Prepare your return envelope**

   Remove the ballot receipt and place your ballot inside the postage-paid return envelope provided, then complete and sign the back. To authorize another person to return your ballot, complete the Ballot Return Authorization Section.
3. Return your ballot as soon as possible

To be counted, ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on or before Election Day, November 8, 2022.

Ballots returned in person must be delivered to the City Hall Voting Center, a polling place, or an official ballot drop box provided by the Department of Elections no later than the close of polls (8 p.m.) on Election Day. No postage is required.

Helpful Resources

- Starting October 10, voters may access and mark an accessible vote-by-mail ballot at [sfelections.org/ncvaccess](http://sfelections.org/ncvaccess). Marked ballots must be printed and returned to the Department of Elections.
- To find a convenient location of an official ballot drop box, go to [sfelections.org/ballotdropoff](http://sfelections.org/ballotdropoff).
- To request a replacement ballot, call the Department of Elections at (415) 554-4375 as soon as possible.
- To track your ballot, go to [sfelections.org/portal/NCV](http://sfelections.org/portal/NCV).
How do I vote in person?

To find your assigned polling place:

• go to sfelections.org/portal/NCV, or
• call (415) 554-4375, or
• check the back of your Voter Information Booklet.

When you arrive to your polling place, you will need to complete these steps:

1. Check in

Give your name and address to a poll worker. Sign the roster next to your name.

2. Get your ballot

A poll worker will give you a ballot and voting materials.

(If you want an audio or touchscreen ballot, tell the poll worker.)
3. Review and mark your ballot

✓ Make sure your ballot only has the School Board contest.
✓ Read the instructions printed on top of the ballot.
✓ Fill in the ovals next to your selection(s).

(If you make a mistake while making your selection(s), you have the right to request a new ballot from a poll worker.)

4. Cast your ballot

✓ Take your ballot in a secrecy folder to the voting machine.
✓ Insert the ballot into the voting machine and get an “I Voted” sticker from a poll worker.

If you’re voting with a touchscreen ballot, mark your ballot by touching the selection(s) on the screen. Review your selection(s) before you cast your vote.

If you’re voting with an audio ballot, listen to the audio instructions to guide you through the ballot and make your selection(s). Your selection(s) will be played back to you before you cast your vote.

The voting process at the City Hall Voting Center is similar to the process at a polling place. In-person assistance and interpreting service is available at all voting sites.
What are my voting rights?

As a registered non-citizen voter, you have the right to:

1. Vote in the San Francisco School Board election on November 8, 2022 if you are eligible
2. Cast a provisional ballot if your name is not on the roster at your polling place
3. Vote if you are still in line when the polls close at 8 p.m.
4. Cast a secret ballot without anyone bothering you
5. Get a new ballot if you have made a mistake
6. Get help from anyone, except your employer or union representative
7. Drop off your vote-by-mail ballot at any polling place
8. Get help with registration and voting in your preferred language
9. Ask election officials questions and watch the election process
10. Report any illegal or fraudulent election activity or voter intimidation to the Department of Elections at (415) 554-4375
Questions?

Call (415) 554-4375 or visit sfelections.org/NCV

English: (415) 554-4375
Español: (415) 554-4366
中文： (415) 554-4367
Filipino: (415) 554-4310
TTY: (415) 554-4386
SFVote@sfgov.org
sfelections.org

Department of Elections
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
City Hall, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102

Upon request, the Department of Elections can provide a letter explaining your eligibility to vote in San Francisco School Board elections as a non-citizen. This letter confirms the right to vote granted to non-citizens under the San Francisco Charter.
For more information about voting and immigration-related resources, please visit [sfelections.org/NCV](http://sfelections.org/NCV). The webpage includes links to additional websites of organizations that provide access to social, legal, and citizenship services. The list of organizations listed above are part of the Immigrant Parent Voting Coalition.