Guide to Registration and Voting Process for Non-Citizens

November 3, 2020, 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.
Election Safety Measures

To ensure that San Franciscans can exercise their right to vote in a safe manner during the November 3 election, the Department of Elections will implement the following measures:

• Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters in October.

• Early voting at the City Hall Voting Center will be relocated to an outdoor area in front of Bill Graham Civic Auditorium.

• Health and safety protocols will be in place at all of the City’s 588 neighborhood polling places.
## Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October 5</strong></td>
<td>The City Hall Voting Center opens</td>
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<td><strong>October 19</strong></td>
<td>Last day to register to vote by mail</td>
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<td>After October 19, you can visit the City Hall Voting Center or a polling place</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to register in person</td>
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<td><strong>October 24, 25, 31 &amp; November 1</strong></td>
<td>Weekend voting is available from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>at the City Hall Voting Center</td>
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<td><strong>November 3, Election Day</strong></td>
<td>Polling places and the City Hall Voting Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>are open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Last day to mail a vote by mail ballot</td>
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Am I eligible to register to vote in the San Francisco 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 3, 2020. 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 on or before November 3, 2020
☐ I am the parent, or legal guardian, or caregiver, of a child under 19 who lives in San Francisco
☐ I will be at least 18 years old on November 3, 2020
☐ I am not in prison or on parole for a felony
☐ I have not been found mentally incompetent to vote by a court

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 (415) 554-4375,
   • Go to sfelections.org/noncitizen/registration, or
   • Schedule an appointment to 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 19
   • Mail the form, or
   • Bring the form to 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 two weeks, contact the Department at (415) 554-4375 or email SFVote@sfgov.org.
How do I learn about the candidates?

The Voter Information Booklet will help you learn about the candidates who want to be on the School Board.

The booklet will include a sample ballot you can use to practice marking your choices before marking your official ballot.

You will get the booklet in the mail in early October. The booklet will be available in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Filipino.

You can also read the booklet online at sfelections.org/noncitizen/booklet
What are my voting options?

You can vote by mail or in person. Your ballot and voting instructions will be in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Filipino.

To vote by mail:

• To ensure that every Californian has the opportunity to safely participate in the November 3 election, all registered voters will be mailed ballots in October.

To vote in person:

• Visit the City Hall Voting Center, or
• Go to your polling place on Election Day.

To find your polling place:

• Go to sfelections.org/noncitizen/mypollingplace,
• Call (415) 554-4375, or
• Check the back of your booklet.
How do I vote by mail?

In early October, the Department will mail you a packet containing your official ballot, instructional insert, official postage-paid return envelope, and “I Voted” sticker. Once you receive your packet, you will need to complete the steps below.

1. **Mark your ballot**
   Fill in the oval next to your choices.

2. **Place ballot in envelope**
   Fold and place the ballot in the provided return envelope.

3. **Sign the envelope**
   Complete, sign, and seal the envelope.

4. **Return the envelope**
   If returning your ballot by mail, make sure your ballot envelope is postmarked on or before November 3. You can also drop-off your ballot at the City Hall Voting Center before or on Election Day or at one of the City’s polling places, which will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
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 3, 2020 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 to the Department of Elections at (415) 554-4375
How do I vote at my polling place?

Upon arrival at 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.

2. Get your ballot

A poll worker will give you a ballot, a pen, and a secrecy folder.

*If you want an audio or touchscreen ballot, tell the poll worker.*

3. Review your ballot

Make sure your ballot only has a School Board contest.

*If not, ask a poll worker for a ballot only with a School Board contest.*
4. Mark your ballot

Read instructions printed on top of the ballot.

Fill in the oval next to your choices.

Take your ballot in a secrecy folder to the voting machine.

Insert the ballot into a voting machine and get your “I Voted” sticker.

If you’re voting with a touchscreen ballot, mark your ballot by touching the selections on the screen. Review your selections 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 selections. Your selections will be played back to you before you cast your vote.

Notice: If you decide to vote in person in the upcoming election, please remember to wear a face covering so you can protect public health and comply with local law. You can also make your voting experience faster and safer by using the new Voting Locations and Wait Times Tool at sfelections.org/myvotinglocation to check wait times at the City Hall Voting Center and polling places.
You can find more information about non-citizen voting and immigration-related resources online at sfelections.org/noncitzenvoting. The webpage also includes links to websites of organizations and agencies that provide access to social, legal, and citizenship services.

Upon request, the Department of Elections can provide a letter explaining your eligibility to vote in School Board elections as a non-citizen. This letter confirms the right to vote granted to non-citizens under the San Francisco Charter and also serves as evidentiary support for naturalization application purposes.

Questions?

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

Email: SFVote@sfgov.org  
TTY: (415) 554-4386 

中文: (415) 554-4367  
Español: (415) 554-4366  
Filipino: (415) 554-4310