

Voting

Voting is quick, easy, and important! In New York, polls are open from **6 am to 9 pm**. It helps to know your A.D. (Assembly District), E.D. (Election District), and the location of your polling site before voting. This information can be found on the registration confirmation card sent to you by the Board of Elections after you register and an information card also sent to you by the Board of Elections prior to the primary elections. If you still do not know, please call the Board of Elections hot line at 1-866-VOTE-NYC (1-866-868-3692) or access the **Poll Site Locator on the Board's website:** www.nyc.gov/vote.

If you do not know how to vote, you can ask for help. If you do not understand English, the City's Board of Elections provides help in **Spanish**, and, depending on the location of your polling site, **Chinese** and **Korean**. You can also bring information in your native language into the voting booth. If you have disabilities, a Ballot Making Device (BMD) will be available at teach poll site starting in Fall 2009.

2009 Elections Dates

2009 Primary

- August 21** Last day to register (new voters only)
September 8 Last day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail
September 14 Last day to mail an absentee ballot
September 15 Primary Election Day
Mayor; City Council; City Comptroller; Public Advocate; Borough Presidents; District Attorneys (Manhattan & Brooklyn); Civil and Supreme Courts all five boroughs
September 29 Potential Primary Run-Off Day

2009 General

- October 9** Last day to register
October 27 Last day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail
November 2 Last day to mail an absentee ballot
November 3 General Election Day

2009 Debate Program Schedule

Primary Election

Debate	Sponsor	Date	Time
Comptroller, 1st Debate	WABC-TV	Aug 23	11: AM
Mayor 1st Debate	NY1 News	Aug 26	7: PM
Public Advocate 1st Debate	WABC-TV	Aug 30	11: AM
Public Advocate 2nd Debate	NY1 News	Sept 8	7: PM
Mayor, 2nd Debate	WABC-TV	Sept 9	7: PM
Comptroller, 2nd Debate	NY1 News	Sept 10	7: PM

Potential Runoff Election

Debate	Sponsor	Date	Time
Potential Runoff Debate	NY1 News	Sept 22	7: P.M
Potential Runoff Debate	NY1 News	Sept 23	7: P.M
Potential Runoff Debate	NY1 News	Sept 24	7: P.M

General Election

Debate	Sponsor	Date	Time
Mayor, 1st Debate	NY1 News	Oct 13	7: PM
Comptroller, 1st Debate	WABC-TV	Oct 18	11: AM
Public Advocate, 1st Debate	WABC-TV	Oct 25	11: AM
Mayor, 2nd Debate	WABC-TV	Oct 27	7: PM
Public Advocate, 2nd Debate	NY1 News	Oct 28	7: PM
Comptroller, 2nd Debate	NY1 News	Oct 29	7: PM

VAC Guide to 2009 Elections



NYC Voter Assistance Commission

100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038
Tel: (212) 788-8384
Fax: (212) 788-2527
website: www.nyc.gov/voter

Registering to Vote

To register to vote in the City of New York, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States (Includes those persons born in Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands).
- Be a New York City resident for at least 30 days.
- Not be incarcerated or on parole for a felony conviction.
- Not be adjudged mentally incompetent by a court.
- Not claim the right to vote elsewhere (outside the City of New York).

Party Enrollment

Enrolling in a **political party** means that you can vote in that party's **primary elections**, usually held weeks or months before each November's general election. *The primary is where parties pick their candidates for the general election.* In New York, you can enroll in any one of the following five parties:

- **Democratic Party (D)**
- **Republican Party (R)**
- **Independence Party (I)**
- **Conservative Party (C)**
- **Working Families Party (WFP)**

Identification Requirements

Your identity must be verified prior to Election Day, so that you won't have to provide identification when you vote. As requested in Box #9 on the New York State voter registration form, your identity can be verified through your driver's license number, non-driver ID number, or the last four digits of your social security number.

If your identity is not verified before Election Day, you will be asked to provide an ID when you go to vote. Acceptable IDs include: a valid photo ID, a current utility bill, bank statement, government check or some other government document that shows your name and address.

If you still do not have identification, you will be asked to vote by affidavit ballot (paper ballot), instead of on the machine. Your identity will then be checked and your vote will be counted if you are found to be properly registered.

Registration Confirmation Card

Within 20 days after submitting your voter registration form, you will receive a **registration confirmation card** from the Board of Elections. If not, please call 1-866-VOTE-NYC (1-866-868-3692) or your local Borough office to verify that your application was received and processed.

Absentee Ballot

Voting by **absentee ballot** is important for many students, particularly those who attend high school or college outside NYC. If you know that you will not be able to go to your regular polling place on Election Day, you can **apply to the Board of Elections** to vote by absentee ballot. If you qualify, you will be sent an absentee ballot in the weeks before the election which you must then submit to your borough's board of elections during the designated time period.

Main Office, Board of Elections

32 Broadway, 7th Fl.

New York, NY 10004

1-(866) V-O-T-E-N-Y-C OR 1-(212) 868-3692

Manhattan

200 Varick St., 10th Fl.

New York, NY 10014

(212) 886-2100

Bronx

1780 Grand Concourse, 5th Fl.

Bronx, NY 10457

(718) 299-9017

Staten Island

1 Edgewater Plaza, 4th Fl.

Staten Island, NY 10305

(718) 876-0079

Brooklyn

345 Adams St., 4th Fl.

Brooklyn, NY 11201

(718) 797-8800

Queens

126-06 Queens Boulevard

Kew Gardens, NY 11415

(718) 730-6730