



1821 Green St., Durham, NC 27705 • 919-286-6000

A Guide to College Student Voting in North Carolina

Where do I vote if I'm a student?

Where you vote depends on where you call "home." Under NC law, you have two choices if you are a student who has moved away to attend school:

- ▶ You can declare your old address (probably your parents' address) as your home, because that's where you return periodically. In that case, you may register and vote in your old hometown.
- OR —
- ▶ You can declare your new address (including dorm) as your home, because that's where you return, day after day. In that case, you may register & vote in your new town.

But you do have to choose: It's a serious crime to vote in two places in the same election.

If you are registered to vote in your hometown and want to vote there, you can (1) request an Absentee Ballot by mail between 50 days and 7 days before Election Day, or (2) take advantage of Early Voting on a trip home during the Early Voting period, 19 to 3 days before Election Day, or (3) go home and vote in your precinct on Election Day, from 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM.

If you are not yet registered or if you want to change your registration to a new address, you can download a registration form at www.sboe.state.nc.us and mail it to your local Board of Elections at least 25 days before an election. If you miss that deadline, you can go to the local Board of Elections or call the Board to find an Early Voting location in your county and use Same Day Registration & Voting (*see description below*).

If you register in your new community, you can vote at an Early Voting location during Early Voting, or vote at your precinct location on Election Day. See your voter registration card or contact your local Board of Elections for the location of your precinct's polling place.

What is Same Day Registration?

Same Day Registration lets you register and vote at the same time at the Board of Elections office or at an Early Voting location – but only during the Early Voting period. Early Voting begins 19 days before an election and ends on the Saturday before Election Day, generally at 1:00 PM. Be sure to take along one of these documents as identification with your name and current address:

- ▶ a driver's license or other government document (hunting license, car registration, etc.) or
- ▶ a utility/phone bill, a bank statement, or a payroll check/paystub or
- ▶ a student ID card – but if it doesn't have your address, you need to also take a school document showing your address (an invoice, dorm assignment, letter from college official)

Remember: You can not use Same Day Registration or change a registration on Election Day

Questions? Go to www.democracy-nc.org or call 1-888-OUR-VOTE.