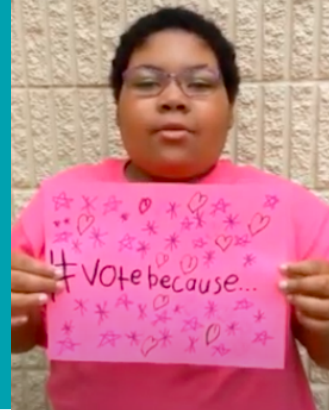




# Vote Because: You Can Use Your Power to Vote for Children

In order to raise our voices on behalf of children this election, we must vote.



There are a number of ways to vote; however, recognizing the variety of challenges associated with the ongoing pandemic and the importance of making every vote count in a timely manner, **the best way to vote is EARLY!** Whether you vote by mail or early in person, making a plan to vote well before November 3rd is key to staying safe, ensuring your ballot is received on time, and avoiding issues at polling places on Election Day.

Regardless of how you choose to vote, it is essential you educate yourself on ways to vote, make your plan, and stick to it. Below, you will find resources and information you might need to vote in the upcoming election.

## REGISTER TO VOTE

- First things first: **register to vote** or **check your voter registration** using When We All Vote's [Voter Resources Hub](#).

## MAKE YOUR PLAN

- Whether you are voting by mail, in person early, or in person on Election Day, make sure you make your plan to vote - this will increase your chances of following through. After reading through your options below, ask yourself:

**How will you vote? When will you vote?**

If you decide you vote through mail-in ballot, **Where will you drop off your ballot?**

And if you decide to vote in person: **Where will you vote? How will you get there?**

## VOTE EARLY

### Vote by Mail

- **Request your mail-in ballot** through the [Voter Resources Hub](#).

Due to COVID-19, many states have made it easier to vote by mail. Find more information on your state's mail-in voting [here](#).

**Be aware of when your ballot is arriving.** You can track your ballot in [39 states](#). If you're unsure about your mail-in ballot's location, call your [local election office](#).

**Request your ballot now or as soon as the requests become available** in your state to avoid overwhelming local election workers.

## TIP!

The [Voter Resources Hub](#) is your one-stop shop for all things voting. It allows you to register to vote, request a mail-in ballot, find information about who's on your ballot and your voting rights, and more!

## TIP!

We know taking your children to the polls may not be an option this year, but no matter how you vote, they can still see democracy in action. Teach them by example by talking with them about how and why you are voting.

- **Return your ballot**

Many states allow you to return your ballot to your local election office, polling location, or a designated ballot drop box. You can also drop it in the mail - just do it EARLY!

Find where to drop off your ballot through your [local election office](#) and be sure you know your state's deadline.

### Vote Early In Person

- Early voting can help you avoid crowded or long lines. **Most states have in-person early voting** - some starting as soon as September 18th! Find out about early voting in your area through your [local election office](#).
- Before you vote, [find out what ID or documentation](#) (if any) your state requires. Go to the [Know Your Rights](#) portion of the Voter Resources Hub for more resources on voting rights and voter suppression.

### TIP!

If you're voting in person early or on Election Day, don't forget to:

**bring a mask** to keep others safe;

assume there will be a line and **bring a bottle of water and a snack**; and

**bring your ID** if [required in your state](#).

## VOTE ON ELECTION DAY

- If you will be voting on Election Day, use the [Voter Resources Hub](#) to find your polling location, as it may have changed since the last election. Again, [find out what ID or documentation](#) (if any) your state requires when voting.
- If voting on Election Day, it is essential you come up with a plan to vote. This is your last chance to cast your ballot on behalf of children in this election, so you need to make sure you plan how you'll make it happen.
- Add your plan to a sticky note on your fridge, a reminder on your phone, or a calendar invite you share with friends you're voting with.

### TIP!

If you [received a mail-in ballot but end up wanting to vote in person](#), you'll most likely still be able to vote in person. Check with your [local election office](#) to see the specific procedures in your state.

Usually, you can take your mail-in ballot to your designated polling place and either exchange your uncast ballot for an in-person ballot or complete your absentee ballot and hand it in.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU WITNESS VOTER SUPPRESSION

- Voter suppression has a long history in the United States, and has been often used specifically to target and disenfranchise Black voters, other voters of color, and low-income voters. Learn about the many [forms voter suppression can take](#).
- If you witness voter suppression, call the Election Protection Hotline at **866-687-8683**.

## OTHER WAYS TO GET OUT THE VOTE ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN

- Get 10 people in your network to [check their registration status and register to vote](#)
- Become a [Voting Squad Captain](#) for tools and training on organizing your family, friends, and community to get registered and ready to vote
- [Sign up](#) to be a poll worker on Election Day
- Participate in canvassing, phone banking, or texting efforts for a candidate(s) you support
- Organize a rideshare program to the polls in your community