

Use nonpartisan sources to inform yourself!

Your vote is your voice -  
take it to the polls!

Fact-Checking websites:

**POLITIFACT**

**FACTCHECK.ORG**

Unbiased sources of political information (or see Linktree, p. 3):



U.S. Vote Foundation: Assists citizens to register, vote and request absentee ballots; provides voter information



Vote Smart: Provides unbiased information on candidates via various categories of information



One-stop shop app for all things political: elected officials, candidates, current legislation, plus daily surveys and results

## Contact Us!



Strong Hall Rm 463

Follow our Instagram @pawstothe polls

Find us on Facebook!

[Paws to the Polls website](#)

Voter Information and Resources  
2025-26

Booklet funding provided by the MSU  
Office of Public Affairs Support

**Missouri State**  
UNIVERSITY





[Paws to the Polls website](https://pawstothepolls.com)

## Who are We?

Paws to the Polls is a nonpartisan grassroots campus initiative formed to increase voter engagement, provide access to unbiased resources, and increase voting knowledge at MSU.

Watch for our events [@pawstothepolls](https://twitter.com/pawstothepolls)  
Join us by emailing [pawstothepolls@missouristate.edu](mailto:pawstothepolls@missouristate.edu)

## Why Vote?

Issues that we vote on, and that our elected representatives vote on, affect us all. Because older people vote at higher rates than the younger demographic, the older generation is making decisions *for* you. Only about 15% of all citizens vote in local elections, so each vote has even more impact. Local issues affect you, no matter where you're from. Let your voice be heard in *all* elections!

## You Are Eligible to Vote in MO if:

- You are a U.S. citizen.
- You are at least 17½ years old and will be 18 by Election Day.
- You have completed your sentence and probation or parole if convicted of a felony.
- You are registered to vote (see p. 3).

## Problems at the Polls?

Nonpartisan election protection: call 866-687-8683 from your polling place if you are concerned that your voting rights are being infringed upon— someone will help you immediately.



**Remember: you do not have to vote on everything for your ballot to count.**

## Voting and MSU's Public Affairs Mission

When you vote, you are using your voice to take part in the democratic process as well as fulfilling the three pillars of our Public Affairs mission.

- Ethical Leadership
- Cultural Competence
- Community Engagement



## Questions?

- Stop by Strong Hall room 463.
- Email us at [pawstothepolls@missouristate.edu](mailto:pawstothepolls@missouristate.edu)
- Visit [publicaffairs.missouristate.edu/PTTP](https://publicaffairs.missouristate.edu/PTTP)
- Office of Public Affairs Support, First Floor Plaster Student Union, 417-836-8832
- Greene County Clerk, [countyclerk@greencountymo.gov](mailto:countyclerk@greencountymo.gov), 417-868-4055
- Missouri Secretary of State, [sos.mo.gov](https://sos.mo.gov)

## What's on Your Ballot?

To find **YOUR** ballot for an upcoming election:

1. Go to [sos.mo.gov](https://sos.mo.gov).
2. Click on "Elections and Voting" pull-down menu.
3. Click on "Check Your Voter Registration."
4. Fill in the requested five blanks and the captcha box and hit "Submit."
5. On the Current Voter Registration Information page, scroll to Election Resources.
6. Click on the round "View Candidates & Issues" button to see your own ballot information; it is printable.



## Voting FAQs

- **I'm unsure about some things on the ballot – do I have to vote for everything?**  
No! Vote only for what you're sure about; your ballot will still count!
- **What if I forget who and what I plan to vote for? Can I take my notes?**  
Sure! This isn't a test. You can take your notes or a pre-marked sample ballot into the polling place.
- **Can I vote both here in Springfield and at home?**  
No! It is illegal – a felony in most states – to vote more than once. You can easily change your voter registration between elections.
- **Do I need to declare a political party when I register?**  
No, declaring a political affiliation is optional in Missouri.

## Where to Register While in College?

Even if you are from elsewhere in the U.S., you are living in Greene County while attending Missouri State and can vote here. If you are from a different state, see p. 4 about voter ID laws and voting in Missouri.



**VOTE ON CAMPUS** - MSU is a Central Polling Location for anyone registered in Greene County.



## Registering to Vote in MO

Be aware of registration deadlines!

Are you registered? If so, where?  
Use the QR code to check if and where you are registered to vote in Missouri.



If you live in a residence hall, use the street address (*not residence hall name*) for your address. Find the hall addresses on the **Ways to Register to Vote** page on our website or access from our Linktree. Make sure to include your room number!

## Online Registration

To register or change your address online, begin at the **Ways to Register to Vote** page on our website or Linktree.

## Paper Registration

- Email [pawstothepolls@missouristate.edu](mailto:pawstothepolls@missouristate.edu) or visit in person at Strong Hall 463
- Visit the Office of Public Affairs in Plaster Student Union, First Floor
- Greene County Clerk's Office, 940 N. Boonville Ave, Springfield, MO Call: 417-868-4055

*It is helpful to have the last four digits of your Social Security number.*

## ID for Voting in MO

- Current Missouri Driver's License or Non-Driver's License
- Non-expired Passport or Military ID



## Don't have a Missouri Driver's or non-Driver's license?

1. See instructions for getting a free MO ID for voting (Linktree, page 3).
2. If you do not plan to obtain a Missouri state-issued ID but want to vote here:
  - a. Register to vote using a paper registration form with Paws to the Polls or at the County Clerk's office. To register, you can use your student ID, out-of-state ID, or other ID form listed on the [sos.mo.gov](https://sos.mo.gov) website.
  - b. When you go to vote, tell election personnel you do not have a Missouri ID and that you plan to vote a **provisional ballot**. They will supply you with a special envelope for your ballot. You will sign the Envelope; later, a bipartisan team will match your voter registration signature with that on your ballot envelope for your vote to count.

## Election Dates - Springfield, MO during Academic Year 2025 -26

Election Day	Type of Election	Last Day to Register*
Nov 4,* 2025	Local special elections	Oct 8, 2025
April 7, 2026	Municipal (Local) Election	March 11, 2026

\*Election will be held for ballot issues

Municipal (local) elections are important!  
Local ballot issues such as the mayor, school board or city council affect you wherever you currently live!

**Elections are on Tuesdays—plan accordingly!**

## Casting Your Vote in MO

### Ensure a more efficient experience at the polls by:

- Checking that **you are registered** in the county where you plan to vote.
- Printing a **sample ballot** (see top of p. 6)
- Viewing nonpartisan **Voter Guides** by:
  - League of Women Voters for major elections
  - Paws to the Polls for local elections
- Using the **nonpartisan websites/apps** on this booklet's back page.
- Watching for **candidate interviews** by the Informed Voter Coalition.



### Three Ways to Vote in Missouri (or see our Linktree, p. 3)

#### 1. In-Person Voting on Election Day — Polls are open 6am to 7pm

You can vote at:

- MSU's Greene County Central Polling Location — November 4, 2025 at Welcome Center and April 7, 2026 at the Welcome Center.

OR

- The polling location shown on your Voter ID card (also by looking up your registration online).
- Our Linktree also has links to your polling location (if in Greene County).

#### 2. Absentee Voting by Mail

If you cannot vote where you are registered to vote on Election Day, then you can vote absentee by mail. **Start the process early** - see our Linktree for details.

#### 3. "In-Person Absentee" Voting before Election Day

- Going home within six weeks of Election Day? Vote in person at your Election Authority — usually a County Clerk's office.
- See our Linktree for more info!

## Accessible Voting

- **Curbside voting:** for voters with limited mobility.
- **Accessible Polling Places:** contact County Clerk's office If your polling place is not accessible (Central Polling Places are accessible).
- **Accessible Voting Systems:** Every polling place has an accessible voting system for those with disabilities.
- **Permanent Absentee:** may be requested from County Clerk's office; ballot sent prior to each election.