



Student Voting FAQ

What is GU Votes? What is the Georgetown Voting Coalition?

GU Votes is a non-partisan, student-led initiative working to enhance the voting culture at Georgetown by simplifying the voting process, increasing turnout rates among students, and directly integrating voter registration into the university ecosystem. We are housed within the Georgetown Institute of Politics and Public Service ([GU Politics](#)) and partnered with the [Andrew Goodman Foundation](#). Our Voting Coalition aims to connect Georgetown students, student organizations, faculty, and staff with resources and opportunities to promote voting and civic engagement in their communities.

How can I get involved with GU Votes?

Please fill out our General Interest Form [here](#) to join our team. You can also join our mailing list [here](#). As a member of our coalition, you'll receive regular updates regarding volunteer opportunities, voting-related events, and other chances to promote civic engagement. If you have a specific question or related to voting or GU Votes, please email voting@georgetown.edu to get in touch with a team member.

What does voter engagement look like on campus?

The overall voting rate among eligible Georgetown students increased from 61.0% in 2016 to 79.4% in 2020, an 18.4-point jump! Georgetown far exceeded the national campus average voting rate in 2020 (79.4% at GU compared to 66% nationally). In 2020, 93.1% of eligible students were registered to vote, a 5.7% increase from 2016. We continue working to reach the goal of 100% eligible voter registration on campus.

How do I register to vote and request an absentee ballot?

Visit bit.ly/guvotes to register to vote, check your voter registration status, request an absentee ballot, and more. For state-specific information on voter registration and absentee voting requirements, you can also reference the Vote.org state election centers or your secretary of state's website.

Should I register to vote at my campus address or my permanent/home address?

You may register to vote at either address, depending on which location you would rather vote from. Please note that if you are registered to vote at your home address, you'll want to request an absentee ballot multiple in advance of the election.



What is absentee voting? Can I vote absentee from Georgetown?

Absentee voting allows you to vote by mail ballot rather than in person. Some states have no-excuse absentee voting, while others have tighter restrictions on who can vote absentee. To vote absentee from Georgetown, request your ballot [here](#), and make sure to list your campus address for where the ballot should be mailed. Please reference [Ballotpedia](#) to find your state's absentee or mail in voting requirements, as well as modifications to voting procedures due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Where can I get stamps and envelopes to mail my voter registration form or absentee ballot request?

GU Votes is working to make free stamps and envelopes readily available to students through our Voter Dropbox Program. Pre-stamped envelopes and a voter dropbox are currently available at the front desk of the GU Politics office (Healy G-18). Students can also mail their forms at the USPS mailbox across from the front gates.

I'm registered to vote in DC. Where is my polling place? What identification do I need at the polls?

DC voters can find their polling place [here](#). If you are registered to vote from your on-campus address, your polling location for election day is Duke Ellington High School (3500 R St NW), and your polling location for early voting is Hardy Middle School (1819 35th St NW). You will need proof of address to vote in DC: click [here](#) to view a list of acceptable documents.

What are my voting rights?

You have the right to:

- An accessible voting location
- Vote without intimidation
- Vote after the polls close if you are already in line
- Ask election officials questions
- Cast a provisional ballot
- Bilingual voting assistance
- Ask for a new ballot if you make a mistake

To learn more, visit the [ACLU Voting Rights](#) page. For help at the polls, call the non-partisan Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE.