

# Democratic Engagement and Civic Learning

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## Voting and Election Resources

USF's Voter Friendly Campus efforts are designed to support student democratic engagement and civic learning within a healthy campus political climate. A healthy campus political environment at USF is driven by USF's Principles of Community and leadership and civic engagement concepts (e.g. controversy with civility, conversations across difference, community engagement, and active citizenship) all within the bounds of community conduct expectations.

In preparation for variety of potential reactions to this year's election process, Student Success staff and students from across all three campuses have been developing resources and events to support a healthy post-election community. We encourage all USF Bulls to engage as active citizens while managing your health and wellness needs.

For more information, please contact the [Center for Leadership & Civic Engagement \(CLCE\)](#), at [CLCE@usf.edu](mailto:CLCE@usf.edu).

## Supervisor of Elections

Your Supervisor of Elections is a valuable resource. They can provide you information like how to vote and finding your polling place.

[Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections](#)

[Pasco County Supervisor of Elections](#)

[Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections](#)

[Manatee County Supervisor of Elections](#)

[Sarasota County Supervisor of Elections](#)

[Polk County Supervisor of Elections](#)

Outside of the Tampa Bay Region or State of Florida?

Use the [Election Official Directory & State Voting Requirements & Information](#) page from the U.S. Vote Foundation to find the information for your state.

## Additional Resources

[TurboVote at USF](#): *Get election reminders and help with voting.*  
Voter Information Lookup, State of Florida  
2020 Florida Amendment Guide



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# Voting and Election Resources

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## Democratic Engagement & Civic Learning - University of South Florida

### Prepare to Vote

Before you head to the polls, take time to educate yourself on the candidates, amendments and propositions on your particular ballot.

#### Find Your Sample Ballot

Visit a website like [BallotPedia](#) or your county's supervisor of elections site to view your ballot early.

#### Research, research, research

Use your sample ballot to then research the candidates. Most candidates have a campaign website and many local news sources have written articles about them. Things you can consider include position on current issues, voting records, professional experience, and community involvement.

#### Look-up candidate endorsements

Local chapters of political parties, news sources and major non-profit organizations have listings on their website and social media profiles of who they endorse. Endorsed candidates are those who often align with the values of the organization, which can be helpful for you.

### Returning your Mail-in Ballot

You may have requested a mail-in ballot. **Due to delays with the USPS mail, we encourage you to drop-off your ballot in person** at your county's early voting site prior to election or your precinct on Election Day.

#### **TIP: You must SEAL and SIGN your ballot on the back before you turn it in.**

If you are provided space for contact information, please fill it in. If there are issues with your ballot, your supervisor of elections will reach out to you to help you correct your ballot.

#### **TIP: Ballots must be received, NOT postmarked, by the close of polls on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3.**

#### **TIP: Track Your Ballot.**

Visit the Supervisor of Elections webpage for your county to track your mail-in ballot. If you are concerned your ballot has not been counted, contact them.

### Voting In-Person

If you did not request a mail-in ballot, you can still vote in-person through either early voting by Sunday, November 1, 2020 or on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

**Vote safely!** Bring your mask and be sure to properly physically distance yourself. Polling places have implemented enhanced safety protocols.

#### What to Bring to Vote

You will be asked to show a valid photo ID with a signature in order to vote in-person. If you do not have an ID, you will be provided a provisional ballot. Your ballot will count if your signature matches the one on your registration record.

## How to Early Vote

Early voting is a great way to avoid long wait times on Election Day and vote at a time most convenient for you! **Early voting closes on Sunday, November 1, 2020.** You can visit any of the designated early voting locations in your county. You do not have to go to your individual precinct to early vote.

Early Voting Closing Times on November 1, 2020	
Hillsborough County: 7 p.m.	Pasco County: 7 p.m.
Pinellas County: 7 p.m.	Manatee County: 6:30 p.m.
Sarasota County: 6:30 p.m.	Polk County: 7 p.m.

## Voting on Election Day

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2020, you must go to your specific precinct based on the address on your voter registration. Polls are open from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**TIP:** Plan ahead! Give yourself plenty of time to vote on Election Day. You can expect longer lines.

**TIP:** If you are in line to vote and 7:00 p.m., passes, stay in line! You can still vote.

**TIP:** If you mess up your ballot while filling it out, simply ask the election staff for a new one. Do not try to correct your ballot as it could result in it becoming invalid.

## Need to report voter intimidation or voter fraud?

If you are concerned you may have been subject to voter intimidation, voter fraud or any act preventing you from exercising your right to vote. We encourage you to report it immediately.

### Examples of voter intimidation include:

- aggressively questioning voters about their citizenship, criminal record, or other qualifications to vote, in a manner intended to interfere with the voters' rights
- falsely presenting oneself as an elections official
- spreading false information about voter requirements, such as an ability to speak English, or the need to present certain types of photo identification (in states with no such requirement)
- displaying false or misleading signs about voter fraud and the related criminal penalties
- other harassment, particularly toward non-English speakers and voters of color"

Source: [ACLU Voter Intimidation](#)

### How to Report

- Contact a poll worker at your polling location
- Call the Supervisor of Elections for your county
- Call the **Voter Fraud Hotline from the State of Florida** at 1-877-868-3737
- Test or Call the **Election Protection Hotline** at 1-866-OUR-VOTE or 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español)