

# Civic Engagement Toolkit 2020

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January 2020

Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence

# Civic Engagement



## OVERVIEW

The Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence is a non-profit organization that seeks to serve community agencies, advocate for policy change and educate service providers.

Our **vision** is a Nevada in which domestic and sexual violence are eradicated and healthy relationships thrive and our **mission** is to be a statewide voice advocating for the prevention and elimination of domestic and sexual violence through partnering with communities.

NCEDSV values social change, partnering, dignity, prevention, respect, safety and empowerment for program members as well as individuals in the community.

The goal of the toolkit is to provide a comprehensive guide to voting in Nevada. NCEDSV recognizes the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion, and so wants voting and legislative information to be easily accessible for everyone in the community.

## VOTER REGISTRATION

### Voting Registration Requirements

In order to vote in Nevada, you must:

- Be a US Citizen
- Be 18 years of age or older by the election
  - An eligible voter who is 17 years of age may preregister to vote. A person can preregister using any of the means available and will automatically be registered on their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Reside in Nevada and county for at least 30 days
- Reside in precinct for at least 10 days
- Not be declared mentally incompetent
- Not legally reside anywhere else

### Registering to Vote

There are three ways you can register to vote in Nevada:

- Online
  - If you have a current and valid Driver's License or Identification Card issued by the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles you may register online through the Nevada Secretary of State's online voter registration application.
  - You can register online or make changes and update your current registration using the following link:  
<https://www.registertovotenv.gov/>
- By Mail
  - You may download the voter registration form here:  
<https://www.nvsos.gov/SOSVoterRegForm/home.aspx>
  - Once complete, print out the application and sign it
  - The application can be mailed or hand delivered to the County Clerk or County Registrar of Voters in your county.
  - Mailing addresses for each county can be found here:  
<https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/voters/county-clerk-contact-information>
- In Person
  - You may also register to vote at any Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles office, at the County Clerk or Registrar of Voters office, and on college campuses.

After you have successfully completed your voter registration, you will receive a voter registration card in the mail. Make sure you verify that all of the information on the voter registration card is correct.

If you are unsure of current registration status you may check your voter registration status here: <https://www.nvsos.gov/votersearch/>

## NEVADA CONFIDENTIAL ADDRESS PROGRAM

The Nevada Confidential Address Program (CAP) is a program that helps victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and/or stalking from being located by the perpetrator through public records. CAP has two basic parts:

- (1) A fictitious mailing address and confidential mail forwarding program, and;
- (2) Confidential voter registration records

For information about CAP eligibility and enrollment you can visit the webpage here: <http://dcfs.nv.gov/Programs/CAP/ConfidentialAddressProgram/>

### NRS 293.5002: Fictitious Address

The Secretary of State shall establish procedures to allow a person for whom a fictitious address has been issued pursuant to domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking, inclusive to:

- (a) Preregister or register to vote; and
- (b) Vote by absent ballot, without revealing the confidential address of the person.

To register to vote with a confidential address please contact the CAP Program directly at (775) 984-5707 or by email at [NVCAP@dcfs.nv.gov](mailto:NVCAP@dcfs.nv.gov).

## IMPORTANT 2020 DATES

### Voter Registration Deadlines

To vote in the Primary Election you must register to vote:

- By mail: Postmarked by May 12, 2020
- Online: June 4, 2020
- In person: May 12, 2020
- Request absentee ballot by May 26 and return (postmarked) by June 9, 2020

To vote in the General Election you must register to vote:

- By mail: Postmarked by October 6, 2020
- Online: October 29, 2020
- In person: October 6, 2020
- Request absentee ballot by October 20 and return (postmarked) by November 3, 2020

Same-day voter registration is now allowed in Nevada. A voter may register to vote in person the day of, during early voting or on election day to register to vote. The voter must provide valid documentation that they are eligible to vote. Once deemed eligible they may vote only at that polling place and must vote before leaving that polling place. A provisional ballot may be cast if the voter cannot prove their eligibility.

Nevada Democratic Caucus will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2020.

There will be no Republican Caucus in Nevada in 2020.

**Primary Election:** Tuesday, June 9, 2020.

Early voting May 23– June 5

**General Election:** Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Early voting October 17 –October 30.

## NEVADA VOTERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

As outlined in NRS 293.2546, the Nevada Voters' Bill of Rights includes the following provisions:

- 1) Each voter has the right to receive and cast a ballot that is written in a format that allows the clear identification of candidates, and accurately records the voter's preference in the selection of candidates.
- 2) Each voter has the right to have his or her questions concerning voting procedures answered and to have an explanation of the procedures for voting posted in a conspicuous place at the polling place.
- 3) Each voter has the right to vote without being intimidated, threatened or coerced.
- 4) Each voter has the right to vote on Election Day if the voter is waiting in line at his or her polling place to vote before 7:00pm.
- 5) Each voter has the right to return a spoiled ballot and is entitled to receive another ballot in its place.
- 6) Each voter has the right to request assistance in voting, if necessary.
- 7) Each voter has the right to a sample ballot which is accurate, informative and delivered in timely manner.
- 8) Each voter has the right to receive instruction in the use of the equipment for voting during early voting or on Election Day.
- 9) Each voter has the right to have nondiscriminatory equal access to the elections system, including, without limitation, a voter who is elderly, disabled, a member of a minority group, employed by the military, or a citizen who is overseas.
- 10) Each voter has the right to have a uniform, statewide standard for counting and recounting all votes accurately.
- 11) Each voter has the right to have complaints about election contests resolved fairly, accurately and efficiently.

## VOTING IN PERSON

Unless you have requested an absentee ballot, you will have to vote in person.

For early voting, you may visit any polling location during their polling hours. You can find polling places here:

<https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/election-day-information>

If you are voting on election day, you will have to report to your designated polling place for your precinct.

When you go to vote and are already a registered voter, **you should never be asked for proof of identification** such as an ID or driver's license. Rather, you should only be asked for your address to check if you are in the election board register, and your signature, which will be verified by an election board officer.

If you are in line by the time the polling location closes, you must be allowed to vote and the polling location must remain open. (NRS 293C.297)

If you are a registered voter and have a physical disability or inability to read or write English and are unable to mark and complete the ballot on your own, you are entitled to assistance from a consenting person of your choice to help cast your ballot. (NRS. 293C.282)

All polling places must be accessible to elderly or disabled voters. All polling places must have at least one booth that is wheelchair accessible, and designated for use by elderly or disabled voters. This booth must contain the same privacy of other booths and be equipped with a mechanical recording device. (NRS 293C.281)

## VOTER CHECKLIST

- ✓ Register to vote/update registration
- ✓ Apply for absentee ballot if needed
- ✓ Send in absentee ballot
- ✓ Confirm polling place location
- ✓ Research candidates and ballot questions (Tip: Complete sample ballot and bring to polling location for reference)
- ✓ Determine when you will go and how you will get there
- ✓ VOTE!