



GENERAL ELECTION EDITION!!!!

NOVEMBER 8th, 2016

“Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Hello FNSA,

My name is Nigam Reddy. I am the Region 5 Director and State Legislative Chairman. After attending Advocacy Days and outlining my Legislative Awareness Project, I want to kick things off by encouraging the FNSA community to “Get Out The Vote” and encourage others to vote for the upcoming General Election on November 8th. Within the “Get Out The Vote” campaign, I am not only trying to promote more registered voters, but an increase in knowledgeable voters who understand the positions of the candidate they are voting for, the impact their positions will have on the economy, healthcare, education, the environment, and other facets important to the livelihood of our society at the local, state, and national level. One does not need to read textbooks to understand all the nitty gritty within these principles, but I believe a voter should understand that things like increased healthcare coverage would require some sacrifice in other parts of the economy and could require an increase in taxes as an example. I know some of you may be thinking as a nursing student, why am I talking about trying to increase registered voters, well here is my reasoning: It is my belief that through voting we can lead true change and as healthcare professionals help promote the highest patient care possible and a greater scope of nursing practice.

Best Regards,

Nigam A. Reddy

FNSA Region 5 Director/Legislative Committee Chairman

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This document I created is to help serve you with most of the necessary voter information. I obtained all of this information from the “Florida Division of Elections” website and you can refer to their website for further clarification.

1. How do I know if I am eligible to register to vote in Florida?

a. Must be U.S. Citizen and a Florida resident.

i. IMPORTANT:

1. If you’re a nursing student registered in another state, you would need to find out your state’s absentee ballot deadline to apply for an absentee ballot and the deadline for submitting the absentee ballot to your supervisor of elections.

a. Additional information can be found at your state’s department of elections website.

2. If you’re a nursing student who isn’t registered, but is from another state, you would need to find out your state’s voter registration deadline and then proceed with the absentee ballot if need be.

a. Additional information can be found at your state’s department of elections website.

b. Must be 18 years old to vote.

c. Not having been convicted of a felony without your civil rights being restored.

d. Never been legally judged ineligible to vote for mental incapacitation or crime.

e. Provide current Florida Driver’s License # or Florida Identification Card Number. If you don’t have either of these, you must provide the last four of your Social Security #.

2. Ok, I am eligible to vote, but how do I register to vote?

- a. You can either request of go pick up an application from your County Supervisor of Elections office and then complete and sign the application and mail it (1st class stamp) or hand deliver it back to your County Supervisor of Elections office.
 - b. Fill out the online application on the Florida Division of Elections website and then print and sign and mail (1st class stamp) or hand deliver it to your County Supervisor of Elections office. Online application: <http://dos.myflorida.com/media/693757/dsde39.pdf>
 - c. Apply through any Florida DMV or Tax Collector's Office that issues driver's licenses or identification cards.
 - d. Apply through any "voter registration agency":
 - i. Offices that provide public assistance (Ex: Dept. of Children and Families Food Assistance Program, Dept. of Health WIC Program, etc.).
 - ii. Offices that provide mainly disability services.
 - iii. Any military recruitment office.
 - iv. Any public library.
 - e. Once you have applied, the Supervisor of Elections should mail you your voter information card and verify all of the information on it is correct!
 - f. **IMPORTANT:**
 - i. In Florida, you must register at least 29 days before the election to be eligible to vote.
 - ii. If you are a nursing student from another state, you must establish your state's voter registration deadline before the election...can be found at your state's department of elections website.
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3. **I am a registered voter and just got a job as a RN in Orlando, how do I change my address on my voter information?**

- a. To change your address:
 - i. If you move within your preexisting county, just notify your Supervisor of Elections. If you move to another county, notify your new Supervisor of Elections. Notifications can be done in person, by phone, or a written notice like the voter application. Provide your DATE OF BIRTH!

- b. To change your party:
 - i. Done through a written notice like voter application. Must include date of birth and voter number and any party changes can be made any time for the general election!
 - c. To change your name:
 - i. If your name has changed, you must submit the change through written notice like the voter application. Must include date of birth and voter number!
 - d. Lost your card:
 - i. You can request a new card by checking the appropriate box on the voter application.
 - e. All voter applications must be printed and signed and can be mailed (1st class) or hand delivered to your County Supervisor of Elections office, Florida DMV/Tax Collector Office, and any “voter registration agency” as explained earlier.
 - f. Once you have sent your changes, the Supervisor of Elections should mail you your updated voter information card and verify all of the information on it is correct!
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4. I don't feel like waiting in a long line to go vote, how do I request an Absentee Ballot?

- a. You can request an absentee ballot through:
 - i. Online voter application on your County Supervisor of Elections website:
<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/>
 - ii. In person at a Supervisor of Elections office.
 - iii. By phone...call Supervisor of Elections.
 - iv. In writing as well through mail, email, or fax.
- b. When requesting an absentee ballot, you need:
 - i. Voter's name, address, date of birth, and their signature (if request is a written one).
- c. The voter can request the ballot to be delivered or can be picked up as soon as ballot is available (up to 7 p.m. on Election Day)...if waiting till Election Day you must fill out the Absentee Ballot Affidavit Form: <http://dos.myflorida.com/media/693307/dsde136.pdf> to provide reasoning for being unable to attend polling location.

- d. Other questions look here: <http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/absentee-voting/>
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5. How do I check my voter status and preferred polling location?

- a. Click this link: <http://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus>
 - i. From there, it will provide all your voter information and also your preferred polling location based on where you live. You can also check on the status of your Absentee Ballot. It can take 1-2 business days for new voters and any updates to be available for lookup.
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6. When can I vote?

- a. Florida General Election Day: November 8th, 2016
- b. Florida General Election Voter Registration Deadline: October 11th, 2016
- c. Florida General Election Absentee Ballot Send Deadlines:
 - i. If you are absent from the state: September 24th, 2016
 - ii. If you are a in-state absentee: October 4th – 11th, 2016
- d. Florida General Election Early Voting Period: October 29th – November 5th, 2016
 - i. Locations/Times: <http://dos.myflorida.com/media/696006/early-voting-2016-ppp-locations-and-times.pdf>
 - ii. Have a valid photo identification and signature identification.
 - 1. Proper Forms of ID: <http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/for-voters/voting/election-day-voting/>