

Your Voice, Your Vote!

Election Day Voter Guide

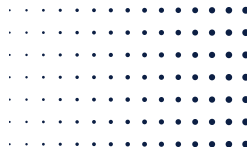
Be informed, not misled.



- Voting Rights
- Avoiding Misinformation
- Getting to the Polls
- Election Day Checklist

**GENERAL
ELECTION**

**TUESDAY
NOV. 5, 2024**



COURTESY OF:



TABLE OF CONTENTS

3

About This Guide

4

know Your Rights

6

Important Dates

7

In-person Voting

8

General Election

10

Avoiding Election Misinformation

12

Getting to the Polls

14

Election Day Checklist

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Welcome to your 2024 Voter Information Guide, brought to you by the [Flint Courier News](#). Voting is one of the most powerful tools we have to shape our communities, influence public policy, and uphold the values we hold dear. This guide is designed to equip you with all the information you need to make informed choices on candidates, issues, and local measures.

Inside, you'll find breakdowns of key races, non-partisan summaries of propositions, and insights into candidates' positions on the issues that matter most to our community. Our mission is to provide a clear, balanced, and concise resource to empower your vote.

Thank you for being an engaged and active citizen. Let's shape the future—together.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Who Can Vote?

Most people who will be 18-years-old or older on Election Day can vote if they have registered to vote.

You Can Register to Vote in Michigan if:

- You are a U.S. Citizen
- You have been a resident of a city or township in Michigan for at least 30 days (or will be by Election Day)
- You are at least 17 and a half years old
- You are not currently serving a sentence in jail or prison

People who have a guardian can register to vote as long as they meet the requirements listed above.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Are You a Student?

Students who meet the eligibility requirements on page 4 can register to vote, even if they are not from Michigan.

Were you recently jailed or in jail now? Can you vote?

Usually, yes. **The only time you cannot register and vote is when you are serving a sentence in jail or prison.** You can vote even if:

- You have a felony or misdemeanor.
- You are on probation, parole, or tether.
- You are awaiting arraignment, trial, or sentencing – whether you are in jail or not.



IMPORTANT DATES

In the lead-up to the General Election, several key dates shape the electoral process. Voter registration deadlines are among the earliest dates, varying by state but often falling in October. **In Michigan, early voting began on Oct. 26 and ends on Nov. 3.** The deadline for absentee or mail-in ballot requests also varies by state. Election Day itself, the first Tuesday in November, marks the final opportunity for citizens to cast their ballots. Each of these dates ensures all voters have ample opportunity to participate in the democratic process.



OCT. 26

First day of mandatory early voting period

NOV. 3

Last day of the mandatory early voting period

NOV. 4 AT 4 P.M.

Deadline to vote in person, with an absentee ballot, at your city or township clerk's office if you're registered to vote where you live (after today at 4 p.m., you must vote at your polling place on Election Day).



NOV. 5

Election Day! Polls are open 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. local time. If you need to register to vote, you can register and then vote at your city or township clerk's office until 8 p.m.

****If you're serving in the military or living overseas, your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day (November 5) and received by November 11 to count.***

IN-PERSON VOTING TUESDAY, NOV. 5

On Election Day, voting occurs at polling places. If you plan to vote in person on Election Day, you must do so at the assigned polling place where you live. To find your polling place, go to [VOTE411.org](https://www.vote411.org). Your assigned polling place is connected to your address. A change in address may affect your assigned polling place.

All polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day. Everyone in line at 8 p.m. must be allowed to vote.

Bring Your Photo ID to the Polls.

You will be asked to show your photo ID for verification when you check in to vote.

If you don't have a photo ID, you can still vote.

Michigan law allows you to vote if you arrive at your polling place without ID. Before issuing your ballot, a poll worker will ask you to sign an Affidavit of Voter Not in Possession of Picture ID, stating you are not in Possession of Picture ID, stating you are not. You will be issued a regular ballot. If the poll worker wants to issue you a provisional ballot or challenged ballot, call the Voter Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683).



Did You Know?

Your photo ID does not have to have your address on it.

Acceptable Voter ID

- Michigan Driver's License
- Driver's License from Other State
- Federal or State Government-Issued ID with photo
- US Passport
- Student ID with Photo
- Michigan ID with photo
- State ID from other State
- Tribal ID with Photo

2024 GENERAL ELECTION

In the 2024 general election, Genesee County residents, including Flint, will have several key choices on the ballot, spanning federal, state, and local races. The most prominent race is the presidential election, where voters will decide among candidates from major and minor parties for the next President of the United States.

Candidates United States President

KAMALA D. HARRIS

Running Mate: Tim Walz
Democratic

DONALD J. TRUMP

Running Mate: JD Vance
Republican

CHASE OLIVER

Running Mate: Mike Ter Maat
Libertarian

JILL STEIN

Running Mate: Randolph Ware
Green

ROBERT F. KENNEDY JR.

Running Mate: Nicole Shanahan
Natural Law

RANDALL TERRY

Running Mate: Stephen E. Broden
US Taxpayers

JOSEPH KISHORE

Running Mate: Jerry White
No Party Affiliation

CORNEL WEST

Running Mate: Melina Abdullah
No Party Affiliation

2024 GENERAL ELECTION

A decorative graphic consisting of two orange squares of different sizes, one in the top right and one in the middle right, and a horizontal orange line below the title.

At the state level, Genesee County will see elections for various judicial positions, including district court judges and seats on the Michigan Supreme Court. Local races include seats on the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, where each district has candidates vying for commissioner roles, impacting county governance and local services. Offices such as county clerk, register of deeds, and treasurer are also up for election, with candidates from both major parties as well as independents in some contests.

In Flint and surrounding municipalities, voters will have decisions on city council seats, mayoral races, and township trustee positions.

Visit the [Michigan Voter Information Center](#) to find your polling place and to view a sample ballot for any precinct in the State for the upcoming election. You can view your own sample ballot by checking the [voter information section of this website](#).

AVOID ELECTION MISINFORMATION

To avoid election misinformation, rely on trusted news sources, verify information with fact-checking websites, and be cautious of sensational headlines or unverified social media posts. This [video](#) offers tips on how to avoid election misinformation.



Is it legit?

Five steps for vetting a news source

Many sources compete for attention online, including partisan blogs and bogus sites posing as legitimate news organizations. It can be tough to know what to trust. Follow these steps to cut through the noise and learn how to evaluate sources for signs of credibility – as well as for red flags that signal a source should be avoided.

Test your source savvy!
Scan this QR code to put your source-vetting skills to the test.



1

Do a quick search

Conducting a simple search for information about a news source is a key first step in evaluating its credibility. It's important to look beyond social media. Go to a search engine and plug in the name of the website or publication. Do other legitimate sources, such as standards-based news organizations or **fact-checking websites**, describe this publication as unreliable? Satirical? Is it a state-run propaganda "news" site? If so, there's no need to spend more time vetting. Look elsewhere for reliable information.

- **Tip:** Wikipedia can be a good place to start and lead you to relevant source links; just keep in mind that some credible local newsrooms may not have an entry there. You can also see if a source has been vetted for inclusion on news aggregators, such as [Google News](#), [Apple News](#) and [SmartNews](#).

2

Look for standards

Reputable news organizations aspire to ethical guidelines and standards, including fairness, accuracy and independence. These standards should be available publicly – often in the form of editorial policies or a code of ethics. Look for evidence that a source follows such standards. If someone is mentioned in a critical story, for instance, did the journalist give that person a chance to comment?

- **Note:** Some professional journalism standards are commonly shared across the industry, such as the [Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics](#). Other policies are unique to different newsrooms.

Beware of these trust busters!

If you spot any of these problems, look elsewhere for credible news.

- ✗ **False or untrue content:**
Publishing a demonstrably false claim without correcting it
- ✗ **Clickbait tactics:**
"Baiting" you with sensationalized language, including misleading or exaggerated headlines, or headlines that are purposely vague to drive clicks
- ✗ **Lack of balance:**
Consistently focusing on one angle or side of a legitimate debate or controversy, while ignoring or distorting other perspectives

3

Check for transparency

Quality news sources should be transparent, not only about their reporting practices (see Step 2), but also about their ownership and funding. Is it clear who owns and runs this website or publication? Is advertising labeled responsibly? Can you tell who is writing and producing content? Is there a way to contact newsroom editors and reporters?

- **Remember:** "About" pages can provide some of these details, but they can also be misleading and omit important information (about a source's ownership or lack of independence, for example). Don't be fooled by a **sleek web design**, or trust the "About" page on an unfamiliar site without further verification. If something seems suspicious, check it out.

4

Examine how errors are handled

Credible news sources are accountable for mistakes and correct them. Do you see evidence that this source corrects or clarifies errors?

5

Assess news coverage

An important step in vetting sources is taking time to read and assess several news articles: Do you see original reporting? Do they provide straight news reports, or just commentary and opinion? Are there grammatical and/or spelling errors? How do news articles from this source compare to coverage from other standards-based newsrooms on this same topic? Many people have strong opinions about news sources without evaluating them firsthand.

- **Tip:** Take note of bylines (names) on news coverage. These bylines can help you confirm that this coverage was written or produced by professional journalists. Bylines are also a sign of transparency and accountability.

- ✗ **Manipulated images or videos**

Tip: You can do a [reverse image search](#) using



and [Yandex](#)

(among other tools) to see if visuals have been misrepresented or altered in some way.

- ✗ **State-run or state-sponsored propaganda:**
Using government-controlled news organizations to further national agendas and improve public image
- ✗ **Dangerous, offensive and malicious content:**
Could include discriminatory language, unverified pseudoscience, content that promotes violence or coverage that – as the SPJ Code of Ethics states – panders "to lurid curiosity"



SmartNews

This infographic was created by the **News Literacy Project** in partnership with **SmartNews**, a news app for mobile devices.

For a future founded on facts [newslit.org](#)

GETTING TO THE POLLS

Nonpartisan organizations and companies are offering FREE rides to the polls and early voting sites in a number of communities. **Flint area residents can call (810) 955-4495 or (810) 282-3067. Rides are available starting Sunday, October 27.**

Visit MichiganVoting.org for additional details.



Ride with Lyft or Uber

[Lyft](#) and [Uber](#) are both offering discounted rides to the polls on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5.



DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO THE POLLS?

FREE TRANSPORTATION TO
FLINT EARLY VOTING SITES



SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL
THE ELECTIONS OFFICE @
810-257-3283 TO SIGN UP!

October 26th, 30th & November 1st

Route 1

10:00AM - HASSELDBRING SENIOR CENTER
10:15AM - FLINT DEVELOPMENT CENTER
10:30AM - BERSTON FIELD HOUSE



Route 2

10:00AM - EASTSIDE SENIOR CENTER
10:15AM - LATINX COMMUNITY AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER
10:30AM - BRENNAN SENIOR CENTER



Election Day Checklist

Verify Polling Location and Hours

Go to [Vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org) to confirm your polling place.

Review Voter ID Requirements

You will be asked to show your photo ID for verification when you check in to vote.

Plan Your Voting Time

On Election Day, decide when you'll go to vote, considering potential wait times. Early morning or midday may be less crowded.

Research Ballot Measures

Visit the [Michigan Voter Information Center](#) to review your sample ballot and research the candidates.

Confirm Your Ballot Submission

Before leaving, ensure your ballot is correctly submitted, either electronically or in a drop box.

Celebrate Your Vote!