

# IN OUR OWN VOICE:



“ Voting in this runoff is important for Black women and femmes voters in GA because it’s a part of the work to get people in our communities in positions that can shift power and build systems centering our lives.

**DR. KRYSTAL REDMAN**

*Executive Director SPARK Reproductive Justice Now, Inc*

“ The GA runoff is about unfinished business. We have to get back to the polls, send in those ballots, and make this entire election be the change we are still fighting for.

**DAZON DIXON DIALLO, DHL, MPH**

*Founder/President, SisterLove, Inc*

**GEORGIA RUNOFF ELECTION JANUARY 5, 2021**

# GEORGIA RUNOFF ELECTION

## MAKE A PLAN. SHARE YOUR PLAN.

It is critical for each of us to **MAKE A PLAN** to vote in the Georgia runoff election. Georgia has a history of attempting to suppress the votes of Black women and men.

Make a plan to vote now and encourage your friends, family, and community to do the same. This is a critical part of voter outreach this year. Your plan to vote should include answers to the following question.

### ➤ HOW WILL I VOTE?

**EARLY VOTING:** Where early voting is available, we **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** taking advantage of this option. Make a plan to vote as soon as early voting begins on December 14, 2020.

**ABSENTEE/MAIL-IN VOTING:** Request your absentee or mail-in ballot as soon as possible and return it immediately. We recommend that you mail your ballot in **NO LATER** than December 15, 2020 (three weeks before January 5, 2021), to ensure that your vote is counted.

**VOTING ON ELECTION DAY:** If you are voting on January 5, 2021, make a plan that allows time for longer lines than usual. Stay in line until you vote, no matter what time it is and no matter what anyone tells you. If you are in line when the polls close, you are entitled to vote. Find your polling location. Map out your route to get there, including parking. Whenever possible, go to vote along with other members of your community. Wear comfortable shoes, and bring snacks and water.

### ➤ EARLY VOTING

Polls are open for early voting **December 14, 2020, to January 1, 2021**. Hours may vary based on where you live and the impact of COVID-19. Please check with your county elections clerk for more information at [sos.ga.gov](https://sos.ga.gov).

### ➤ VOTING BY MAIL/ABSENTEE VOTING

Georgia law allows for absentee and mail-in ballots to be requested as early as 180 days before an election. Complete an absentee ballot application and return it by December 14. You can apply online, or fill out the application and return it by mail, fax, or email (as an attachment), or in person to your local county board of registrars office. To request an absentee or mail-in ballot, visit [ballotrequest.sos.ga.gov](https://ballotrequest.sos.ga.gov).

## HOW TO VOTE IN GEORGIA:

### ▶ REQUIREMENTS:

**To register in Georgia you must:**

- be a citizen of the United States
- be a legal resident of Georgia and of the county in which you want to vote
- be 18 years old within six months after the day of registration, and be 18 years old to vote
- not be serving a sentence for conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude
- not have been judicially determined to be mentally incompetent, unless the disability has been removed
- find more information on voting rights restoration: Georgia Felony Voting Rights, [ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/felon-voting-rights.aspx](https://ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/felon-voting-rights.aspx)

### ▶ REGISTER TO VOTE:

**Check Your Voter Registration Online:** You can look up your voter registration record and verify that your information is correct using Georgia's voter registration lookup tool at [www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do](https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do)

# GEORGIA RUNOFF ELECTION JANUARY 5, 2021

## ▶ WHAT YOU NEED TO VOTE IN GEORGIA:

### At the Polls:

- ▶ You will need to show a photo ID to vote in Georgia.
- ▶ **Voters without ID:** If you are unable to provide ID, you will be able to cast a provisional ballot.

*COVID-19 protections: Most polling locations will be equipped with PPE and using social distancing guidelines. Check with your county clerk for more information.*

*Polling locations and times may vary during early voting and on Election Day.*

*Check with your county clerk and secretary of state for information including locations and times.*

### Voting by Mail/Absentee Voting:

- ▶ Request your mail-in ballot with a mail ballot application.
- ▶ Fill out the application completely.
- ▶ Submit the request to your local election office. You should request your ballot as far in advance of the election as possible. The deadline to request a ballot by mail is (received by) Friday, January 1, 2021.
- ▶ When your ballot arrives, read it carefully and follow the instructions to complete it and return it.

*Due to COVID-19 and USPS delays, counties will provide drop-off locations, such as county clerk offices or ballot drop boxes. See your county clerk for more information.*

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

GEORGIA SECRETARY OF STATE: [sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections](https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections)

VOTER PROTECTION HOTLINE/ACLU: [aclu.org/en/voting-and-elections-2020](https://aclu.org/en/voting-and-elections-2020) • 678-981-5294

STATE GENERAL ELECTION RACES: [sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections](https://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections)



## KEY DATES

**DECEMBER 14–JANUARY 1:**

Early voting

**JANUARY 5:**

Election Day

## ▶ WHO WE ARE

**In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda**

is a national reproductive justice (RJ) organization focused on increasing the voices of Black women leaders at the national and state levels in our ongoing policy fight to secure reproductive justice for all women and girls.

In Our Own Voice is a national–state partnership with eight Black women's RJ organizations: Black Women for Wellness, Black Women's Health Imperative, New Voices for Reproductive Justice, SisterLove, Inc., SisterReach, SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW, The Afiya Center, and Women With a Vision.

**I AM A  
VOTER**

[www.BlackWomen.vote](https://www.BlackWomen.vote)

# OUR CAUSES

In Our Own Voice advocates for issues that impact Black women, such as affordable health care, abortion access, equal pay, quality education, LGBTQ+ liberation, criminal justice reform, and maternal health.

- **AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE:** The uninsured rate for American adults is 13.7%, with Black people at an even higher rate of 14.8%. However, there are some encouraging trends:
  - **Abortion access:** We support access to abortion care, including public insurance coverage so every woman — regardless of her income — can access affordable and safe abortion care when she needs it.
- **QUALITY EDUCATION:** We support the right to achieve academic excellence in a safe, welcoming, and dignified environment, and reject zero-tolerance policies that feed the school-to-prison pipeline.
- **MATERNAL HEALTH:** We support Black women's access to high-quality, affordable health care before, during, and after pregnancy as a critical component of our human rights.
- **LGBTQ+ LIBERATION:** We support programs and policies to ensure that Black LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly youth, have the right and resources to make healthy decisions about their lives, bodies, genders, and sexualities.
- **ECONOMIC RIGHTS:** We support equal pay, a living wage, and economic policies that incorporate race, gender, and socioeconomic status — all of which impact the lives and opportunities of Black women and their families.
- **CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM:** Black Georgians are 3.3 times more likely to be incarcerated than white Georgians. We support policies to ensure that all people are treated with respect and are not subject to unjust racial and gender profiling or unfair and biased sentencing.