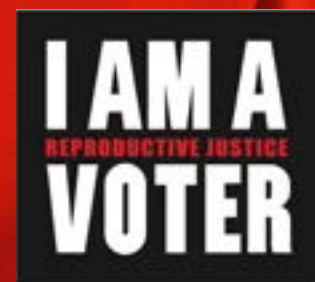


# BE A REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE VOTER.



**TRUST BLACK WOMEN TO MAKE PERSONAL DECISIONS  
THAT ARE BEST FOR US AND OUR FAMILIES.**

**VOTE ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 5.**



   [BLACKWOMENSJRJ](#)  
 [BLACKWOMEN.VOTE](#)

# LOUISIANA 2024 VOTING GUIDELINES

This Voter Guide is intended to be used solely for educational purposes and is not meant to support or oppose any candidate or political party. Any use of this Voter Guide should be for 501(c)(3)-compliant purposes only. This Voter Guide shall not be used for any partisan, political, or electioneering activities by any organization or individual.

## Your Plan to Vote should include answers to the following questions:

### AM I REGISTERED TO VOTE?

**CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION STATUS** at <https://vote.civcnation.org/register/iamarjvoter/> to ensure that you have not been purged from the voter roll in your state.

### HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE

The deadline to register to vote is Monday, October 7, if registering in person or by mail, or Tuesday, October 15, if registering via the GeauxVote online registration system.

- > **Online:** Use the state's GeauxVote registration system to register or update your information. You will need the four-digit audit code on your Louisiana driver's license or the state's special ID card to submit your application electronically.
- > **By mail:** Download and print an application from the Secretary of State's website. Mail your completed application to your local registrar of voters office. Registrars of voters' addresses are included on the form.
- > **In person:** Go to any registrar of voters office and fill out a voter registration form. Bring your current Louisiana driver's license, Social Security card, birth certificate, or other form of ID that proves your identity, age, and residency. You may also register in person at the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles or other state agencies.
- > **By phone:** Call your parish registrar of voters or the Secretary of State's office at 1-800-883-2805 to request a form.

### HOW WILL I VOTE?

**Early Voting:** All registered voters may vote before Election Day. Vote early at your designated parish location. For the general election, early voting begins Friday, October 18, and ends on Tuesday, October 29.

**Absentee/Mail-in Voting:** Anyone 65 or older is eligible to vote absentee by mail. Others are eligible to vote absentee for approved reasons — such as people with a disability or those who will be absent from their parish or outside the state during the voting period.

To request an absentee ballot, voters in Louisiana can apply via:

- > **Online:** Log in to the state's voter portal at <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/>, click Search by Voter, then enter your name, zip code, birth month, and year. Once entered, click the "request absentee ballot" link and follow the instructions.
- > **By mail or fax:** Print a general application form from the Secretary of State's website, or call your parish registrar of voters to request an application. Mail or fax your completed form to your parish registrar of voters.
- > **In person:** Print and complete an application form, then hand-deliver it to your parish registrar of voters. You may have an immediate family member deliver it for you, but that person may need to fill out additional paperwork.

Voters can also use an absentee ballot tool at <https://www.vote.org/absentee-ballot/> to prepare their application.

Request your absentee or mail-in ballot as soon as possible and return it immediately. We are recommending you mail your ballot in NO

LATER than 3 weeks before November 8 to ensure that your vote is counted.

Deadline to request an absentee/mail-in ballot is Friday, November 1.

#### Returning Your Absentee Ballot

Follow the printed instructions for returning your completed ballot. A step-by-step guide is posted at <https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/Vote/FrequentlyAskedQuestions/Pages/VotingByMail.aspx?OwnershipName=VotingByMail&faqid=0> The deadline for a registrar of voters to receive a voted absentee ballot is Monday, November 4.

- > **By mail:** Mail your completed ballot with proper postage to your parish registrar of voters.
- > **In person:** Hand-deliver your ballot to your parish registrar of voters. You may have an immediate family member deliver it for you, but that person will need to sign a statement certifying their relationship to you.

Track your absentee ballot through the state's voter information portal.

For more information, please visit <https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/Vote/VoteByMail/Pages/default.aspx>

#### In-Person Voting on Election Day:

Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. You may cast a ballot as long as you are in line at 8 p.m. Use the Louisiana Voter Portal to find out where you vote on Election Day, or call your parish registrar of voters office. The Secretary of State's office posts sample ballots online.

### HOW IS MY COMMUNITY VOTING?

**Share Your Plan to Vote** with your family, friends, and community. Help them develop a Plan to Vote. Support each other and vote together, no matter which way you are voting. Send in your ballots on the same day, vote early together, or plan on getting in line as a community on November 5.

Use Social Media to Share Your Plan to Vote. Post online about how you developed your Plan to Vote, and challenge others to do the same. Utilize spaces like Facebook Groups and Group Chats to start conversations about your Plan to Vote.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- > Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.
  - > The deadline to request an absentee/mail-in ballot is Friday, November 1, four days before the election.
  - > The early voting period starts on Friday, October 18, and ends on Tuesday, October 29.
- See <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/> for additional information.

## HOW TO VOTE IN LOUISIANA

### TO REGISTER IN LOUISIANA, YOU MUST:

- > Be a citizen of the United States
- > Be a resident of Louisiana (a college student may elect to use her home address or her address while away at school)
- > Be at least 17 years old (16 years old if registering in person at the Registrar of Voters Office or at the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles)
- > Not currently be under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony (If you are under an order but have not been incarcerated within the last five years, you ARE eligible to vote unless your conviction was for election fraud.)
- > Not currently be under a judgment of interdiction for mental incompetence.
- > Find more information on voting rights restoration.

**Check Your Voter Registration Online** — You can look up your voter registration record and verify that your information is correct using <https://weall.vote/iamarjvoter>

### WHAT DO YOU NEED TO VOTE IN LOUISIANA?

#### In-Person Voter ID Requirements:

If you are voting in person in Louisiana (including during early voting), you must present one of the following forms of valid photo ID at the time you vote:

- > A Louisiana driver's license or special ID card; A Louisiana wallet digital driver's license; A U.S. military ID card that contains your name and picture; or another generally recognized picture ID card that contains your name and signature.

If you don't have any of the above IDs, or if you are not found on the registrar's list (attempting to vote in a parish where you are not registered), you can still cast a ballot by completing a sworn statement and submitting a provisional ballot.

You can vote in person on Election Day from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at your assigned polling place. If you are in line by 8 p.m., you will still be allowed to vote.

For more information, visit Louisiana Secretary of State page on [Voting Provisionally](#)

**Voters Without ID or Not Found in Registry on Polling Day:** If you are unable to provide ID, you will be able to vote a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot is a paper ballot used by a voter when their eligibility to vote cannot be determined at the polling

place. Voters who declare they are registered and eligible to vote in the county in which they desire to vote, but whose names do not appear on the registration list, must be permitted to cast a provisional ballot. If you have a good-faith belief you are properly registered in your county, you have the right to vote a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot will count if your eligibility can be determined within 3 days after Election Day by your County Registrar's office.

*COVID protections: Most voting locations will be equipped with PPE and social distancing guidelines. Check with your County Clerk for more information.*

*Polling locations and times may vary during Early Vote and Election Day.*

*Check with your County Clerk and Secretary of State for information, including locations and times.*

## RECENT VOTING CHANGES IN LOUISIANA

Lawmakers in 2024 passed several voting-related measures that went into effect on August 1, 2024.

People risk potential penalties if they help more than one non-family member with an absentee ballot certificate. A law targeting ballot harvesting restricts people from delivering more than one absentee ballot via mail unless it is for immediate family. Voters must fill out all required information on an absentee-by-mail ballot certificate or risk having their vote not be counted.

Nursing home residents may participate in a special early voting program 2 weeks before early voting starts, instead of 1 week.

Redistricting has changed certain boundaries of the state's U.S. congressional districts, potentially impacting which candidates appear on your ballot. In May 2024, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision that allows Louisiana to use district maps passed by lawmakers early this year for the November 2024 election. Ongoing litigation may result in congressional district modifications in subsequent elections.

Louisiana 2024 Voting Guidelines

Important Dates:

- > Voter registration deadline: Monday, October 7 (in person, by mail), Tuesday, October 15 (online)
- > Last day of early voting: Tuesday, October 29
- > Last day to request an absentee ballot: Friday, November 1
- > Deadline to return an absentee ballot: Monday, November 4

## HOW TO VOTE IN LOUISIANA

### Requirements

To register in Louisiana, you must:

- > Be a citizen of the United States
- > Be a resident of Louisiana and reside in the parish in which you seek to register
- > Be 17 years old (16 years old if registering in person at the Registrar of Voters Office or at the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles), but must be 18 years old to vote
- > Not be under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony or, if under such an order, not have been incarcerated pursuant to the order within the last 5 years and not be under an order of imprisonment related to a felony conviction for election fraud or any other election offense pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1461.2
- > Not be under a judgment of full interdiction for mental incompetence or partial interdiction with suspension of voting rights

Find more information on voting rights restoration at <https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/PublishedDocuments/BillOfRights.pdf>

## WHAT DO YOU NEED TO VOTE IN LOUISIANA?

### AT THE POLLS:

Each voter is required to identify themselves by giving their name and address to a commissioner, and by presenting either a Louisiana driver's license, a Louisiana special identification card, an LA Wallet digital driver's license, a United States military identification card that contains the voter's name and picture, or another generally recognized picture identification card that contains the name and signature of the applicant. If no photo ID is available, the voter can complete a Voter Identification Affidavit (AV-34), but is subject to challenge by law.

All registered voters may obtain a free Louisiana special identification card by presenting a voter information card to the Office of Motor Vehicles.

Voters without ID: If you are unable to provide ID, you may still cast your vote by signature on a voter affidavit and file a provisional ballot.

*COVID protections: Most polling locations will be equipped with PPE and social distancing guidelines. Check with your County Clerk for more information.*

*Polling locations and times may vary during Early Vote and Election Day.*

*Check with your County Clerk and Secretary of State for information, including locations and times.*

Absentee Voting/Voting by Mail

1. Review the absentee ballot application and confirm that you meet the eligibility requirements for voting absentee. You may find it here: <https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/Vote/VoteByMail/Pages/default.aspx>
2. Fill out the application completely.
3. Submit the request online, via mail or in-person to your local election office. (Find that here: <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/Registrar>) You should request your ballot as far in advance of the election as possible. The deadline for a request to vote by mail to be received by is Friday, November 1, 2024.
4. When your ballot arrives, read it carefully and follow the instructions to complete it and return it.

Due to COVID and delays in USPS, counties will provide drop-off locations at County Clerk offices or ballot drop boxes; see your County Clerk for more information.



### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- ➔ **Louisiana Secretary of State:** <https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/Pages/default.aspx>  
Phone number: 225-922-0900
- ➔ **Find Your Early Voting Location**
- ➔ **Links and Resources:**  
Louisiana Voter Portal List of Early Voting Locations  
[GeauxVote.com](http://GeauxVote.com)  
Voting While Trans Guide
- ➔ **Election Protection Hotlines:**  
English: 866-OUR-VOTE  
Spanish: 888-VE-Y-VOTA  
Asian Languages: 888-API-VOTE  
Arabic: 844-YALLA-US

# BLACK WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE ISSUES

**COST OF LIVING** — Polling data from the survey of Black women voters in Louisiana reveals that the cost of living is a significant concern, with many women identifying it as one of the most important issues affecting their daily lives. Economic pressures, such as rising housing costs and inflation, have made it increasingly difficult for Black women in Louisiana to secure stable and affordable living conditions. This economic instability is intricately linked to the principles of reproductive justice, which emphasize the right to have children, or not to have children, and raise families in safe and healthy environments. When the cost of living becomes prohibitive, the ability of Black women to make free and informed decisions about family planning and parenting is severely constrained. Addressing these economic challenges is therefore not just a matter of financial policy, but it's also a critical aspect of ensuring that Black women in Louisiana can exercise their reproductive rights fully and without undue burden. (Source: IOOV 2024 Survey)

**QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE** The survey data indicates that access to quality, affordable healthcare is a top concern for Black women voters in Louisiana, with 84% of respondents emphasizing the importance of increasing access to mental healthcare, and 86% prioritizing the expansion of Medicaid. Additionally, a significant majority (56%) of Black women reported experiencing racial and gender bias within the healthcare system, further complicating their ability to receive equitable care. These concerns are closely tied to the principles of reproductive justice, which advocate for the right to health and bodily autonomy, free from discrimination and bias. Without access to quality, affordable healthcare, including mental health services and equitable treatment within the system, Black women in Louisiana are hindered in their ability to make informed and empowered choices about their reproductive lives. Ensuring that all women have access to comprehensive and unbiased healthcare is essential for advancing reproductive justice in the state. (Source: IOOV 2024 Survey)

**RACISM/RACIAL JUSTICE** — The survey data reveals that racism and racial justice are critical concerns for Black women voters in Louisiana. A significant portion of respondents reported experiencing racial and gender bias in the healthcare system, with 56% acknowledging these challenges. This highlights the pervasive impact of systemic racism, which affects not only health outcomes, but also broader aspects of life, including economic stability, safety, and access to opportunities. Racial justice is a core component of reproductive justice, as it underscores the need for Black women to live in environments free from discrimination, where they can raise their families in safety and with dignity. Addressing racism is essential to ensuring that Black women in Louisiana have the ability to make autonomous decisions about their reproductive lives, without the added burden of racial inequities. (Source: IOOV 2024 Survey)

## QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to prompt candidates to address the key concerns of Black women voters in Louisiana while emphasizing the importance of reproductive justice in policy platforms.

- What specific steps will you take to address the high cost of living, and ensure that Black women in Louisiana have access to affordable housing and other necessities?
- How do you plan to expand access to quality, affordable healthcare in Louisiana, including mental health services, and address the racial and gender biases that Black women experience in the healthcare system?
- What actions will you take to protect and expand Medicaid in Louisiana, recognizing its critical role in providing health coverage for low-income Black women and families?
- How will you combat systemic racism in Louisiana, particularly in institutions like healthcare and law enforcement, to ensure that Black women and their families can live in safe and just communities?
- Given the recent abortion bans, how will you work to protect reproductive rights and ensure that Black women have access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare?
- What policies will you advocate for to ensure that Black women in Louisiana can achieve economic stability, including fair wages and equal pay for equal work?