

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.

**I AM A
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE
VOTER**

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BLACK WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE ISSUES

COST OF LIVING — Polling data from the survey of Black women voters in Pennsylvania indicates that the cost of living is a significant concern, with 90% of respondents highlighting it as an extremely or very important issue when thinking about getting out to vote. Economic pressures such as rising costs of housing, groceries, and utilities are making it increasingly difficult for Black women to provide for their families and secure stable living conditions. This economic instability directly impacts their ability to make informed and autonomous decisions about their reproductive lives, a core principle of reproductive justice. Ensuring that Black women in Pennsylvania have access to affordable living conditions is essential not only for their economic well-being, but also for their ability to exercise reproductive choices free from financial constraints. (Source: IOOV 2024 Survey)

RACISM / RACIAL JUSTICE — The survey of Black women voters in Pennsylvania reveals that racism and racial justice are pressing concerns, with a significant portion of respondents ranking these issues among their top priorities. A majority (56%) of Black women reported experiencing racial and gender bias within the healthcare system, highlighting the pervasive impact of systemic racism on their access to quality care. This issue is deeply tied to reproductive justice, which advocates for the right to live in a society free from discrimination and violence. Addressing systemic racism is critical to ensuring that Black women can make informed and autonomous decisions about their reproductive lives and receive the healthcare and social support they need. For reproductive justice to be fully realized in Pennsylvania, it is essential to confront and dismantle the structures of racism that continue to harm Black women and their families. (Source: IOOV 2024 Survey)

HEALTHCARE — Healthcare is a major concern for Black women voters in Pennsylvania, as highlighted by the survey data, with many respondents emphasizing the need for increased access to quality, affordable healthcare. A significant portion of Black women (56%) reported experiencing racial and gender bias within the healthcare system, which further complicates their ability to receive the care they need. This issue is closely tied to reproductive justice, which advocates for the right to health and bodily autonomy, free from discrimination. Without equitable access to comprehensive healthcare, including maternal care, mental health services, and preventive care, Black women are hindered in their ability to make informed and empowered decisions about their reproductive lives. Ensuring that healthcare is accessible, affordable, and free from bias is essential to advancing reproductive justice for Black women in Pennsylvania. (Source: IOOV 2024 Survey)

CRIME — Crime is a significant concern for Black women voters in Pennsylvania, particularly as it impacts the safety and stability of their communities. The fear and reality of crime not only threaten personal safety, but also disrupt the ability of Black women to provide secure environments for their families. This issue is deeply connected to reproductive justice, which emphasizes the right to parent children in safe, supportive communities. When crime rates are high, and communities are unsafe, it undermines the ability of Black women to exercise this right fully. Addressing crime effectively requires not only enhancing public safety, but also investing in community resources, social services, and economic opportunities that help create the conditions for Black women and their families to thrive. Ensuring safe and secure communities is essential for Black women to make empowered and autonomous decisions about their reproductive lives. (Source: IOOV 2024 Survey)

QUESTIONS

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

- How will you address the rising cost of living in Pennsylvania to ensure that Black women and their families can afford stable housing and essential goods, recognizing that economic stability is crucial for making informed reproductive choices?
- What specific steps will you take to combat racial and gender bias in Pennsylvania's healthcare system, ensuring that Black women receive equitable and quality care that is essential for their reproductive health and overall well-being?
- How do you plan to create safer communities in Pennsylvania, particularly in areas most affected by crime, to support Black women in raising their children in secure and nurturing environments as part of their reproductive justice rights?
- What policies will you implement to expand access to quality, affordable healthcare, including mental health services, to ensure that Black women in Pennsylvania can make empowered decisions about their reproductive lives?
- What actions will you take to promote racial justice in Pennsylvania, understanding that addressing systemic racism is critical to ensuring that Black women have the freedom to make reproductive choices without facing discrimination and violence?

YOUR RIGHTS

It's illegal to intimidate voters and a federal crime to "intimidate, threaten, [or] coerce ... any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of [that] other person to vote or to vote as they may choose."

What to do if you experience voter intimidation:

- Report intimidation to the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE or 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (en Español).
- Report intimidation to your local election officials. Their offices will be open on Election Day.

PENNSYLVANIA 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.

Register online, by mail, or in person. Registration forms must be received by Monday, October 21, for the general election.

Voter Registration Deadlines:

- > Online registration deadline: Monday, October 21, 2024
- > Register by mail deadline: Must be postmarked by Monday, October 21, 2024
- > In-person registration deadline: Monday, October 21, 2024

HOW WILL I VOTE?

Early Voting:

Pennsylvania does not have in-person early voting in the same way that some other states do. Instead, voters can apply for a mail-in ballot and, once received, they can complete and return it immediately, which effectively serves as a form of early voting.

In Pennsylvania, registered voters can request either a mail-in ballot or an absentee ballot.

Absentee/Mail-in Voting:

Mail-in ballot: Any registered voter may apply to vote by mail in the next election. You do not have to provide a reason for why you want to vote by mail ballot.

Absentee ballot: If you will be out of your municipality on Election Day, or if you have a disability or illness that prevents you from going to your polling place on Election Day, you can request this ballot type, which requires you to provide a reason for why you want to vote by mail ballot.

Deadlines for the November 5, 2024, General Election

5 p.m. October 29: Your APPLICATION for a mail-in or absentee ballot must be received by your county election office.

8 p.m. November 5: Your county election office must RECEIVE your completed mail ballot by this time. A postmark by 8 p.m. November 5 is not sufficient.

Missed the deadline to apply for your mail ballot? If you have an emergency – such as an unexpected illness or disability or last-minute absence from your municipality – you may still be able to obtain a mail ballot after the October 28 deadline. Find information here about how to get an emergency absentee ballot.

You can also use an absentee ballot tool to prepare your application.

Registered voters in Pennsylvania can apply for a mail-in or absentee ballot online with a valid Pennsylvania driver's license, a PennDOT-issued photo ID, or the last 4 digits of their Social Security number.

Be sure to provide an email address with your application so you will receive ballot status notifications.

Military or overseas civilian voters can find information here on how to obtain a mail ballot.

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>

HOW WILL I VOTE?

Early Voting: Pennsylvania does not allow early in-person voting. Pennsylvania residents who wish to vote early should request a mail-in or absentee ballot.

Absentee/Mail-in Voting: Request your absentee or mail-in ballot as soon as possible and return it immediately. Voters may return their completed mail-in or absentee ballot to their county election board of election office during that office's business hours, or another

officially designated location. Ballots must be received by your county election board before 8 p.m. on Election Day, November 5, 2024.

More information about return locations

Find your county election board

In-Person Voting on Election Day: If you are voting on November 5, 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 still entitled to vote. Find your local polling location, map out your route to get there, including parking, and (whenever possible) go vote with other members of your community. Wear comfortable shoes and bring snacks and water.

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 how you vote. Send in your ballots on the same day, vote early together, or plan on getting in line as a community on November 5.

IMPORTANT DATES

- > Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.
- > The deadline to request a mail-in or absentee ballot is Monday, October 28, 2024. Your county election office must RECEIVE your paper application at least 1 week before the next election.
- > The deadline to return your completed mail-in or absentee ballot is 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 5, 2024.

HOW TO VOTE IN PENNSYLVANIA

TO REGISTER IN PENNSYLVANIA, YOU MUST:

- > Be a United States citizen at least 30 days before the next election
- > Be a resident of Pennsylvania and your election district for at least 30 days before the next election
- > Be at least 18 years of age on the day of the next election

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 PENNSYLVANIA?

Voter ID Requirements on Election Day

Only first-time voters need to show an approved form of ID – such as a Pennsylvania driver's license, U.S. passport, or current bank statement – at the polls.

You can vote in person on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, at your assigned polling place. If you are in line by 8 p.m., you will still be allowed to vote.

Voters at the Wrong Polling Location or Not Found in Registry on Polling Day: Sometimes county elections officials need more time to determine a voter's eligibility to vote. Election officials may ask that voter to vote a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot records your vote while the county board of elections determines whether it can be counted.

<https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/vote/voter-support/provisional-ballot.html>

If you vote by provisional ballot, you will be asked to follow these instructions:

- > Complete the sections on the provisional envelope labeled Voter Information, Voter Affidavit for Provisional Ballot, and Current Address in front of election officials.
- > Mark your provisional ballot in an accessible and private area of the polling place.
- > Seal your provisional ballot in the secrecy envelope.
- > Seal the secrecy envelope in the provisional ballot affidavit envelope.
- > Fill out the Voter Signature section on the provisional ballot envelope in front of polling place election officials.
- > Return the sealed provisional ballot affidavit envelope to a polling place election official.
- > Receive your provisional ballot identification receipt.

Within 7 days after the election, the county board of elections will decide whether you were eligible to vote at the election district where you voted the provisional ballot. If you were eligible, they will count your provisional ballot.

You can find out if your provisional ballot counted, partially counted, or did not count beginning 7 days after the election.

If your provisional ballot was not counted, you can find out why by:

Searching for your provisional ballot online
Call 1-877-VOTESPA.

You must provide your provisional ballot identification number, which is on your provisional ballot identification receipt.

*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.*

PENNSYLVANIA 2024 VOTING GUIDELINES

Important Dates

- > Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.
- > The deadline to register to vote in Pennsylvania is Monday, October 21, 2024.
- > Pennsylvania does NOT allow registration on Election Day.

Pennsylvania does not have in-person Early Voting, but does allow mail-in ballots. Any registered voter may apply to vote by mail in the next election. You do not have to provide a reason for why you want to vote by mail ballot. Visit Pennsylvania States Ballot Request Portal.

How to Vote in Pennsylvania

To register in Pennsylvania, you must:

- > Be a United States citizen at least 30 days before the next election
- > Be a resident of Pennsylvania and your election district for at least 30 days before the next election
- > Be at least 18 years of age on the day of the next election

* Find more information on voting rights restoration here: <https://www.cor.pa.gov/community-reentry/Pages/Voting-Rights.aspx>

REGISTER TO VOTE

Online — <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx>

Check Voter Registration — <https://www.vote.pa.gov/Register-to-Vote/Pages/Check-Your-Voter-Registration-Status.aspx>

WHAT YOU NEED TO VOTE IN PENNSYLVANIA

Voting In Person:

- > If you've voted at your polling place before, you don't need to show ID to vote.
- > If you're a first-time voter, or if you moved within Pennsylvania and are voting for the first time at a new polling place, you must show ID to vote.
- > Voters without ID: If you are unable to provide ID, you will be able to vote a provisional ballot.

Voting by Mail/Absentee Voting:

1. Request your mail-in ballot with a mail ballot application. Find it here: <https://www.vote.pa.gov/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>
2. Fill out the application completely.
3. Submit the request to your local election office. (Find it here: <https://www.vote.pa.gov/Resources/Pages/Contact-Your-Election-Officials.aspx>) 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) Tuesday, October 29, 2024.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

➔ **Pennsylvania Secretary of State:**
<https://www.dos.pa.gov/VotingElections/Pages/default.aspx>

➔ **Voter Protection Hotline/ACLU:**
<https://www.aclupa.org/>