Pre-Registration FAQs

Q. What is pre-registration?

A. When you pre-register to vote, you are putting your name on a list of people who want to be registered to vote when they turn 18. If you pre-register, you'll become a registered voter automatically when you turn 18.

Q. Who qualifies to pre-register?

A. All 16 or 17 year olds who are otherwise eligible to vote can pre-register.

Q. How do I pre-register?

A. You can pre-register by filling out a regular voter registration form.

Q. When can I pre-register?

A. You can pre-register as soon as you turn 16, and at any time up until you turn 18.

Q. Where can I pre-register?

A. You can pre-register or register in person, online, or by mail.

- Mail-in voter registration forms can be printed out on the Secretary of the Commonwealth's website at www.sec.state.ma.us/ele.
- If you have a Massachusetts driver's license, learner's permit, or state ID, you can submit your registration form online at www.RegisterToVoteMA.com.
- You can register in person at any city or town hall, voter registration drive, or Registry of Motor Vehicles.

Q. Why should I pre-register?

A. Pre-registration lets you fill out the paperwork now, so you don't have to worry about it later. In order to be eligible to vote, you have to be registered to vote 20 days before the election you want to vote in. If you pre-register now, you don't have to worry about missing the deadline later.

Q. What happens when I pre-register?

A. Voter registration forms are turned into your local election office. Once that office receives your form, they will send you a notice by mail confirming that you are on the pre-registration list. When you turn 18, you'll be sent another notice by mail confirming that you are a registered voter and telling you where your polling place is.

Q. What if I turn 18 after a voter registration deadline, but by Election Day?

A. That's okay! As long as you submit your form before the deadline, you'll be eligible to vote.

Q. What if I move after I pre-register?

A. Every time you move, you need to submit a new voter registration form. Make sure you re-register as soon as you can, so you'll be eligible to vote from your new address.

For more information visit www.sec.state.ma.us/ele

