

STUDENT VOTER GUIDE

For Michigan's 2020 Presidential Primary Election



DATES & DEADLINES

Primary election date:

March 10, 2020
7 AM to 8 PM

Registration deadline by mail and online:

February 24

Registration deadline in person:

March 10
(including Election Day)

Early voting begins, when absentee ballots become available:

January 25

Deadline to receive mail requests for an absentee ballot application:

March 6 at 5 PM

Deadline for in-person absentee ballot requests:

March 9 at 4 PM

Deadline for your absentee ballot to be received in your clerk's office:

March 10 at 8 PM

This guide will help you participate in Michigan's March 10 presidential primary, in which you can help choose America's presidential nominees.

Voter registration in Michigan is nonpartisan; you do not select a political party. You select the ballot for a specific political party when you vote in the Michigan presidential primary. The Democratic Party and the Republican Party have agreed to participate.

Why this primary matters

You have a chance to determine the presidential nominees for one of the two major political parties, a week after Super Tuesday.

Democratic Party delegates (125 pledged; 22 super) are allotted proportionately to all candidates who surpass a 15% minimum, while the 73 Republican Party delegates are allotted to candidates who surpass a 20% minimum (Winner Take All when a candidate exceeds 50%).

Candidate information

For Republican and Democratic Presidential candidate websites, CNN has [a complete list](#). Politico also has a [quick guide to Democratic candidate positions](#).

Eligibility

You are eligible to vote if you are:

- A resident of Michigan and the city or township where you are applying to register for at least 30 days before Election Day
- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old by Election Day
- Not serving a sentence in a jail or prison

How to register to vote

You can register to vote in a number of ways, including obtaining a paper application [online](#) or at your [local clerk's office](#), or [registering online](#). See this [step-by-step guide](#). In the 14 days prior to the election, you must register in person at your local clerk's office.

Michigan's Voting Rules

ID Requirements for registering

- If you register by **mail**, you will need to supply your driver's license number or state ID card number, **or** the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- If you register **online**, you will need to supply your driver's license number or state ID card number, **and** the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- If you register in **person**, you will need to supply your driver's license number or state ID card number, **or** the last four digits of your Social Security number. In the 14-day period immediately preceding an election, you will need to provide proof of residency, that lists both your name and address, through **one** of the following: a copy of a pay stub, utility bill, bank document, government document, tuition bill.

ID Requirements for voting

To vote, you must bring an acceptable form of ID to the polls, or sign an affidavit stating that you are not in possession of a photo ID. Acceptable forms include:

- A Michigan driver's license **or** state ID card
Or, as long as it is current:
- A driver's license **or** state ID issued by another state
- A federal or state-issued photo ID
- A student ID with a photo
- A U.S. passport
- A military **or** tribal ID with a photo

See the [Guide to Voter ID](#) for more information.

Absentee voting

In Michigan, if you're a registered voter, you can request an absentee ballot without providing a reason. You can request an absentee ballot by submitting an application ([printable](#) and [fillable](#)) at your [local clerk's office](#), either by hand, via postal mail, fax, or email, as long as a signature is visible. See the [Absentee Voting page](#) for more information, including instructions for requesting an emergency absentee ballot.

Address to use for registering and voting

Per federal election law, college students can register and vote at **either** their campus address **or** their permanent home address, which may be out of state. However, voters can only be registered at one address. If you are not going to physically be in the state where you plan to vote, you will need to request an absentee ballot.

It's your choice where to register. Registering at your campus address will not:

- Affect your federal financial aid
- Prevent your parents from claiming you as a dependent on their taxes
- Cost you any scholarships, unless they're tied to specific residency requirements
- Affect your tuition status as an in-state or out-of-state student.

Key Resources

- [Michigan Voter Information Center](#)
- [Registering to vote in Michigan](#)
- [Find your local clerk](#)
- [Find your polling place](#)
- [Michigan Democratic Party](#)
- [Michigan Republican Party](#)
- [Campus Vote Project](#) – detailed student voting guides by state
- [Vote411](#) – see candidate stands & generate a personalized ballot
- [TurboVote](#) or [RockTheVote](#) – get voter registration documents & email reminder

MAKE A PLAN!



- Know when, where, and how you will register.
- Know where you will vote.