

PASCO COUNTY

BRIAN E. CORLEY, SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

#MyRightMyVote

2019 - 2020

VOTER'S GUIDE



Dear Pasco County Voter,

Thank you for taking a few moments to review our voter's guide. This guide was prepared to assist you in all facets of being an engaged and informed voter. Whether you're a first-time voter, a new voter to the state of Florida, or a seasoned voter, this guide contains information to help you be prepared to exercise your precious right of freedom by voting. I would encourage all citizens to visit our website, www.pascovotes.com, for more information on how to register, update your information, order a vote by mail ballot, or view our voting system.

I assure you of my office's commitment to excellence in our service to the public. My staff and I bring over 300 years of collective experience to the elections process. Experience of this magnitude represents further testimony of our commitment to the citizens of Pasco County to deliver transparent, trouble-free, and secure elections. We stand ready to assist!

What is Book Closing?

Book closing marks the deadline for unregistered voters to file a voter registration application. It also applies to currently registered voters who wish to change their party affiliation for an upcoming election. A completed voter registration application **must** be in the Supervisor of Elections' Office, or if mailed, must be postmarked by the book closing date.

What is a Closed Primary?

By law, **Florida is a closed primary state**. Voters may only vote for candidates in their party of registration. By not selecting a party when you register, your vote is limited in primaries to non-partisan races (judges, school board members) and issues. Party changes are statutorily prohibited at the polls on election day.

What is a Universal Primary?

A Universal Primary Contest (UPC) means a contest in a primary election in which all candidates have the same party affiliation and the winner will have no opposition in the general election. All qualified electors may vote on a UPC regardless of party affiliation.

What Kind of Voting System?

Florida uses an optical scan paper ballot system where votes are cast by filling in ovals, similar to the lottery or standardized tests. The ballot is then read into an optical scan reader at the polling place. Mail ballots are fed through a high-speed tabulator at the Elections Service Center prior to election day. For more information visit our website.

2019 Election Dates

<u>Election</u>	<u>Book Closing Date</u>	<u>Election Date</u>
Municipal	03/11/2019	04/09/19

2020 Election Dates

Presidential Preference		
Primary	02/18/2020	03/17/2020
Municipal	03/16/2020	04/14/2020
Primary	07/27/2020	08/25/2020
General	10/05/2020	11/03/2020

Visit our website www.pascovotes.com for more information:

- Office locations and hours
- Your registration status
- Voter education
- Guide to Government Officials
- District, precinct and polling place locations
- Voting equipment
- Voter registration statistics
- Wait times at early voting sites
- Track your vote-by-mail ballot
- Candidates



What's Inside

Registering to Vote

- Who
- When
- How
- Where

Making Changes

Update Signature

Sample Ballots

Election Day

Early Voting

Voting by Mail

Military/Overseas Information

Pollworkers and Ambassadors

Voter's Rights and Responsibilities

Office Information

REGISTERING TO VOTE:

WHO

- US Citizens
- Those 18 years of age or older
- 16 and 17 year-olds may pre-register, but will be ineligible to vote until their 18th birthday
- Legal residents of the State of Florida

Note: Persons adjudicated mentally incapacitated or convicted felons, who have not had their rights restored, are not eligible to register to vote.

WHEN

- If a first-time Florida voter, you must be registered by book closing day, 29 days prior to each election
- The books will remain closed until after each election
- The date your application is postmarked or received in the elections' office will be your registration date

HOW

- You must complete a voter registration application
- Applications may be hand delivered or mailed to the elections' office
- First-time Florida voters who mail their application must also include a copy of their photo identification (acceptable forms of ID are listed on opposite page under Election Day)

WHERE

- Applications are available at any of the following:
 - Supervisor of Elections' Offices
 - Driver License Offices
 - www.pascovotes.com
 - County Libraries
 - Post Offices
 - Public School Offices
- Call our office or visit our website for additional registration sites



VOTER INFORMATION CARD



Per Florida law, Voter Information Cards are sent to all voters upon validation of their initial voter registration application, or to currently registered voters when making a name, address or party affiliation change. New information cards will be sent to all voters who are in a precinct in which there has been a change in their polling location.

Voter Information Cards are not necessary to vote. They serve as confirmation of your voter registration and provide information on your precinct and polling location. If you have lost your information card and would like a new one, you must request one in writing.



MAKING CHANGES



Maintaining your voter registration is your insurance of a trouble-free voting experience without delays! Your signature is required for all name, party or written address change requests. It is your authorization for us to make the change.

Has your address changed? It is a felony to vote in a precinct in which you do not reside. Submit a completed voter registration application, and you will receive a new voter information card with your new precinct and polling place location. Address changes can also be made by telephone, in writing, or e-mail, but you must provide your date of birth. If you moved from another Florida county, submitting an updated address to Pasco County before election day will save you time at the polls.

Has your name changed? Submit a completed voter registration application and check Record Update above Line 1 on the application, or submit the change in writing with your signature and date of birth or voter registration number.

Do you wish to change your party affiliation? Submit a completed voter registration application by the 29-day book closing date prior to any election and check Record Update above Line 1 on the application, or submit the change in writing with your signature and date of birth or voter registration number.

Has your signature changed? When you return a vote by mail ballot or sign a petition, your signature is verified against the signature on file. If the signatures do not match, your vote by mail ballot may not be counted or your petition may not be accepted. To update your signature, submit a completed voter registration application and check Record Update above Line 1 on the application.

Mail completed applications to: Honorable Brian E. Corley, Supervisor of Elections, PO Box 300, Dade City, FL 33526.



MILITARY/OVERSEAS VOTERS



Overseas voters and military personnel and their families may apply for voter registration or request a vote by mail ballot with a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). An FPCA may be obtained from the Unit Voting Officer or is available on-line. If the FPCA is not available, contact the Supervisor of Elections' Office by e-mail, phone, or written request. Overseas persons and military personnel have the option of receiving their ballot via mail or electronically and, once issued, will be provided a free access system to track the status of their ballot and

confirm its receipt by the Supervisor of Elections' Office.

All portions of a Presidential Preference Primary and General Election ballot voted by persons outside the U.S. are counted if postmarked no later than the election day and received by the elections' office within 10 days of the election. Additional military election information is available from:

*The Director
Federal Voting Assistance Program
Department of Defense
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington DC 20301-1155
Toll Free 800-438-8683*



ELECTION DAY



The polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The name and address of your polling place is on your Voter Information Card. If you are not sure where you vote, please contact our office or visit www.pascovotes.com.

By law, voters are required to present photo and signature identification (ID) at the polls. It can be one form of identification, or two separate as long as the photo requirement is one from the following list.

Acceptable Forms of

Photo Identification Are:

- Florida Driver License
- Florida Identification Card
- Florida Concealed Weapon or Firearm License
- Government Employee ID Card
- Neighborhood Assoc. ID
- Retirement Center ID
- Public Assistance ID
- Dept. Veterans Affairs Health ID
- US Passport
- Military ID
- Student ID
- Debit or Credit Card

If you use a form from this list which satisfies only the photo requirement, any additional document which contains your signature is acceptable.



EARLY VOTING



Early voting is an option for qualified voters who may vote in person for any federal, state, or county election. Municipalities are not required to provide early voting for their elections. Early voting is available at two of the Supervisor of Elections' Offices as well as additional sites countywide. Dates, times and locations of early voting sites are posted on our website, www.pascovotes.com, during an election cycle. Voters are required to present photo and signature ID or two separate acceptable forms of identification to include a photo and signature.

When early voting or voting on election day, you must present proper photo and signature ID. Otherwise, you will be issued a provisional ballot, the validity of which will be determined by the Pasco County Canvassing Board.



VOTING BY MAIL



REQUESTING A VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

- A voter may request a ballot for all elections through two election cycles, or a specific election. The request can be made in person, by mail, by telephone, or by e-mail on our website at www.pascovotes.com.
- The request must be received by the Supervisor of Elections' Office no later than 5 p.m. on the sixth day before the election.
- Pre-requested ballots are mailed approximately 35 days prior to each election.
- Ballots are not forwardable. In order to receive your ballot, the correct address **MUST BE** on file at the Supervisor of Elections' Office.
- Only the voter, a designated family member or legal guardian can request a ballot for the voter.
- A voter requesting a ballot must disclose their name, address, and date of birth.
- The designee of a voter requesting a ballot on the voter's behalf must disclose: voter's name, address, date of birth, designee's name, address, relationship to the voter, and their signature (written requests only). Designee must show photo and signature ID in person.

VOTING A BALLOT

- The voter must personally vote the ballot unless assistance is required due to a disability or they are unable to read or write.
- The voter must sign the envelope or apply any mark that represents their legal signature. Signature or mark must match the one on file at the Supervisor of Elections' Office.
- Power of Attorney IS NOT authority for signing a vote by mail ballot.

RETURNING A VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

- Ballots may be returned to the Supervisor of Elections' Office by the voter either in person or by mail.
- A designee may deliver the ballot to the Supervisor of Elections' Office in the event that the voter is unable to do so.
- By law, all ballots **MUST** be received in the Supervisor of Elections' Office no later than 7:00 p.m. on election day. **A VOTED BALLOT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT THE POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY.**
- First-time Florida voters who register by mail and do not provide identification at the time of registration, must return identification with the voted ballot or by 7:00 p.m. election day to the Supervisor of Elections' Office.

CARRY-OUT BALLOT

- Ballots for registered voters are available at the Supervisor of Elections' office approximately four weeks prior to the election.
- Ballots picked up by a designee on behalf of a registered voter are available five days prior to an election, with written authorization from the voter naming the designee specifically. Designee must present photo and signature ID and will be asked to complete an affidavit.
- With the exception of electors residing in an assisted living facility, carry-out ballots are not available election day except when an emergency would prevent the elector from voting in their designed polling location.
- Carry-out ballots **must** be returned to the Supervisor of Elections' office by 7:00 p.m. on election day.

Sample Ballots

A precinct-specific sample ballot will be available on our website 25-30 days prior to an election, and a complete sample ballot will be published in the newspaper. For county-wide elections, sample ballots are mailed to each registered voter. The sample ballot will be the same as the one you will vote when early voting, or on election day, including your congressional, senate, house and local races. Voters are encouraged to mark their sample ballot and take it with them when voting.

Provisional Ballots

Provisional ballots are statutorily issued at the polls under certain circumstances and are presented to the Pasco County Canvassing Board post-election for a determination of its validity. The decision of the canvassing board is conditional based on the information you provide on your behalf, as well as the post-election research and evaluation by elections' staff. Avoid voting provisionally by keeping your registration up-to-date and taking your photo/signature ID to the polls with you.

Pollworkers and Voter Outreach Ambassadors

Qualified, committed, and well-trained workers play a key role in successful elections. There are positions available for working at the polls and assisting on election day.

In addition, there are positions available throughout the year to conduct voter registration drives, and voter education programs.

If you are interested in working, we encourage you to visit our website, complete an on-line application, or call 800-851-8754.

Voter's Responsibilities

Each registered voter in this state should:

1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.
2. Maintain with the office of the supervisor of elections a current address.
3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation.
4. Bring proper identification to the polling station.
5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.
6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
7. Respect the privacy of other voters.
8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the supervisor of elections.
9. Ask questions, if needed.
10. Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station.

NOTE TO VOTER: Failure to perform any of these responsibilities does not prohibit a voter from voting.

Voter's Bill of Rights

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.
2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.
6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional ballot.
7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from election officers.
8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by elections officers or any other person.
9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

(Section 101.031(2), Florida Statutes)

The Supervisor of Elections Has Three Full-Service Offices:

Dade City

East Pasco Government Center
14236 6th Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 300
Dade City, FL 33526-0300
(352) 521-4302
(352) 521-4319 FAX

Land O' Lakes

Central Pasco Professional Center
4111 Land O' Lakes Boulevard
Room 105
Land O' Lakes, FL 34639
(813) 929-2788

New Port Richey

West Pasco Government Center
8731 Citizens Drive
Suite 110
New Port Richey, FL 34654
(727) 847-8162

Offices are open Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
The Supervisor of Elections' office is closed on legal holidays.

Contact us by e-mail: webcomment@pascovotes.com

Website: www.pascovotes.com