Important Dates/Deadlines:

*Voter Registration Deadline: 25 days before Election Day

General Election November 6th, 2018

August 19 – Last day to register in person to vote in the Primary Election (if mailed, postmark must be by this date)

August 24 – Last day to receive change of addresses to be in effect for the September Primary Election

October 12 – Last day to register in person to vote in the General Election (if mailed, postmark must be by this date)

October 17 – Last day to receive change of addresses to be in effect for the General Election

Absentee

September 6 – Last Day to Postmark Applications for the Primary Election.

September 12 – Last Day to Postmark Absentee Ballot for Primary Election / Last day to apply in person for Absentee

October 30 – Last Day to Postmark Applications for the General Election

November 6 – Last Day to Postmark Absentee Ballot for General Election / Last day to apply in person for Absentee

Register at School or Home?

Students have a choice about where to register to vote.

School address:
- Students attending college in New York may register at their school address. You must plan to return after temporary absences, like summer break, but do not have to plan to reside at that address permanently.

Permanent address:
- Students may choose to register or remain registered at a permanent address in New York or outside the state. In this case, students may need to vote by absentee ballot.

What Type of ID Do I Need to Register?

New York’s voter registration form asks for your New York driver’s license or ID number, or the last four digits of your Social Security Number. Failure to provide this information could lead to you having to show additional identification when you vote that shows your picture or your name and address. Make sure to provide this information on the registration form so the state can verify your identity and you don’t run into issues when you cast your ballot.

Voter registration forms, polling place locations, and more information can be found at www.elections.ny.gov/ or herkimercounty.org/elections
FAQ’s:

Will voting in New York affect my federal financial aid?
Where you register to vote will not affect federal financial aid such as Pell Grants and Perkins or Stafford loans or your dependency status regarding FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

Will I lose my scholarship if I register to vote in New York?
Generally, no. If you receive scholarship money from a state, county, town, or a private entity (i.e., an entity other than the federal government) you should confirm that residency in a particular place is not a requirement of the scholarship and/or that voter registration in New York will not affect your eligibility.

Will registering to vote in New York affect my driver’s license or car registration?
Voting in New York may be considered evidence of your residency for purposes of the motor vehicle laws. New York residents have 30 days to register their vehicles and apply for a New York driver’s license. For more information, you may wish to contact the New York Department of Motor Vehicles.

Will registering to vote in New York prevent my parents from claiming me as a dependent on their taxes?
No. Students are often told that registering to vote in a different state from their parents will make them lose their dependency status. This is not true. Where you register to vote will have no effect on your parent’s tax status.

Does being an out-of-state student for tuition purposes affect my right to vote in my college community?
No. You may choose to vote in your college community or back home regardless of your tuition status.

Where Do I Vote?
Make a plan. Look up your polling location and hours at: https://voterlookup.elections.state.ny.us/votersearch.aspx

On Election Day
The polls are open from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m.

How Can I Vote?
By Mail: Absentee Voting
Any voter may submit an absentee ballot if they will be absent from their county or city of registration, unable to appear at a voting place because of illness or disability or because the voter is the primary care taker of a person with an illness or disability, an inmate or patient of a veteran’s administration hospital, or detained in jail or prison.

Absentee ballot applications must be postmarked at least seven days before the election or delivered in person by the day before the election.

According to the U.S. Supreme Court, students have the right to register and vote in their college towns if they meet the same requirements as everyone else. Misinformation, such as claims that registering to vote at school may jeopardize eligibility for financial aid or insurance, are sometimes used to discourage students from voting locally.

**This Guide was prepared by HBOE staff who are not licensed to practice law in New York and HBOE intends that the information contained herein is used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed New York legal professional.**