Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum's
Student Guide to Voting
in Michigan

Register to Vote
To vote in Michigan, you must be registered to vote. To do so:
- Use the QR Code or visit mi.gov/vote to register to vote, check your voter registration, find your local city or township clerk’s office and polling place location.
- Complete the Michigan Voter Registration Application and sign it.
  - Submit the form to your local city or county clerk.
- Visit mi.gov/voterregistration to register to vote online, if you have a valid Michigan Driver’s License.

NOTE: If you register to vote within two weeks of Election Day, you must register to vote in-person with your local city or township clerk.

Request an Absent Voter Ballot to Vote by Mail or Go to the Polls on Election Day

Request an Absent Voter Ballot
The easiest way to vote in Michigan is to vote by mail, which is commonly called absentee voting. To do this:
- You must request an absentee ballot for each election, and you may do so by completing the form found on mi.gov/vote.
- Once you receive your ballot in the mail, make sure you fill it out and return it quickly, as it takes nearly a week for mail to arrive, and completed ballots must be in the possession of your local clerk by 8 p.m. on Election Day.
  - In most cases, you can also drop your ballot off at your local clerk’s office in-person until Election Day.
- You can also check the status of your absent voter ballot through the QR code or at mi.gov/vote.

Voting in-Person at the Polls on Election Day
If you would prefer to go to the polls on Election Day, make a plan to be sure that you know where your precinct is and have enough time to exercise your right to vote.

NOTE: If you are not already registered to vote, you must register at your local clerk’s office, not at the voting precinct.

Once you arrive at the precinct:
- Election workers will ask you to complete an Application to Vote and for a photo ID, but if you do not have identification, you will sign an affidavit and you will be given a ballot.
- Take your ballot to the designated location and fill it out.
- Feed your ballot into the tabulator.
- Grab an ‘I Voted’ sticker. You’re done!

REMEMBER
Registering to vote will not affect your:
- Financial Aid
  - Pell Grants, Perkins, or Stafford Loans, or your dependency status for FAFSA
- Tuition Status
  - Registering to vote on campus does not change your eligibility for out-of-state tuition
- Insurance
  - Registering to vote will not impact whether or not you can remain on your current health insurance

Out of state students, who wish to vote in their home state: Many students report that Turbovote.org is their preferred method of registering to vote. TurboVote makes voting easy through a simultaneous online voter registration and ballot request process that takes minutes to complete.

If you have any problems at the polls, please remember that you may always contact your local or County Clerk. I can always be of assistance at 517-676-7201 or inghamclerk@ingham.org.