**Voting and Election Information**

**Voter Registration**

The next election is Tuesday, November 8, 2016. The deadline to register to vote or update an existing registration is October 17, 2016.

**Who is eligible vote? A person must:**

* Be a resident of Virginia.
* Be a U.S. Citizen.
* Be 18 years old.
* Not be registered and plan to vote in another state.
* Not currently declared mentally incompetent by a court of law.
* If convicted of a felony, your right to vote must have been restored.

**Registering to Vote**

People who are eligible can apply in several different ways:

Online

Virginia Department of Elections website: <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>

In person

Charlottesville: City Hall Annex-120 7th ST NE Rm 142

Charlottesville, VA 22902

Website: <http://www.charlottesville.org/vote>

Albemarle County: 1600 5th Street Ext

Charlottesville, VA 22902-6495

Website: <http://www.albemarle.org/department.asp?department=registrar>

By mail

Forms can be downloaded and printed from the Virginia Department of Elections website: <http://elections.virginia.gov/registration/voter-forms/index.html>

Registration forms are available at government facilities such as the Department of Motor Vehicles and public libraries.

**Voting**

**Identification**

Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of photo identification at the polls. Acceptable forms of identification for in-person voting include:

* Valid Virginia Driver’s License or Identification Card
* Valid United States Passport
* Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer’s business

A more detailed list of acceptable IDs can be found here:

 <http://elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/in-person-voting/index.html>

**Where to vote**

The City of Charlottesville has resources for locating polling places on their website:

<http://www.charlottesville.org/departments-and-services/departments-h-z/voter-registration-and-elections/polling-places>

The website also provides maps showing bus routes to polling places throughout the city.

**How to vote**

Information about the voting system used in Charlottesville, along with FAQs, and pictures showing the steps for voting are on their website:

<http://www.charlottesville.org/departments-and-services/departments-h-z/voter-registration-and-elections/eslate-voting-system/how-to-vote-on-the-eslate>

**Resources about the upcoming election, the candidates, and the issues**

***News for You Voting Guide:*** This guide, written for English learners, has general information about the history of voting, reasons to vote, how we choose a president, and evaluating campaign ads. <http://www.newreaderspress.com/filebin/pdf/2016_NFY-VotingGuide.pdf>

***Voice of America***: The VOA Learning English website has special coverage of the 2016 U.S. election with news stories designed for English learners who want to know more about the U.S. political process. Stories have pictures, audio and transcripts, and words that might be unfamiliar are highlighted. There are also videos explaining political conventions, delegates, and political parties. <http://learningenglish.voanews.com/p/5622.html>

More questions? Contact Paige, LVCA’s Citizenship Coordinator, at paige@literacyforall.org.