



WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

# The 2026 Voter Education Guide

**YOUR VOICE, YOUR VOTE, YOUR TOMORROW!  
VOTING IS YOUR SUPERPOWER!**



**Marching For Equality: Suffragettes parade through  
New York City  
May 1912**



**Scan the QR Code  
to watch  
Suffs The Musical on PBS**

**Primary Election Day is Tuesday, June 23, 2026  
General Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2026**

**In this guide, you'll learn how to:**

**Register to vote**

**Explore your voting options**

**Stayed informed on key issues impacting women**

**This year's Ballot will include Federal, State, and Local elections.**



**[www.wnywomensfoundation.org](http://www.wnywomensfoundation.org)**

**741 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14203**

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# VOTE

LIKE YOUR RIGHTS DEPEND ON IT!

Primary Election Day is Tuesday, June 23, 2026  
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## THREE WAYS TO REGISTER

### In Person at your County Board of Elections

Find your County  
Board of Elections  
Location [Here](#)



### Mail-In Application to your County Board of Elections

Voter Registration  
Application [Here](#)



### Online through the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles

DMV Voter Registration  
Application [Here](#)



## INFORMATION NEEDED FOR REGISTRATION

### IN PERSON/MAIL-IN:

- Last 4 digits of your Social Security Number **OR** your NYS DMV number (9-digit driver's license number or non-driver ID number)
- You **MUST SIGN** your voter registration application

### REGISTER ONLINE:

- Last 4 digits of your Social Security Number
- Your NYS DMV number
  - (9-digit driver's license number or non-driver ID number)
- An email address



## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

In order to vote in New York State you must meet all of the requirements below:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Be a United States Citizen  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not claim the right to vote elsewhere    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Be at least 18 years old on the day of election   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not be in prison for a felony conviction |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Be a resident of New York State and the county, city, or village for at least 30 days before the election | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not found to be incompetent by a court   |

1) [https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/04/english-voter-registration-form-2026-fillable\\_2.pdf](https://elections.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/04/english-voter-registration-form-2026-fillable_2.pdf)

2) <https://voterreg.dmv.ny.gov/motorvoter>

3) <https://publicreporting.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoardRoster/CountyBoardRoster>

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## ELECTION DAY

Vote in person at your polling place on  
**Primary Election Day (Tuesday, June 23, 2026)**  
**General Election Day (Tuesday, November 3, 2026)**  
from 6:00 a.m.- 9:00 p.m.

If you are in line by 9:00 p.m., they **cannot** turn you away.



Click [here](#) to find your polling place.

## EARLY VOTING

In New York State early voting is from June 13<sup>th</sup> through June 21<sup>st</sup> for Primary Election and October 4<sup>th</sup> through November 1<sup>st</sup> for General Election. Voters may visit any Early Voting Center in their county, except in New York City, where voters are assigned to one early voting site.



Click [here](#) to find the Early Voting Location closest to you.

Voters who encounter problems can contact the Attorney General's office by calling (866) 390-2992, submitting a complaint online, or emailing [election.hotline@ag.ny.gov](mailto:election.hotline@ag.ny.gov). Hours vary by date: 9 a.m.–6 p.m. during early voting, and 6 a.m.–9 p.m. on Election Day.



## ABSENTEE VOTING

Absentee Ballot information and application:  
<https://www.elections.ny.gov/votingabsentee.html>



Absentee Voting	Primary Election	General Election
Online Application Due	June 13 <sup>th</sup>	October 24 <sup>th</sup>
In-Person Application Due	June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Last Day to Postmark Ballot	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	November 4 <sup>th</sup>
Ballot Must be Received By	June 30 <sup>th</sup>	November 10 <sup>th</sup>

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ABSENTEE?

You qualify if any of the following apply:

- You will be **absent from your county** on Election Day
- You have a **temporary or permanent illness or disability**
- You are the **primary caregiver** of someone who is ill or physically disabled
- You are a **resident or patient of a Veterans Health Administration Hospital**
- You are in **jail or prison for a non-felony reason** (including awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence)

<https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>

# ISSUES IMPACTING WOMEN



Every election impacts women through policies that affect pay equity, child care, reproductive health, education, and economic opportunity.

## KNOW WHERE YOUR CANDIDATES STAND ON THESE ISSUES!

### CHILD CARE

Accessible and affordable high-quality child care is crucial for children's development, yet the current system fails both and disproportionately affects women's workforce participation, widening the gender wage gap and interfering with career progression.

Expand funding.

### WAGE EQUITY

In 2026, women working full-time, year-round now earn \$0.81 to every man's dollar, widening the gender pay gap slightly more from last year's \$0.83 per dollar men earn. On a large scale, this costs women in the United States nearly 1.9 trillion each year.

Support closing the gap.

### TDI

Temporary Disability Insurance gives you the right to partial wage replacement while you are unable to work. Women file nearly 70% of New York State short-term TDI claims, significantly outpacing men. In New York State, these benefits are capped at \$170 per week.

Advocate for updating TDI and expanding paid leave.



1)<https://irp.cdn-website.com/e55e15cf/files/uploaded/2026+Equal+Pay+Day+Fact+Sheet.pdf>  
2)<https://irp.cdn-website.com/e55e15cf/files/uploaded/Child+Care+White+Pages.pdf>  
3)<https://www.abetterbalance.org/family-leave-works-new-york/tdi/>

# ISSUES IMPACTING WOMEN



## ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE

**Bodily autonomy is a right, not a privilege. New York provides care for nonviable pregnancies and threats to the pregnant person's health, yet systemic barriers continue to obstruct access for those who need it most. Closing that gap is a matter of justice.**

**Low income communities face the greatest barriers to healthcare.**

**Patients who must travel across state lines experience longer wait times and strain on already limited health systems.**

**Misinformation from certain clinics and protest activity in our region creates confusion and distress for those seeking care.**

## SAFE, ACCESSIBLE HEALTHCARE STARTS WITH THE CANDIDATES WE ELECT.



## KNOW WHERE YOUR CANDIDATES STAND ON THESE ISSUES!

1) <https://www.ny.gov/new-york-state-congressional-delegation>  
2) <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/facts/state-state-information/new-york>  
3) <https://www.protruthny.org/get-the-truth/>



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## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

### Know Your Candidates

Before you vote, know where candidates stand on the issues that matter to you. View your sample ballot and learn more using the link below.

- Check out [https://ballotpedia.org/Sample\\_Ballot\\_Lookup](https://ballotpedia.org/Sample_Ballot_Lookup)



### Know Your District

Find your elected officials and legislative districts using the link below.

- Check out <https://elections.ny.gov/new-york-state-elected-officials>



### Know Your Polling Place

- Check out <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov>



### Know Your Rights

Know your rights. Protect your vote. See the New York State Voter's Bill of Rights below.

- Check out <https://elections.ny.gov/know-your-rights>



**YOUR VOICE, YOUR VOTE, YOUR TOMORROW!  
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Every registered U.S. voter gets one vote—no matter your gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or marital status. Women's votes help bring attention to issues that affect women, girls, and their communities.

Voting isn't *just* your civic duty. It's an opportunity for your voice to be heard and to hold elected officials accountable. Your opinions matter. **You matter.**

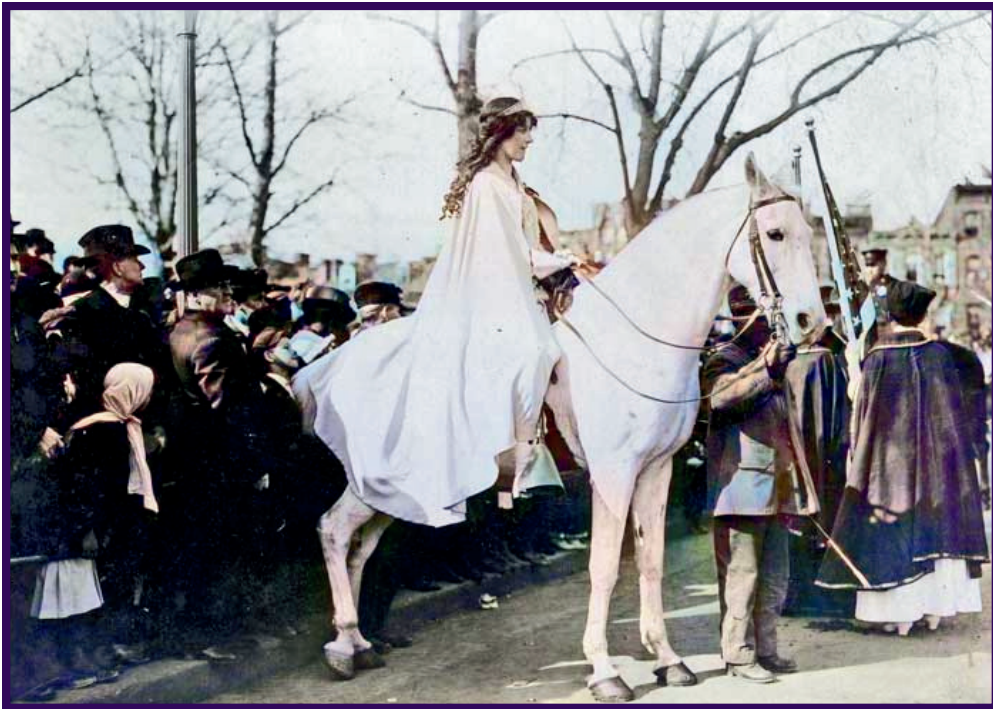
**GET OUT AND VOTE!**



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The mission of the WNY Women's Foundation is to transform systems, culture, and policy to create opportunities for each woman to thrive.



Learn more at: [www.wnywomensfoundation.org](http://www.wnywomensfoundation.org)



WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION

WNY Women's Foundation  
741 Main Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
716-217-9056

[wnywfdn@wnywfdn.org](mailto:wnywfdn@wnywfdn.org)



[@WNYWomensFndn](https://www.facebook.com/WNYWomensFndn)



[@wnywomensfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/wnywomensfoundation)



[WNY Women's Foundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/WNY-Women's-Foundation)



[@WNYWomensFndn](https://twitter.com/WNYWomensFndn)



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[www.wnywomensfoundation.org](http://www.wnywomensfoundation.org)

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**We believe that collaboratively tackling issues that disproportionately impact women is the best way to catalyze change in our community.  
Shared with community partners for distribution.**