WHO CAN REGISTER
Any U.S. Citizen who is a resident of Missouri may register to vote when at least 17 1/2 years old and may vote when at least 18 years old. Identification is needed to register and vote in Missouri.

You must register to vote at your current address. Registration is permanent as long as you vote, report name and address changes, and re-register if you move to a new voting jurisdiction.

BE AN INFORMED VOTER!
The right to vote brings with it the responsibility to learn about the candidates and the issues.
★ Attend candidate meetings and forums
★ Read newspapers and news magazines
★ Study the League Voters Guide on vote411.org
★ Contact campaign and party offices & websites
★ Consult issue-related interest groups
★ Call the League of Women Voters

WHEN AND WHERE TO REGISTER
In order to vote, you must register in the county where you reside.

You may register anytime during regular office hours at any registration location.

You must be registered by the 4th Wednesday before an election.

You may register at election authorities, most libraries, city halls, state offices and many schools.

You may register online or by mail. Go to the Missouri Secretary of State Website:
https://www.sos.mo.gov/
EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE

WHY VOTE?
The right to vote remains the most valued privilege in our country. Voting is our way of expressing satisfaction or dissatisfaction with public officials and issues.

VOTING INFORMATION
Polling places are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on election days.
Prior to the day of election, you may request time off from your employer to vote if you do not have a 3-hour period between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. in which to vote.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION
Voters are required to provide ID at the polling place. Acceptable IDs are: a current MO driver’s license, state-issued ID for non-drivers, U.S. passport, military ID, voter registration card, ID from a university, college, vocational, or technical school located in MO; utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or another government document showing your name and address. If you do not have any of the above and are a registered voter, you may still vote a provisional ballot. If you return to the polling place with ID or if your signature matches the signature in the voter registry, your vote will count.

VOTERS AND PETITIONS
As a registered voter, you will be invited to sign petitions. Petitions are a way citizens can place proposed laws on the ballot for everyone to vote for or against.
To place a proposed item on the ballot, the petition must have many signatures from registered voters in specific areas. Individuals collecting signatures are evident by the clipboards they are holding, usually standing outside libraries and at large functions.
Before signing a petition, make sure you understand the subject of the petition. Do you want the public to vote on this issue? You do not have to sign a petition.

TIPS FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES
Accommodations are available for voters who are unable to stand in line or read or mark their ballots. Many polling places are accessible. A ballot can be brought outside the polling place for “Curbside Voting.” Voters may bring a person of their choice to assist them in casting a ballot or may request assistance from a pair of poll workers.
Disabled voters may request an absentee ballot for a single election or on a permanent basis. Those on the permanently disabled voter list are sent an absentee ballot application before each election and do not need to have their ballots notarized.

VOTING WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD
If convicted of a misdemeanor, the right to vote is lost only while incarcerated. People convicted of a felony lose their eligibility to vote while incarcerated and while on probation and parole. That right is restored once the person is off state supervision. Those in jail awaiting trial may vote absentee. Those with a Suspended Imposition of Sentence never lose their voting rights. Unless pardoned, anyone convicted of a crime involving voting rights permanently loses the right to vote.

HOW TO VOTE IN THE MILITARY
Persons serving in the military and their dependents may register to vote by obtaining Federal Form 76 from their Commanding Officer. This form also serves as a request for an absentee ballot. Mail Form 76 to the Board of Elections or County Clerk for the place of residence from which you want to vote.
For more information on this process, and non-partisan voting information, contact the Unit Voting Assistant Officer.

YOU MAY VOTE ABSENTEE IF:
• You will be out of town or away at college
• You are ill or have a disability
• You will be serving as an election judge
• You are on active duty with the military
• You are prevented by religious beliefs from going to the polls on election day
• You are incarcerated, providing that all qualifications for voting are retained

HOW TO VOTE ABSENTEE IN PERSON
Go to the Board of Elections or County Clerk’s office during regular hours as early as 42 days before the scheduled election. Some offices have extended hours or are open on Saturdays prior to the election. Be sure to check with your election authority for more specific information.

HOW TO VOTE ABSENTEE BY MAIL
You may go to the Secretary of State or your local election authority’s website, download and print an absentee ballot request form to mail. You may also write to the board of elections or County Clerk and request a ballot. You must include the following information in your written request for every household member requesting an absentee ballot:
1. Your name(s) as you are registered to vote
2. The address where you are registered
3. The address where you want the ballot(s) sent
4. The date of elections for which you are requesting the ballot(s)
5. The reason you need to vote absentee
6. If it is a primary election, you must state which party ballot you want
7. The last 4 digits of your social security number(s)
8. Your birthdate(s)
9. Your signature(s)
10. If you are a first-time voter, include a copy of your driver’s license or other ID.

NOTE: A close relative may apply in person on your behalf at the Board of Elections or County Clerk’s office to request a ballot be sent to you.

ABSENTEE VOTING DEADLINES
• 5 p.m. the day before the election to vote an absentee ballot in person
• 5 p.m. the Wednesday before an election to request an absentee ballot. Requests may be made as early as 70 days before an election.
• Return the completed and notarized ballot by mail or in person to the election authority before 7 p.m. on election day.

NOTARIZING BALLOT SIGNATURES
Absentee ballots submitted by mail must be notarized, except for the following voters:
• Active-duty military personnel and close family members living with them.
• Missouri citizens living outside the U.S.
• Voters on the Permanently Disabled Absentee List.
• Voters hospitalized after the Wednesday prior to the election may call their election authority for an absentee ballot or to make special arrangements.

CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS
If you remain within the same voting jurisdiction, an address or name change can be made after you’ve moved by sending a letter to the election authority indicating the old address (or name) and the new address (or name). All registered members of a household may sign the same letter. You can also go online at www.sos.mo.gov. You can also update your name and address at the polls on Election Day.
If you move to a new county, you must submit a new registration there prior to the deadline. Some jurisdictions allow changes to be made on the back of the voter ID card and mailed to the election authority. A person who moves to Missouri after the close of registration may still vote in federal elections.
100th ANNIVERSARY 1919 - 2019

Amendment XIX
The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any state, on account of sex.

Ratified August 26, 1920

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF METRO ST. LOUIS

Website | www.lwvstl.org
Twitter, Instagram | @lwvstl
Facebook | facebook.com/lwvstl
Marie Ruoff Byrum became the first woman to vote in Missouri in a special election for Hannibal City Council on August 31, 1920, five days after the 19th Amendment was ratified. She walked more than an hour through a drizzling rain to vote at 7 a.m. She didn’t realize until much later that she was the first woman in the United States to vote after the national women’s suffrage law was signed into law on August 26, 1920. She and her husband were very active in local politics and supported women’s rights.
December 2020

Dear Missourian of the Future:

The League of Women Voters of Metro Saint Louis hopes that democracy is thriving in Missouri.

Our nonpartisan organization was founded in 1919 and held classes to educate women about civics and their new responsibilities as voters. Our members today encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy. We hope the League’s historic commitment to register, educate and mobilize voters grew even stronger in our second century.

This year’s coronavirus pandemic changed much of our voter service work as members took to Zoom for our meetings and wore masks to register voters and notarize ballots outdoors. We moderated virtual candidate forums and urged voters to use our online voter guide at VOTE411.org. The state expanded use of absentee and mail-in ballots. A record 3 million votes were cast with 70 percent of registered voters turning out to vote for Donald Trump or Joseph Biden. We hope the state has made voting easier by allowing early voting without an excuse or notary requirement.

In January 2020, the 38th state ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, and we hope the ERA is now the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In February, the League held several special events and activities to recognize how “Women Power the Vote.” Members discussed women’s equality has changed in the League’s first 100 years.

The LWVUS national convention approved our urgent resolution to address racial injustices in June. It said, “Racism is at the core of the national upheaval following George Floyd’s death on May 25, therefore it is fitting that League of Women Voters members consider how to address racial justice while carrying out the public policies of LWV.” We resolved to “advocate throughout our country for the eradication of systemic racism within every level of government; for the end of excessive force and brutality in law enforcement; and for equal protection under the law regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, disability, and gender identity or sexual orientation.” We hope that your generation recognizes political, economic and social equality for all Missourians.

The League was delighted to mark the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment on August 26, 2020, with a media event at the Missouri History Museum. Leaders accepted proclamations from St. Louis City and County, the Missouri Botanical Garden designated a yellow rose as the "Suffrage Rose," and the St. Louis Wheel was lit in suffrage colors (purple, yellow and white). We look forward to marking the state’s bicentennial in August 2021.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Miller
Co-President

Louise Wilkerson
Co-President