

Presidential
Preference Primary
March 19

Primary Election August 20

General Election
November 5

www.CollierVotes.gov (239) 252-VOTE (8683) #ElectionReady





A MESSAGE FROM

Melissa R. Blazier Supervisor of Elections



As Collier County's Supervisor of Elections and chief election official, I am pleased to provide this voter guide for the 2024 election cycle.

My team and I take our responsibilities as the gatekeepers of democracy very seriously and each year, we take a Constitutional oath of office to uphold the U.S. Constitution and follow Florida's election laws. We want to remind you that the Supervisor of Elections office is THE trusted source for election and voting information for Collier County. We have prepared this guide to provide you with helpful information about voting this year. Please use this as a reference to be **Election Ready** when you cast your ballot in 2024. You can also visit us on the web at www.CollierVotes.gov or call our office at (239) 252-VOTE (8683).

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VOTER'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Each registered voter has the right to:

- 1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.
- 2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
- 3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
- 4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
- 5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.
- 6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional ballot.
- 7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from elections officers.
- 8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by elections officers or any other person.
- 9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

VOTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Each registered voter should:

- 1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.
- 2. Maintain with the office of the Supervisor of Elections a current address..
- 3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation.
- 4. Bring proper identification to the polling station.
- 5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.
- 6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
- 7. Respect the privacy of other voters.
- 8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the Supervisor of Elections.
- 9. Ask questions, if needed.
- 10. Make sure that their completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling place.

NOTE TO VOTER

Failure to perform any of these responsibilities does not prohibit a voter from voting as outlined in F.S. 101.031(2).

REGISTER TO VOTE

To register to vote in Collier County, Florida you must be:

- A U.S. citizen and resident of Collier County, Florida;
- At least 18 years old; citizens can pre-register to vote as young as 16 years old.

Persons not entitled to register to vote are:

- Persons adjudicated mentally incapacitated by a court in this or another state with respect to voting;
- Persons who have been convicted of any felony in any court and who have not had their right to vote restored;
- Any person who is not a citizen of the United States of America; lawful permanent residents cannot register or vote in Florida.

VOTER INFORMATION CARD

After you register to vote or make a change to your voter information, the Supervisor of Elections office will mail you a new Voter Information Card.

This mailing is not a form of voter identification, but provides important information including your assigned Election Day polling location and the voting districts that you reside within. If there is a change made by the Supervisor of Elections to your polling location or voting district, you will automatically receive an updated replacement voter information card.



There are three ways to register to vote in Florida.

ONLINE...A convenient option for Florida voters! If you have your Social Security number and a Florida driver license or Florida ID issued by DHSMV, you can visit our website: www.CollierVotes.gov/OVR and register online.

BY MAIL... Voter registration applications can be downloaded from www.CollierVotes.gov and are displayed at voter registration agencies throughout the county. Complete the application and mail to the Collier County Supervisor of Elections: 3750 Enterprise Ave, Naples FL 34104.

IN PERSON...Visit a voter registration agency to register to vote: Supervisor of Elections office, driver license offices, public assistance offices, public libraries, offices that serve persons with disabilities, armed forces recruitment offices and centers for independent living.

Voters must be registered to vote in Florida at least 29 days prior to Election Day.

UPDATE YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION

Keeping your voter information current is vital and can be done in a **SNAP!**

SIGNATURE... Your signature is an important part of the voting process as it is used to verify signed petitions, Vote-by-Mail ballots and provisional ballots. Because your signature can change over time, we encourage you to ensure your most recent signature is on file with our office. You can update your signature by completing a Florida Voter Registration Application.

NAME... If you need to make an update to your name, visit www.CollierVotes.gov/OVR or complete a Florida Voter Registration Application.

ADDRESS... Your address is a critical part of the voting process as it determines where you can vote on Election Day and what contests you are eligible to vote in during an election. To update your address, contact the Supervisor of Elections office at (239) 252-VOTE (8683), update your registration online at www.CollierVotes.gov/OVR or complete a Florida Voter Registration Application.

Voters who are temporarily living outside their home county who have no permanent address in the county may apply to be registered and vote in the precinct that contains the main office of the Supervisor of Elections. These voters will not be allowed to vote in municipal elections.

PARTY AFFILIATION... If you need to update your party affiliation, you can do so online at www.CollierVotes.gov/OVR or complete a Florida Voter Registration Application. Party affiliation cannot be updated at the polling place. To be eligible for a Primary Election, a party change must be made at least 29 days before the Primary Election.

If you do not designate a party affiliation, you will automatically be registered as **"No Party Affiliation"** aka NPA.

VOTER REGISTRATION AS A PUBLIC RECORD

Florida has broad public records laws and voter registration records are open to the public and may be examined or copied by any person. However, the following registration information is confidential and exempt from public disclosure: Social Security numbers, driver license numbers, Florida identification numbers, location of a voter's place of registration and location of a voter's place of registration update. A voter's signature may be viewed, but not copied.

3 WAYS TO VOTE

There are three ways to vote in Florida. This section will cover in detail how you can cast your ballot by mail, in-person during early voting or on Election Day.

VOTE BY MAIL... Any registered voter can vote by mail. Voting by mail is an easy and convenient way to make your voice heard in the next election. Ballots can easily be tracked online from the moment you request your ballot to when it is received and counted by the Supervisor of Elections.

In accordance with Florida law, Vote-by-Mail requests expire after each General Election. Request your Vote-by-Mail ballot online at www.CollierVotes.gov/RequestBallot or by contacting the Supervisor of Elections office:

By phone: (239) 252-VOTE (8683) By email: MailBallot@CollierVotes.gov

By fax: (239) 252-2630

By mail/in person: 3750 Enterprise Ave, Naples FL 34104

The voter's name, address and last four digits of the voter's Social Security number or the full Florida driver license number or Florida State ID number issued by the DHSMV is required when requesting a ballot. **Written requests must also be signed by the voter**.

Your Vote-by-Mail package will arrive with your ballot, a secrecy sleeve which provides voting instructions and a return ballot envelope. Once you have marked your ballot...

- ✔ Put your marked ballot in the secrecy sleeve
- ✓ Put the secrecy sleeve in the return envelope
- ✓ Seal, sign and date the back of the return envelope
- ✓ Apply the appropriate postage and mail your ballot back -or- drop it off at a secure ballot intake station or at the Supervisor of Elections' office (no postage required).

Your voted mail ballot MUST be physically in our office no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted. You CANNOT drop off your mail ballot at a polling place on Election Day. If you prefer to vote in person, bring your Vote-by-Mail ballot to the polling place and election workers will cancel your mail ballot and issue you a new one to vote in person.



Military & Overseas Voters (UOCAVA)

Military personnel, military dependents, and overseas civilian voters (or their immediate family members) may apply for voter registration and/or request Vote-by-Mail ballots by applying with a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). FCPA forms may be obtained from the Unit Voting Officer or by visiting http://www.fvap.gov/. U.S. Embassies and Consulates can assist in completing FPCA forms, and mailing Vote-by-Mail ballots or other election materials.

VOTE EARLY... Early Voting provides the flexibility to vote when and where it is most convenient for you. Early voting dates, times and locations vary by county. As long as you are registered to vote in Collier County, you can vote at any designated early voting location across the county.

Early Voting Locations

- Collier County Government Complex 3311 Tamami Trail, Naples FL 34112
- Everglades City Hall 102 Copeland Avenue N, Everglades City FL 34139
- Golden Gate Community Center 4701 Golden Gate Parkway, Naples FL 34116
- Heritage Bay Government Services Center 15450 Collier Blvd, Naples FL 34120
- Immokalee Community Park 321 N First Street, Immokalee FL 34142
- Library Headquarters 2385 Orange Blossom Drive, Naples FL 34109
- Marco Island Library 210 S Heathwood Drive, Marco Island, FL 34145
- Norris Center at Cambier Park 755 8th Avenue S, Naples FL 34102
- North Collier Regional Park 15000 Livingston Road, Naples FL 34109
- South Regional Library 8065 Lely Cultural Pkwy, Naples FL 34113
- Supervisor of Elections Office 3750 Enterprise Avenue, Naples FL 34104

SECURE BALLOT INTAKE STATIONS

Secure ballot intake stations are available at the Supervisor of Elections office and satellite locations during regular business hours **-and-** at all early voting locations during early voting hours.

VOTE ON ELECTION DAY... Election Day is the last opportunity to cast a ballot during an election and voters must vote in their assigned polling location on Election Day. Polling locations are open 7 a.m.–7 p.m. Voters in line by 7 p.m. will be allowed to cast a ballot.

If you vote outside of your assigned precinct on Election Day, your ballot **will not** count.

2024 ELECTIONS

PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION... During the Presidential Preference Primary, voters will vote on presidential candidates from the Democratic and Republican parties only, unless there are also local and state issues and municipal elections consolidated on the ballot.

Florida is a Closed Primary State. This means that only voters who are registered members of a political party may vote for their respective party's candidates in a Primary Election. Voters without party affiliation are not eligible to vote for party candidates and voters who belong to a minor party can only vote for party candidates if those candidates are on the ballot in accordance with F.S. 101.021. The Presidential Preference Primary allows voters to indirectly select who they want to represent their party during the General Election in November.

Since the Democratic Party has only one candidate, the Republican Party will be the only participating party in the 2024 Presidential Preference Primary contest.

Important Dates & Deadlines

Voter Registration Deadline/Book Closing: February 20 Vote-by-Mail Ballot Mailings: February 3 (UOCAVA)/February 8-March 9 Ballot Request Deadline: 5 p.m. on March 7 Early Voting: March 9-16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Election Day: March 19, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

PRIMARY ELECTION... During the Primary Election, electors will vote for state and federal representatives within their respective party affiliations. If opposed within their own parties, the Governor, State Cabinet Members, United States Senators, Representatives in Congress, State Representatives, State Senators, Constitutional Officers and County Commissioners will be on the ballot.

The winning candidates of the Primary Election, who see opposition from another party, will then move on to the General Election in November.

A **universal primary** is a contest in the Primary Election in which all candidates have the same party affiliation, but will not see opposition during the General Election. During a universal primary, all qualified electors may vote regardless of their party affiliation.

Voters may also see non-partisan races including judicial candidates and candidates for school board.

Important Dates & Deadlines

Voter Registration Deadline/Book Closing: July 22 Vote-by-Mail Ballot Mailings: July 6 (UOCAVA)/July 11-August 10 Ballot Request Deadline: 5 p.m. on August 8 Early Voting: August 10-17, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Election Day: August 20, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

GENERAL ELECTION... The General Election ballot will list the winning candidates of both the Presidential Preference Primary and Primary Election. During this election, voters will have the opportunity to vote for a candidate regardless of their party affiliation.

Voters may also see statewide and local referenda items on their ballot, as well as independent district contests.

Important Dates & Deadlines

Voter Registration Deadline/Book Closing: October 7 Vote-by-Mail Ballot Mailings: September 21 (UOCAVA)/September 26-October 26 Ballot Request Deadline: 5 p.m. on October 24 Early Voting: October 21-November 2, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Election Day: November 5, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

OFFICES UP FOR ELECTION

More than just the President of the U.S. is on the ballot in 2024. Depending where a voter resides, they may see several down-ballot races for positions in their community including the below elected offices:

- President and Vice President
- U.S. Senator and U.S. Representatives
- State Representatives
- Constitutional Officers (Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections and Tax Collector)
- County Commissioners
- FL Supreme Court Justices
- Judges
- School Board Members
- Party State and Precinct Committeemen and Committeewomen
- Independent District Seats
- Community Development District Seats
- City of Naples Mayor and City Council
- City of Marco Island City Council

SAMPLE BALLOTS

Sample ballots are available on our website at www.CollierVotes.gov. If you do not have an active Vote-by-Mail request on file, we will automatically mail or email you a sample ballot at least seven days prior to Election Day. We encourage you to review and bring a marked copy of your sample ballot with you when voting in person to use as a guide.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION

When voting in person during early voting or on Election Day, you are required to present a current and valid photo/signature identification. Acceptable forms of voting ID are:

- Florida Driver License
- DHSMV-issued Florida ID
- US Passport
- Debit or credit card
- Military ID
- Student ID
- Retirement center ID
- Neighborhood association ID
- Public assistance ID
- Veteran health ID card issued by the US Department of Veteran Affairs
- Florida license to carry a concealed weapon
- Employee ID issued by a Florida branch, department, agency or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county or a municipality

If a photo ID does not contain your signature, you will be asked to show an additional identification that provides a signature. Two IDs can meet the requirement of acceptable voter ID.

Once your identity is established and you have signed an oath affirming your identity and eligibility to vote, you will receive a ballot. Voters who are unable to present a valid voter ID have the option to vote a provisional ballot.

PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

If you don't bring a valid voter ID or if there is any question about your eligibility to vote, you may vote a provisional ballot.

When voting provisionally, you will be required to mark your ballot just as you would normally, but instead of putting it through the scanner at the voting site, your voted ballot will go into a "provisional envelope" and be delivered to our office. If your eligibility to vote can be verified, the ballot will be counted. You can check the status of your provisional ballot on our website: www.CollierVotes.gov.

VOTING SYSTEM & WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN VOTING

In Florida, voters vote on paper ballots. The equipment used during elections must be certified by Florida's Division of Elections and must be publicly tested prior to each election. After each election, counties must also perform a voting system audit. In compliance with F.S. 101.591, Collier County conducts a manual audit that involves a public hand count of the votes cast in one randomly selected race for one randomly selected precinct.

VOTER CHECK-IN... During in-person voting in Collier County, election workers use electronic poll books to check in voters. These EViD (electronic voter identification) poll books are updated in real-time with voter information that is critical to determining voter eligibility.

VOTING YOUR BALLOT...Once you have received your voting pass during the check-in process, you will proceed to the ballot distribution table. During early voting, election workers will print your ballot using our office's Ballot On Demand printers. On Election Day, ballots are pre-printed and you must vote at your assigned precinct where your unique ballot style is located. After receiving your ballot, you will be directed to a voting booth where you can mark your ballot in secret.

Fill in the oval completely









CASTING YOUR BALLOT... After marking your ballot, you will be directed to the DS200 optical scan voting system where you will insert your ballot for tabulation. The DS200 captures and tabulates votes, and automatically drops the ballot into a secured ballot box for retention. Designed to better capture voter intent and improve the election experience, the DS200 will notify you if it detects a blank ballot and/or over-votes in a contest, giving you an opportunity to correct the ballot before it is counted.

VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES... ADA-compliant voting equipment is available at each polling location. The ExpressVote is a touchscreen ballot-marking device that provides directions in both English and Spanish. The device also has audio capabilities and an accessible keypad equipped with Braille and tactile navigation buttons, and the ability to use rocker panel and sip-and-puff tools. It produces a paper ballot which can then be scanned and tabulated through our DS200 optical scan voting system.

For more information about the voting system used in Collier County, visit www.CollierVotes.gov.

ELECTION SECURITY

Our mission is to ensure the integrity of the electoral process.

Since elections were designated as critical infrastructure in 2017, our office has taken advantage of every partnership and resource available to harden our networks and protect the integrity of elections.

How we secure your vote and ensure election integrity

- The Florida Division of Elections which is governed by the Department of State —
 corroborates each voter registration application to verify the applicant's identity and
 eligibility.
- We conduct daily list maintenance to our registration rolls including the removal of deceased voters, individuals who have moved out of state and voters who have had no activity with our office as outlined in F.S. 98.065.
- Voter registration records are updated and backed up daily and each voter record contains an audit trail. Any changes to a voter record are automatically logged.
- Ballots, whether unvoted or voted by mail, early or on Election Day, follow a robust chain of
 custody and are secured at the Supervisor of Elections office with limited access by staff.
- Voters must show photo/signature identification at the polls when voting in person.
- Vote-by-Mail ballots are only sent if they are requested by the voter or by an immediate
 family member. Returned mail ballots must contain a signature on the Voter's Certificate of
 the returned ballot which is verified by staff and must match the voter's signature of record.
- Election equipment is certified by the Division of Elections and is meticulously tested in front of the public prior to each election to ensure votes are counted accurately.
- Election results are tabulated and reported to a stand–alone server that is not connected to the Internet and is accessible to limited staff members.
- In compliance with F.S. 101.591, Collier County conducts a manual audit that involves a public hand count of the votes cast in one randomly selected race for one randomly selected precinct.

Visit our website at <u>www.CollierVotes.gov/SECURITY</u> to view the security priorities in place to keep your vote safe.

#TrustedInfo

As **THE** official resource for election and voting information in Collier County, make sure you subscribe to our website and verified social media channels to avoid mis and disinformation about elections and voting.



Website: www.CollierVotes.gov

Facebook: @CollierVotes

X (formerly known as Twitter): @CollierVotes

Instagram: @SupervisorOfElections

ELECTION WORKERS

We want YOU to join our Elections Team! By becoming an election worker in Collier County, you can help others exercise their right to vote and make some extra money in the process!

To be considered for selection by the Supervisor of Elections, election workers MUST:

- → Be registered to vote in Collier County;
- → Be able to read and write in English;
- Complete the orientation program and training sessions;
- ✓ Ability to work a 12–14 hour shift;
- ✓ Deal with the public in a courteous and patient manner;
- ✓ Act in a non-partisan way while working at the polls.

Physical demands include standing, bending, lifting approximately 45 lbs., adequate vision and manual/physical dexterity. Experience with computers is helpful.

Election workers must work Election Day from 6 a.m. until after the polling place closes (polls are open 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.).

Apply to be an election worker at www.CollierVotes.gov/HELP.

Adopt-a-Precinct

The "Adopt-a-Precinct" program is a public/private partnership. Groups "adopt" a precinct by providing volunteers to staff elections for an election cycle and are paid for their work.



Use this as a fundraiser to benefit your organization or a designated charity. It's also a great team-building opportunity and learning experience.

REPORT FRAUD & ELECTION LAW VIOLATIONS

Report violations of either the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, the Help America Vote Act of 2002, or any irregularities or fraud involving voter registration, voting, candidate or issue petitions, or removal procedures under the Florida Election Code in writing to the Florida Department of State:

Division of Elections, 1st Floor, R.A. Gray Building 500 S. Bronough Street Tallahassee FL 32399 (877) 868-3737

Complaint forms are also available on the Division of Elections' website: http://dos.myflorida.com/elections/forms-publications/forms/complaint-forms/

Report violations relating to campaign financing, candidates, committees or other political activities under chapters 104 and 106, and section 105.071, Florida Statutes, by sworn written complaint to:

Florida Elections Commission Suite 224 Collins Building 107 West Gaines Street Tallahassee FL 32399 (850) 922-4539.

The Florida Elections Commission is not affiliated with the Department of State, Division of Elections. All other violations should be reported to the local state attorney.

CONTACT US

MAIN OFFICE

Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Building 3750 Enterprise Avenue Naples FL 34104 Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. PHONE (239) 252-VOTE (8683)

FMAIL Supervisor Flactions @CollierVa

EMAIL <u>Supervisor.Elections@CollierVotes.gov</u> **WEB** www.CollierVotes.gov

SATELLITE OFFICES

North Collier Government Service Center 2335 Orange Blossom Drive Naples FL 34109 Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Heritage Bay Government Services Center 15450 Collier Boulevard Naples FL 34120 Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.