HAWK THE VOTE'S 2020

VOTER GUIDE AND TALKING POINTS
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SPECIAL NOTE:

IF THERE IS EVER A QUESTION YOU CANNOT ANSWER, DIRECT STUDENTS TO OUR WEBSITE WHERE THERE IS A VOTING HOTLINE OR TELL THEM TO EMAIL DSL-HAWKTHEVOTE@UIOWA.EDU.
REGISTRATION

Where should you register to vote?
- College voters have the right to register either in their hometowns or in their college communities, but not both.
- This link sends people to one source which quantifies the power of their vote in different states.
- This link sends people to the YESI metric, which quantifies where young voters can make the biggest impact in elections.

How do I register to vote?
- In Iowa...
  - Do you have an Iowa Drivers' License?
    - (yes) Register online here.
    - (no) Print this form or pick one up from any residence hall front desk or the Iowa Memorial Union front desk, and mail it to the Johnson County Auditor:
      913 S Dubuque St #101, Iowa City, IA 52240
- In any other state...
  - Visit vote.org and follow the instructions to register in your state of choice.

I'm not sure if I'm registered...
- Check out this link to see if you are registered or not.

When is the voter registration deadline?
- The pre-registration deadline is October 24, 2020, but you can register at the polls on election day with proper ID and proof of residence.
What is the Iowa Voter ID law?

- The Iowa Voter ID law requires voters to provide valid identification in order to vote. Let's break it down:
  - If a student registers to vote before the pre-registration deadline, they will need to bring one of the following forms of ID with them to vote in person, either early or on Election Day:
    - Iowa Voter ID Card
    - Iowa Driver's License
    - Iowa Non-operator ID
    - U.S. Military/Veteran ID
    - U.S. Passport
    - Tribal ID Card/Document
      - A student ID is acceptable identification ONLY if it has an expiration date. The University of Iowa does not currently issue ID cards that meet these standards.
  - If a student wishes to register on the day they plan to vote, they must bring one of the above forms of identification OR an out-of-state driver's license AND proof of residence, which could include:
    - Residential lease
    - Utility bill
    - Bank statement
    - Paycheck
    - Government check/document
    - Housing agreement on MyUI
    ** these can be shown digitally**
VOTE BY MAIL

How can I vote by mail?

- Rules about voting by mail vary by state.
  - In Iowa...
    - A voter can request an absentee ballot starting July 5th, 2020 and ending October 24, 2020.
    - Absentee ballots can be mailed by auditors beginning October 5, 2020.
    - Absentee ballots can be sent back through the mail, turned in at a designated drop-off point, at an early voting location, or at the county auditor's office until November 2, 2020.
  - In any other state...
    - Visit vote.org and follow the instructions to request an absentee ballot in your state of choice. Some have specific regulations or require an excuse.
    - Email dsl-hawkthetvote@uiowa.edu for more specific information.

Does vote by mail make it easier to commit voter fraud?

- No. Here is a non-exhaustive list of studies which prove this.

If I mail my ballot with the USPS will it be safe?

- Yes. The USPS generally ships 375 million pieces of mail per day, well under how many ballots they would need to send if every eligible American citizen voted. But - you should send your request early to avoid any delays or issues
- There are options if you don't want to mail your ballot. In Iowa City, you can drop it off at the Johnson County Auditor's Office or the IC Public Library during early voting in October.

To track your absentee ballot from start to finish in Iowa, go to this website.
Nationwide, there is a poll worker shortage due to COVID-19.

Young people can help save our democracy by signing up to be poll workers for the election November 3rd.

What do poll workers do?
- Set up voting stations and answer voter questions
- Check voters in and distribute ballots
- Help elderly and disabled citizens vote
- Update voter registration information
- Register voters in states that have same-day registration
- Maintain a safe and orderly polling place
- Pass out “I Voted” stickers
- Break down polling locations at the end of the day and ensure ballots make it safely to be counted
- GET PAID!

To sign up to learn more about becoming a poll worker, visit this website.
NONPARTISANSHIP

Hawk the Vote is a nonpartisan group, which means we do not promote one political party over another.

DO:
- Share accurate information with students about voting processes and procedures.
- Tell students about the power of their vote, especially given Iowa's history as a swing state and local rankings of election competitiveness.
- Encourage students to research candidates and provide resources for doing so.

DON'T:
- Bring your own positions/politics into the conversation, or try to guilt them into voting by saying "if you care about xxx, then you really should care about voting."
- Say which candidate people should vote for.
- Trash talk a political party you don't like.
- End a conversation with a voter because you disagree with them.

Example of a good conversation:
Jocelyn: Hey Joseph, do you want to update your voter registration?
Joseph: No, I don't really do politics.
Jocelyn: Why not?
Joseph: Uh...I don't actually know. No one's asked me that before. Why do you vote?
Jocelyn: I vote because I know that every policy issue I care about is on the ballot, reflected in the candidates' positions. I also know that in Iowa, my vote really counts because it is a swing state and elections can be won by very small margins.
Here are several short videos for learning about different voting rights issues (as seen in the training powerpoint).

1. Gerrymandering
2. Toxicity, Gridlock, Polarization, Districting
3. Voter Roll Purge
4. Vote By Mail
5. Voter ID
6. Literacy Tests/Poll Taxes
7. Shelby County v. Holder /Voting Rights Act
8. Basic Timeline of Voting Rights
9. The Electoral College
10. Felon Disenfranchisement
11. Native American Voting Rights
12. Disability Voting Rights 1
13. Disability Voting Rights 2
14. Youth Vote
   ○ The Youth Electoral Significance Index tells how much of a difference young people will make in different states and congressional districts across the country.

Books to read on voting rights:
1. Give Us the Ballot by Ari Berman
2. One Person, No Vote by Carol Anderson
HAWK THE VOTE

Hawk the Vote is a nonpartisan student-led initiative to get students registered, educated, and turned out to vote in local, state, and federal elections. It arose out of an initiative in the undergraduate student government, and is now a long-term commitment of the Division of Student Life, and particularly the Leadership, Service, and Civic Engagement Office.

Current Executive Team:
- Jocelyn Roof, Executive Director
- Joseph Verry, Associate Director
- Cesar Perez, Volunteer Director
- Caitlyn Grebner, Programming Director
- Kathryn Shumaker, Social Media Director
- Kevin Drahos, Public Relations Director

For more information, visit https://vote.uiowa.edu/.