



Early Voting FAQs



What Is Early Voting?

New York State has passed the Early Voting Act, which, beginning with the 2019 General Election, gives New Yorkers nine extra days to vote by machine prior to Election Day, at special Early Voting locations. New York joins a number of other states that already offer early voting.

Who is eligible to vote early?

Everyone who is registered to vote in New York State and has resided in Tompkins County for at least 30 days can vote early. If you are registered to vote in the election district in which you live, you will be able to cast your ballot on the voting machine in either early voting site. If your registration has not yet been updated following a move, you will be able to vote by affidavit ballot.

When and where can I vote early?

Tompkins County will have two locations for early voting:

Town of Ithaca Town Hall
215 N Tioga St
(in downtown Ithaca)

&

Crash Fire Rescue (CFR)
72 Brown Rd (by the
Tompkins County airport)

Both early voting locations will be open the following hours:

Saturday Oct. 26	Sunday Oct. 27	Monday Oct. 28	Tuesday Oct. 29	Wed., Oct. 30	Thursday Oct. 31	Friday Nov. 1	Saturday Nov. 2	Sunday Nov. 3
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	7:00 AM to 3:00 PM	12:00 PM to 8:00 PM	7:00 AM to 3:00 PM	12:00 PM to 8:00 PM	7:00 AM to 3:00 PM	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Does it matter which early voting site I go to?

No. If you are a Tompkins County resident you may vote at either of our early voting sites. You choose the site that is most convenient for you, and you will receive the correct ballot for your district.

Are the Early Voting sites accessible?

Yes, just as with our Election Day poll sites, early voting sites are fully ADA compliant and accessible for voters with physical disabilities. In addition, the CFR Building has ample parking available. The Town Hall building is located in the same block as the TCAT station at Seneca and Tioga. There are also several parking spots across N. Tioga St. from the Town Hall that will be reserved for Early Voters at no charge, as well as many other parking spots around the Town Hall that permit 10 minutes of free parking.

I am eligible for an absentee ballot. Can I still get one?

Yes. Anyone who is eligible for an absentee ballot may still receive and vote their absentee ballot as before. People who will be out of the county on Election Day now have the choice of voting early at an early voting site or voting by absentee ballot. Early voting is meant to supplement, not replace, voting by absentee ballot.

If I vote early, can I change my mind and go to vote on Election Day?

No! This is an important difference between early voting and voting with an absentee ballot. If you go to an early voting location and cast your vote, your vote is recorded and you may not go back and vote again later if you change your mind. If you vote by absentee ballot and then discover you are able to vote in person on Election Day, you may do so, and your absentee ballot will not be counted.

Can I vote early at my usual polling place, the one on my voter registration card?

No. Early voting will only be at the two early voting sites. Election Day voting will be at the polling place on your voter registration card.

How will the Board of Elections make sure no one can vote more than once?

We will be using Electronic Poll Books (E-Poll Books), which will update files using secure links as soon as the voter has voted, making sure voters can only vote once. E-Poll Books will also make sure each voter gets the correct ballot for their district.

When will early voting results be posted?

Votes from Early Voting will be canvassed and reported after the polls close on Election Day.

Why vote early?

Early voting provides more opportunities to vote for people whose schedule might make it hard to get to the polls on Election Day. In years when a heavy turn-out is expected, people who choose to vote early will help to reduce the wait times for others who vote on Election Day and make sure everyone has the chance to vote. Early Voting sites will have the feel and flow of your normal Election Day polling site. Whether to vote early or wait until Election Day is a personal choice that New Yorkers will now be able to make.



**“Every election is determined
by the people who show up.”**

- Larry J. Sabato, Pendulum Swing