

# Voter Registration & Voter Education 2020

Welcome! We'll get started shortly.



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## Introductions

- **Please unmute and introduce yourself**
  - Name
  - Pronouns
  - Whether you are a Coalition volunteer or if you are from a community site
  - One sentence or a few words about why voting matters to you
  
- If you're feeling shy, feel free to drop this information into the chat box

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## Goals for this training

- Give you some background on the Coalition
- Review nonpartisan agreement
- Understand timelines & important dates for election
- Understand voting rights in WA
- Get comfortable registering people to vote and helping people to vote
- COVID-19 Precautions

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## Quick Background on the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness

- Nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization (more on this later)
- **Mission:** We mobilize our community to challenge systemic causes of homelessness and advocate for housing justice.
- **Voter registration work**
  - Helps us build political power, which is required for systemic change
  - Ensures that people experiencing homelessness have their voice heard



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## Contextualizing Volunteer VR/VE Work

- Barriers for getting people experiencing homelessness registered to vote
  - Misinformation, lack of access to resources, language barriers, ...
  - If you have employment or volunteer experience with people experiencing homelessness, feel free to share your insights
- **Volunteering** = interpersonal/individual-level to help mitigate those barriers and help everyone exercise their right to vote.
- **Community sites**

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## Nonpartisan Agreement

- The Coalition is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and so our voter registration work is **nonpartisan**.
- **During your Coalition volunteer activities, you are agreeing to be nonpartisan.**
- For more info, review Bolder Advocacy pdf (in chat)

### You **can**:

- 👍 Register people to vote
- 👍 Help people to vote
- 👍 Help people navigate elections information
- 👍 Be politically active in your own time

### You **cannot**:

- 🚫 Wear pins/buttons endorsing candidates
- 🚫 Tell people who to vote for
- 🚫 Nod/gesture about candidates
- 🚫 Tell people that you like a candidate

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## Elections Timeline

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10/18	10/19	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24
10/25	10/26 Online/Mail- in Voter Registration Deadline*	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31 Vote Centers Open**
11/1 <b>In-person vote Center Open</b>	11/2	11/3 Election Day  Vote by 8 p.m.***	*After deadline: register at Elections Office or a Vote Center **For a list of Vote Centers, including location and hours: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/kcvotecenters">tinyurl.com/kcvotecenters</a> ***Ballot Drop Box locations: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/kcballotdrop">tinyurl.com/kcballotdrop</a>			

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## Voter Registration, Voter Education, GOTV

- **King County Elections Phone Number: 206-296-VOTE (8683)**
- **After 10/26, people must register to vote in-person, either at**
  - **King County Elections Office** (Renton)
  - **Vote Centers** – visit [tinyurl.com/kcvotecenters](http://tinyurl.com/kcvotecenters) for location/hours information
- **After 10/26, Voter Education & Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Work emphasis**
  - People can **register up to and on Election Day 11/3.**
  - We can still help people fill out their Voter Registration Form, direct to nearest Vote Centers
  - Help people navigate elections information

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## Eligibility Requirements

**You do not need a house to vote! To register to vote in WA, you must:**

- Be a U.S. Citizen
- Be 18 or older on Election day (Tuesday, November 3rd)
- Have lived in WA for 30 days before the election
- Not currently under DOC supervision for a Washington state felony conviction
- **NOTE:** Providing false information is a felony conviction. If they cannot say yes to each of these questions, DO NOT proceed with the form.

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## Voting Rights Restoration Act (2008)

- In Washington, **many people with previous felony convictions can still vote**
- Voting rights are **restored** as soon as people are no longer under the authority of the Department of Corrections (DOC)
- Court fines, restitutions, and other legal financial obligations (LFOs) do not need to be paid off to have voting rights restored.
- **ACLU Document/Resources**
- Disenfranchisement survey – if time, we'll come back to this

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## Turning in Voter Registration Forms

- **If you're volunteering with the Coalition:**
  - Fill out a cover sheet (found in the supplies provided) with the number of folks you've registered to vote and paperclip to the completed forms
  - Return all supplies to Coalition staff; we'll make copies (in case anything goes wrong) and turn them in as soon as possible.
- **(If you're staff at an agency)**
  - **Mail the voter registration forms within 5 days or**
  - **Turn it in at King County Elections Office - 919 SW Grady Way, Ste. 100 Renton, WA 98057**

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## Recognizing & Reducing COVID-19 Risks

- All Coalition-led voter registration activities will be **in-person**, with staff **wearing face coverings** and **maintaining social distance as much as possible**.
- **Refrain from volunteering if:**
  - At heightened risk of COVID-19
  - If you are feeling unwell or having any respiratory, flu-like, or COVID-related symptoms, please contact a Coalition staff member and do not show up in person.
- If you are in a situation where you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, please take whatever steps necessary to remove yourself and feel safe

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## Recognizing & Reducing COVID-19 Risks

- **Many volunteer sites will be outdoors**, although some may be inside.
- **Wear a mask over your mouth and nose at all times.**
  - If you do not have a mask, we can provide you with one.
  - If the people you are assisting do not have a mask, please offer them one.
  - Review things to say to people who will not wear a mask.
- **Sanitize hands frequently. Stay 6 ft apart from people whenever possible.**
- **Avoid reusing pens/supplies:**
  - Option 1: Keep two labeled Ziploc bags, with one for sanitized and ones for not sanitized pens
  - Option 2: Give away used pens.

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## Next steps

- Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/VRVEvolunteerform>
- **We will follow up by email**
- **Questions?** Email [saleena@homelessinfo.org](mailto:saleena@homelessinfo.org)

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