# - - Your Responsibility as - - Support Staff

People with disabilities have the right to vote. As their staff, you are responsible for supporting this right. You can help voters with disabilities in 3 easy steps, while keeping important considerations in mind.

- You must assist individuals with voter registration and getting to the polls even if you disagree with their candidate preference.
- It is illegal to coerce an individual to vote for a specific candidate. NYS Election Law §17-154(1)
- Only a judge can decide whether someone has the competency to vote. You cannot make that decision.
- A person can vote even if they have a guardian, unless a judge has specifically ordered that the individual is not competent to vote.





## **Step 1: Voter Registration**

Check voter registration status at <u>voterlookup.elections.ny.gov</u>. Help register to vote at <u>elections.ny.gov/votingregister.html</u>.

### **Step 2: Learn About Candidates**

Find factual information about candidates and issues at <u>VoteSmart.org</u>, <u>FactCheck.org</u>, and <u>Vote411.org</u>.

### **Step 3: Voting Options**

#### **Absentee Voting:**

Voters may cast their ballot by mail using an absentee ballot. You can apply for an absentee ballot online at <u>absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov</u>. You can apply for an accessible absentee ballot which allows the ballot to be read on their computer and marked with personal assistive devices online at <u>absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov/home/accessible</u>.

#### **Early Voting:**

Select polling places are open 10 days leading up to Election Day. Accessible voting equipment that can read and mark your ballot is available at all early polling places. You can locate the early polling places in your area by contacting your county board of elections office at <u>elections.ny.gov/countyboards.html</u>.

#### On Election Day:

Accessible voting equipment is available at all polling places. Identify polling location at <u>voterlookup.elections.ny.gov</u>.

Questions? Please contact Helen Hellmuth at helen.hellmuth@drny.org.

# **CONTACT DRNY**

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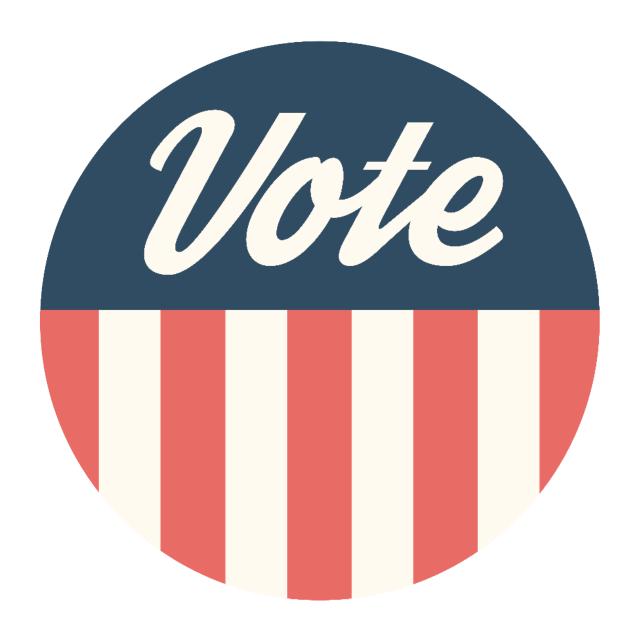
PHONE 1-800-993-8982

# **LOCATIONS**

ALBANY
725 Broadway, Suite 450
Albany, New York 12207-5001

BROOKLYN 25 Chapel Street, Suite 1005 Brooklyn, New York 11201

**ROCHESTER** 44 Exchange Blvd, Suite 110 Rochester, New York 14614







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