



WE ALL HAVE A RIGHT TO VOTE



Direct Support Professionals can support the people they work with to exercise their right to vote?! Here's how!

ASK – Are they registered to vote? Don't know? Find out!

<https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>

If the person is not registered and would like to be, help them register!

<https://elections.ny.gov/>

HELP THEM CHOOSE HOW THEY WILL VOTE!

- By Absentee Ballot
- During Early Voting
- On Election Day

Check the NY State Board of Elections for important deadlines & early polling sites:

elections.ny.gov

LEARN ABOUT THE CANDIDATES!

Visit your elected officials at their local offices, during local candidate hours, townhall meetings, committee meetings, debates, and other community events.

You can find out who is on your ballot by going to:

<https://www.vote411.org/> <https://justfacts.votesmart.org/>

<https://Ballotpedia.org>

TEACH THEM HOW TO USE THE BALLOT MARKING DEVICE! Watch this training video for poll workers that demonstrates how to use the Ballot Marking Device (BMD). It's important to know that machine types vary from county to county.

However, the basic functions are the same.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eVZqG29dVBw&t=372s>

GREAT WAY TO CAST YOUR VOTE!

You can vote in *any* early voting polling site in the county that you live (with the exception of NY City. NYC Voters are assigned early voting poll sites).

Make a plan!

- Go with your Day Hab Group - combine a daytrip out with a stop at one of the polling sites in your county.

WHAT IS STAFF'S RESPONSIBILITY?

- Help people supported to Register to Vote if they want to and are not already registered.
- Help people supported to Learn about the Candidates.
- Help people supported to Understand and Choose the best voting option for them.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

- You must assist people with voter registration and getting to the polls even if you disagree with their candidate preference. It is illegal to coerce a person 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 person is not competent to vote.

Follow this link for great voting resources:

<https://sanys.org/voting/>