

## **Delaware General Election Information 2020**

Disabilities Law Program

Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.

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**Voting is a way to make your voice heard and for you to express your opinions and to influence who is making those important laws and policies.**

**Not voting means you are letting others make decisions for you.**

**Across the country people with disabilities have not voted for several reasons:**

1. because polling places are not accessible
2. discrimination
3. individuals ( wrongly) think that they cannot vote due to their disability
4. thinking their vote will not make a difference.

**The Disabilities Law Program is here to ensure that people with disabilities can access one of their most fundamental rights, the right to vote!**

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The following is some important information you need to know for the November election.

1. **Deadline for citizens to register to vote:** October 10, 2020 before the November 3, 2020 General Election.
2. **Deadline for unregistered uniformed service members and citizens living outside the U.S. to register to vote:** October 16, 2020.
  - a. To be able to register you must meet the following criterion:
    - i. Are a citizen of the United States, AND
    - ii. Are a resident of Delaware (Delaware is your home), AND
    - iii. Will be 18 years old on or before the date of the next General Election

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### **3. Some ways to register to Vote**

- a. **Online** with the Department of Elections at [https://elections.delaware.gov/voter\\_tools.shtml](https://elections.delaware.gov/voter_tools.shtml) -- "Online Voter Registration"
- b. **In person** at any of the Department of Elections county locations
- c. **CLASI** can register you- call for intake
  - i. Newcastle: (302) 575-0660
  - ii. Kent: (302) 674- 8500
  - iii. Sussex: (302) 856-0038

- d. For a full list of government offices that can register you please go to the Department of Elections website: [elections.delaware.gov](http://elections.delaware.gov)
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4. **Note:** adults with legal guardians can still vote unless the guardianship order specifically says that they cannot exercise basic voting judgment!
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5. General Election is: November 3, 2020. Polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You may vote in person, by mail or by absentee ballot.
- a. Where you vote is listed on your polling place card, however, due to COVID-19 your polling place may have changed – check at [ivote.de.gov](http://ivote.de.gov) before you head to the polls to verify your polling location.
  - b. The difference between absentee and voting by mail?
    - i. A reason is required to vote by absentee ballot.
      1. These reasons include being sick, disabled, or being on vacation, and are defined by law.
    - ii. You do not have to have a reason to vote by mail. However, the process is very similar.
  - c. The voter requests (through an application) a ballot from the Department of Elections, receives the ballot, fills out the ballot and returns it to the Department.
  - d. It's best to return the completed vote-by-mail or Absentee ballot **applications** back to the Department of Elections as soon as possible,
    - i. ideally no later than one week prior to the election
    - ii. you can request your vote-by-mail and Absentee ballot online on the Department of Elections website
    - iii. All absentee ballots and VBM ballots will be mailed out by department of elections by October 30, 2020 for the November 3, 2020 General Election.
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6. **Returning you absentee and VBM ballots:** November 3, 2020 @ 8 p.m. to the Department of Elections County Office of the county in which the voter resides.
- a. Ballots may be returned by mail, in the envelope provided by the Department of Elections.
  - b. If you prefer, they can be returned to a drop box at the Department of Elections office in your county.
  - c. If you're a person with a disability you can receive and return your absentee ballot electronically.
  - d. They cannot be dropped off at a polling place on election day.
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**Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.:**

New Castle County: (302) 575-0660 \* Kent County: (302) 674-8500 \* Sussex County: (302) 856-0038  
100 W. 10th St., Ste 801, Wilmington \* 840 Walker Rd., Dover \* 20151 Office Circle, Georgetown  
[www.declasi.org](http://www.declasi.org)

*This is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or the formation of a lawyer/client relationship.*

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7. For More questions regarding voting, or if you encounter voting day issues please contact your local Department of Elections office
  - i. New Castle:
    1. Office Address: Carvel State Office Building, 820 North French St Suite 400 Wilmington DE 19801
    2. Mailing Address: PO BOX 7079, Wilmington DE 19803-0079
    3. Phone Number: 302-577-3464
  - ii. Kent County:
    1. Office Address: 119 N. Race St, Georgetown DE 19947
    2. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 457, Georgetown DE 19947
    3. Phone Number: 302-739-4498
  - iii. Sussex County:
    1. Office Address: 100 Enterprise Pl Ste 5, Dover DE 19904
    2. Mailing Address: PO BOX 699, Dover DE 19903-0699
    3. Phone Number: 302-856-5367
- b. You may also contact CLASI at one of our three locations.
- c. CLASI's website: [www.declasi.org](http://www.declasi.org)

\*\*For full links please find this videos PowerPoint on CLASI.org, in the Disabilities Law Program's voting rights page.

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