



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 20, 2025  
To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Nonpublic Schools  
Route To: High School Principals  
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Teaching and Learning Services

## High School Voter Registration Law Resources

The New Jersey Department of Education (Department) and the New Jersey Department of State encourage New Jersey high schools to participate in [National High School Voter Registration Week](#) during the week of **September 15-19, 2025**, which coincides with National Voter Registration Day (September 16<sup>th</sup>) and Constitution Day (September 17<sup>th</sup>). This week celebrates youth civic engagement and encourages all eligible 17- and 18-year-olds to register to vote. Additionally, districts may participate in [National Voter Education Week \(October 6-10, 2025\)](#), which is a non-partisan voter education campaign that equips voters with the tools and information needed to cast their ballots with confidence.

The Department applauds the efforts of New Jersey school districts during the 2024-25 academic year to support youth civic engagement, which has resulted in a significant increase in youth voter registration. According to the NJ Department of State, registration rates for 18-year-olds increased from 40% in 2023 to 55.7% in 2024, representing a 15-percentage point jump that surpasses the national average of 30%.

The [High School Voter Registration Law](#) requires administrators to distribute voter registration materials, a summary of voter registration eligibility requirements, materials describing the role of a citizen, and materials articulating the importance of voting to all eligible high school students prior to graduation. The following resources are intended to assist districts in fulfilling their responsibilities pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:36-27.

Districts may employ the following strategies to meet the requirements of the High School Voter Registration Law:

- Engage student organizations and/or clubs (e.g., Key Club, Student Council) to facilitate student-led voter registration drives. ([The Civics Center](#))
- Host an assembly or offer a voter simulation event. ([Energizing Young Voters](#))
- Require explicit instruction related to the voter registration law in a course attended by all seniors.
- Create a webpage devoted to voter registration information or conduct a mailing.
- Support schoolwide participation in the [NJ Mock Election](#) to create a pipeline of civic engagement.

The following websites provide additional support for administrators and educators to inform students of the voter registration process:

- [NJ Voter Information Portal](#)
- [County Election Officials](#)
- [NJ Center for Civic Education](#)

- [Energizing Young Voters](#)
- [The Civics Center](#)

Your commitment to fostering civic engagement in our students is invaluable, and we're excited to see what we'll accomplish this year.

**Contact Information**

For questions about High School Voter Registration Week, please reach out to [socialstudies@doe.nj.gov](mailto:socialstudies@doe.nj.gov) or [NJDOS@sos.nj.gov](mailto:NJDOS@sos.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
NJDOE Staff  
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Garden State Coalition