



The Beacon

A Newsletter for Long-Term Care Residents

September 2024



ELECTION 2024: Critical Deadlines are Fast Approaching

Tuesday, Nov. 5 — *Election Day!* — is only two months away, and key deadlines are right around the corner. This year, New Jersey voters will elect a U.S. Senator and 12 U.S. Representatives, in addition to casting ballots for President. If you are not already registered, the deadline is **Oct. 15**.

Visit [VOTE.NJ.GOV](https://www.vote.nj.gov) to look up your current status or learn how to submit voter registration applications online, by mail, or in person.

Once registered, there are three ways you can vote—

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE

VOTE.NJ.GOV



By Mail. All registered voters may vote by mail. If you previously opted to receive mail-in ballots, you should automatically receive one. If you need to request a mail-in ballot for this election, the deadline to apply by mail is **Oct. 29**.



During Early Voting. Every county has designated locations where registered voters can cast ballots in person before Election Day. This year, early voting will run from **Oct. 26 through Nov. 3**.



On Election Day. Polling places will be open from 6 am to 8 pm on **Tuesday, Nov. 5**. Accommodations are available for voters with disabilities.

If you plan to vote in person, check now to see if your facilities or center will offer transportation or if you need someone to drive you to the polls.

Visit [VOTE.NJ.GOV](https://www.vote.nj.gov) for polling locations, details on early voting, or instructions for completing and returning vote-by-mail ballots.

Minimum Staffing Rule Enjoys Broad Support from Older Adults



Nurse staffing requirements published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are facing legal challenges, but public opinion appears to be solidly on CMS' side.

In a survey by AARP, 94 percent of respondents age 50 and older said they are more likely to vote for candidates who support the rule requiring nursing homes to have a registered nurse on-site 24 hours a day. Support was overwhelming regardless of gender or political ideology.

Read more at [TINYURL.COM/28ZJWBUH](https://tinyurl.com/28zjwbuH).

NEW!

Consumer Guide to Living in a Nursing Home

Speaking of CMS, the agency recently published a guide offering insights about residents' rights and protections under federal law.

The guide details how residents can exercise the right to make decisions about their care and expands on other rights, such as receiving visitors, participating in activities that interest them, and making choices about their diet.

Download a copy at [TINYURL.COM/2P82XYBS](https://tinyurl.com/2P82XYBS).

Think You Know About Voting?

1. Women were first allowed to vote for U.S. President in what year?
A. 1914 B. 1920 C. 1936 D. 1952
2. Which age group votes the most?
A. 18-29 B. 30-44 C. 45-64 D. 65 and older
3. Women vote more than men.
A. True B. False
4. When was the voting age lowered from 21 to 18?
A. 1971 B. 1982 C. 1990 D. 2000
5. Which state allowed women to vote from 1776 through 1807?
A. New Jersey B. Pennsylvania C. New York D. Ohio

1. B, 2. D, 3. A, 4. A, 5. A

New Jersey Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Laurie Facciarossa Brewer, LTC Ombudsman

www.NJ.GOV/LTCO

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