



**children's
defense fund
action**



Your Guide to Voting for Child Well-Being

Helping to make sure your vote and your voice for unleashing the joy in growing up for all children and youth are heard.

It's our duty as adults eligible to vote to ensure the well-being of our children and youth. This guide will help you plan your vote this election season. Whether voting by mail or in-person, early or on Election Day, we're here to help!

Since 2021, new voting restrictions have emerged in state and local governments, affecting voters in at least 21 states with unprecedented challenges in the 2024 elections. Voters in 28 states will face restrictions that weren't in place in the 2020 presidential election. These laws are designed to deter you from voting, but we're here to support you in ensuring your vote is safely cast and counted.

STEP ONE: REGISTER TO VOTE



Start by [registering to vote or confirming your registration status](#) and state ID requirements at Vote.gov's Voter Hub. Many states are purging their voter rolls, so it's equally as important to check your registration status as it is to register!

IMPORTANT: If you suspect you're wrongly removed from the voter list or have faced civil rights issues, [file a complaint](#) with the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division online or call 1-800-253-3931. For threats or violence, call 911 and report to your local FBI office. More information is [available here](#).



HOT TIP:

[Vote.gov](#) is your go-to resource for all voting-related needs: register to vote, understand ID laws, learn about your rights, and more!

STEP TWO: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS



Voting allows eligible individuals to express the hopes we hold for ourselves and future generations. Unfortunately, this right is contested for many communities. Before you vote, familiarize yourself with your voting rights. [Check out this guide](#) to know your rights and prepare effectively.

STEP THREE: PLAN YOUR VOTE



Plan your voting strategy—whether by mail, early voting, or in person on Election Day. Consider these questions to make a plan:

- How will I vote—by mail or in person?
- When will I vote—early or on Election Day?
- Where is my polling place if voting in person? Will it change based on when I vote
- Where can I find ballot drop boxes if voting by mail?

STEP FOUR: STAY INFORMED



Your ballot will include various issues and candidates. Use [this tool](#) to preview your ballot and make informed choices. Our voting checklist and issue guides help ensure how you vote reflects a society where children and youth can grow up with dignity, hope, and joy.

STEP FIVE: GET YOUR COMMUNITY INVOLVED



Spread the word and bring others into the voting process. Share the Pledge to Vote for Child Well-Being with family and friends and on social media to help us reach our goal of 100,000 pledges. A vibrant democracy depends on everyone's participation. Want to do more? Join us on October 20 for the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths® Celebration! Participate in or [host a Children's Sabbaths event](#), or join CDF's livestream from historic Haley Farm to celebrate and advocate for children's well-being.

STEP SIX: CAST YOUR VOTE!



You're all set—vote EARLY to avoid long lines and take your time making informed choices. Share this guide and don't forget to encourage others to vote!