

# EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE



# TIP SHEET

All Americans have the right to vote, including people with developmental disabilities.

## Step 1: You must register to vote before the general election deadline.

- Deadline for General Election: MUST BE received by OCTOBER 18, 2018
- Qualifications to register to vote:
  - Must be a United States citizen
  - Turn 18 years old by December 31 of the year in which you file the form (note: you must be 18 years old by the date of the general election in which you want to vote)
  - Must be a resident of this state and the county, city, or village for at least 30 days before the election
  - Must not be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction and not be adjudged mentally incompetent by a court
  - Must not claim the right to vote elsewhere
- To register to vote, get and fill out the voter application form:
  - In person at your county board of elections  
[www.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoards.html](http://www.elections.ny.gov/CountyBoards.html)
  - At any New York State Agency-Based Voter Registration Center  
[www.elections.ny.gov/NVRA.html](http://www.elections.ny.gov/NVRA.html)
  - At the Department of Motor Vehicles, either in person or online if you already have a DMV-issued identification
  - By mail (form can be requested or can print from online)  
[www.elections.ny.gov/VoterReg/VoterRegistration.aspx](http://www.elections.ny.gov/VoterReg/VoterRegistration.aspx)  
[www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/voteform\\_enterable.pdf](http://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/voteform_enterable.pdf)
  - Call 1-800-FOR-VOTE hotline to request a voter application.

## Step 2: Get educated. Knowledge is power.

- Watch and/or attend the debates held by the candidates.
- Know the candidates and research their views.
- Talk to people you trust and know to help you understand the candidates' views and what they are saying they will fight for if elected.

## Step 3: Exercise your right to vote

- Look on your voter registration card and go to your assigned location the day of the vote.
- Use your advocacy skills to get help, ask for any accommodations, or get assistance that you need at the voting location.
- Cast your vote!!

