

Community Support

Use this section as a guide for how to support people in your community by sharing reliable information and connecting them to trusted resources. You can send individual sections to friends, use them in conversations when questions come up, or point others toward official programs when they need help navigating the voting process.

Elections don't just happen at the polls — they happen in dorm rooms, dining halls, and in local communities. Young people who aren't in school are also organizing in workplaces, neighborhoods, and online spaces — expanding where and how civic engagement takes place. Every day, people across the country are helping to make sure elections run smoothly, voters know their rights, and that participation is accessible to everyone. Supporting your community during an election can take many different forms, from sharing trusted voting information and helping others understand what to expect on Election Day, to organizing carpools to the polls and volunteering as a nonpartisan poll observer.

In many cases, the difference between someone successfully voting or sitting out comes down to small moments — getting a reminder, finding a ride, having a quick question answered in time, or hearing from someone they trust.

No matter your experience level, there are meaningful ways to contribute to a healthy, functioning democracy. **You don't need to be a political expert to get started or make a massive impact, you just need to be willing to help.** Keep in mind that some states have restrictions on the assistance you can give to voters, so if you're thinking about providing community support, please check your local rules and regulations.

Ways to Support Your Community During Elections

Voter Transportation & Accessibility

Getting to the polls shouldn't be a struggle, but for many people it is. Not everyone has easy access to polling locations or reliable options for returning ballots. One of the most impactful things you can do is help bridge the gap between a voter and the voting process by ensuring people can vote safely and on time.

What you can do:

- **Organize the "Poll-Mobile":** Set up a ride-share schedule for peers, neighbors, or community members who lack transportation.
- **Share Mail-In Voting Information:** Help friends or family understand official options for returning their mail-in ballot, including designated drop boxes or election office locations in

their area. Check your state's Secretary of State website for the most up-to-date information, as rules and deadlines can change.

- **Partner With the Pros:** Connect with local nonpartisan programs like [Rideshare2Vote](#) to help voters reach polling locations.
- **Provide Accessibility:** Reference the [ADA Voter Rights Guide](#) to ensure that voters with disabilities have the basic support they need to navigate the polling site.

Access barriers can prevent people from casting ballots. By helping overcome logistical challenges, you're enabling your community to fully participate in elections.

A DEMOCRACY FOR ALL GENERATIONS

In Practice: Expanding Access

Youth-led projects like [VR'ing Democracy](#) are experimenting with tools that offer multilingual, virtual polling experiences designed to help users — especially immigrants and first-time voters — practice navigating the voting process in a more familiar and accessible way.

Civic Education & Voter Workshops

Knowledge is power. Civic education workshops are one of the most effective ways to help people feel informed and confident about participating in elections. These can be simple, peer-led sessions that explain how voting works, what to expect at the polls, or how local elections shape everyday life. Often, it only takes a short conversation or a few minutes of clear information to turn uncertainty into action.

These workshops don't require prior expertise — they are about making reliable information more accessible within your community and creating space for people to ask questions and learn together.

What you can do:

- Use resources like the [EAC Voter Education Design Toolkit](#) to create clear and effective communication materials.
- Partner with local libraries, student clubs, or community centers to host informational sessions in familiar spaces.
- Focus on the local elections, ballot initiatives, and issues that directly affect students and your community.
- Lead 1:1 conversations with peers through relational organizing. Use this [guide](#) from Young Invincibles to connect directly with friends, classmates, or community members to share

accurate voting info, answer questions, and provide support. Follow-up afterward to make sure they feel ready and confident.

- Share materials in multiple languages or accessible formats whenever possible to ensure information reaches a wide audience so no one is left out of the conversation.

★ **Extra Credit:** Want to go the extra mile? Contact your local election officials to see if you can observe pre-election testing procedures! Logic and accuracy (L&A) tests are a standard, essential pre-election procedure required by law in many states to ensure voting equipment correctly records and tabulates votes before Election Day.

Many people, especially first-time or young voters, may feel unsure about the voting process. These workshops will help reduce confusion and make participation feel more approachable and meaningful.

Nonpartisan Election Observation (Poll Monitoring)

Supporting the integrity of elections can also involve more formal, structured participation. If you want to take your involvement to the next level, consider serving as a nonpartisan poll observer. Poll observers focus on transparency by helping document how voting procedures are conducted and ensuring established rules are followed.

Observers do not interact with voters, direct how people vote, or interfere with the voting process. Their role is to strictly observe what they see, and report information and any issues to election officials through official channels.

What you can do:

- Get trained as a trained nonpartisan poll observer in your state. Resources to get started include:
 - Election Protection Volunteer Opportunities
 - EAC Poll Watcher Guidance
- Learn how to document observations and report problems through official reporting systems.
- Familiarize yourself with common Election Day challenges so you can address them calmly and effectively as they arise.
- Share Election Protection hotlines and resources with voters who may encounter difficulties and need support in real time.

Poll monitoring helps ensure elections are conducted fairly, transparently, and safely. Even a small number of trained observers can help protect voters' rights and strengthen public confidence in the election process.