FREEDOM MEANS VOTING
REGISTER AND VOTE NOV 09

PRIMARY ELECTION
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 3, 2009

CUNY.EDU/VOTE
WHO CAN REGISTER?
In order to be eligible to register to vote you must be:

- A U.S. citizen by birth (anyone born in the United States or its territories, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam and certain Panamanians are U.S. citizens); or
- At least 18 years old and a New York resident for at least 25 days prior to:
  - September 15, 2009 (primary)
  - November 3, 2009 (general election)
- Not currently serving time (in jail, on work release, on parole) for a felony conviction.
- You must be registered by:
  - August 21, 2009 (primary)
  - October 9, 2009 (general election)
- You need to register to vote, if:
  - You have changed your address since the last time you voted or registered to vote;
  - You wish to change your party affiliation; and/or
  - You have changed your name since last voting.
- The last day to hand deliver or postmark a voter registration form to the Board of Elections in order to vote in the September 15, 2009 Primary Election is August 21, 2009. The corresponding deadline to register for the November 3, 2009 General Election is October 9, 2009. The American Heritage Dictionary defines “voting” as the formal expression of a preference for a candidate for office or for a proposed resolution of an issue.

Voting is the foundation upon which our democracy rests. The vote is our voice and it should be used loudly and regularly. Use your voice. Vote!

POLITICAL PARTIES
Enrolling in a political party is optional. However, if you wish to vote in a political party’s primary elections, you must enroll in that political party. If you switch political parties, you cannot vote in your new party’s primary until after the first general election after your switch. Thus, if you switch party affiliation before the 2009 general election, you may vote in your new party’s primary in 2010. However, if you switch after the 2009 General Election, you cannot vote in your “new” party’s primary until 2011.
**HOW DO I REGISTER?**
Registering to vote is easy to do.

The City University of New York makes voter registration forms available to all CUNY students when they register for classes. Ask about voter registration and the collection of application forms at your campus.

You can also obtain a form, fill it out and mail it in yourself. You don’t even need a stamp. It’s as simple as that.

To get your voter registration form by mail or via the internet, or for more information about voting, please call or visit the following websites:

- **THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**
  [www.cuny.edu](http://www.cuny.edu) (Look under Current Students, then Citizen Information).

- **THE NEW YORK CITY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**
  (212) VOTE-NYC

- **THE VOTER ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**
  (212) 788-8384; [www.nyc.gov/voter](http://www.nyc.gov/voter)

- **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**
  (212) 725-3541; [www.lwvnyc.org](http://www.lwvnyc.org)

- **CITIZENS UNION**
  (212) 227-0342; [www.citizensunion.org](http://www.citizensunion.org)

**CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION**
You will receive an official postcard from the Board of Elections in the mail indicating your election district, polling place and schedule for voting. You will also be sent a Voter’s Identification Card. If either card is not received within two weeks of registering, call the Board of Elections hot line at (212) VOTE-NYC.

**HOW TO OBTAIN AN ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION**
If you cannot get to your poll site on election day you may qualify to vote by absentee ballot. You can vote by absentee ballot if you are temporarily or permanently ill/disabled, or if you are out of town on election day for business, vacation, school or similar circumstances. Please be advised that there are separate applications for both the primary and general elections. For the primary election, requested by 9/8/09 and returned by 9/14/09. For the general election, requested by 10/27/09 and returned by 11/2/09. To obtain an absentee ballot application, check the box in the upper left-hand corner of the voter registration form, or call the VOTER ASSISTANCE COMMISSION (VAC) at (212) 788-8384 or the Board of Elections at (212) VOTE-NYC.