

Eliminate Election Day Issues

We are approaching the time of year when students are preparing to head off to college. Some of those students will travel to new cities and states.

Every year the staff here in the Clerk's Office receive phone calls from confused, upset and disappointed first time voters and their parents. A few circumstances that cause these reactions: the student registered to vote by mail and has never been "identified" by the Secretary of State (SOS) or the Clerk's Office, eliminating their eligibility for an absent voter ballot; they signed a new registration form while on campus (probably was offered a promotional item by an activist group if they would register), may result in the student using their campus address thus changing the municipality they are registered in.

(To) eliminate Election Day issues:

- Verify that your student is registered to vote and where they are registered by visiting <https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/MVIC/>
- If registering by mail, before Election Day, stop by any SOS Office or your local Clerk's Office and have a staff member "identify" the student.
- Be careful of signing forms that will change the municipality you are registered to vote in.
- If requesting an absent voter ballot, if the ballot must be issued by mail, the application for the ballot must reach the election official no later than 2 p.m. on the Saturday prior to the election.
- Parents cannot pick up a ballot for their student.

Please contact the Clerk's Office if you have any questions.
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