

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about the voting process in odd-numbered year elections

1. Who is eligible to vote in a odd-numbered year election conducted in Nov?

Any person that is registered to vote in a political subdivision that has ordered an election in Harris County can vote. In Texas, a person must register to vote 30 days before Election Day, if never registered to vote.

2. Does the County Clerk conduct all the Harris County elections conducted in Nov. in odd-numbered years?

No. In Harris County, the County Clerk conducts elections ordered by the Commissioners' Court and/or State governing authority. Elections ordered by other political subdivisions may be conducted by the political subdivision that ordered it. Some political subdivisions hire the County Clerk to conduct their elections.

3. What contests are on the ballot in a odd-numbered year Nov. election?

In a Nov. election conducted in an odd-number year, the ballot includes positions on the governing body of small political subdivisions, including small cities, independent school districts, community colleges, utility and emergency services districts, and special elections.

4. Does a voter have to vote for candidates affiliated with a political party?

No. Non-state and non-county district elections held in a odd-numbered Nov. election year are officially non-partisan.

5. May a voter participate in a Runoff Election even if the voter did not vote in the General elections?

Yes. It is not necessary to have voted in the General Election to vote in the Runoff Election.

6. Do voters need identification to vote in person?

Yes. Voters need to bring an approved form of identification to vote at the polling location. Voters can find a list of the approved forms of voting identification at <http://www.harrisvotes.com/VotingInfo/AcceptableID.aspx?L=E>.

7. What is a Declaration of Reasonable Impediment?

A Declaration of Reasonable Impediment is a document that eligible registered voters who do not possess an acceptable form of photo identification must complete and provide a supporting document to cast a regular ballot.
<http://www.harrisvotes.com/VotingInfo/AcceptableID.aspx?L=E>.

8. What if a voter does not possess an acceptable form of voter identification?

Voters who do not possess an acceptable form of photo ID or a supporting document have the option of voting via a Provisional Ballot. The Provisional Ballot must be cured within the 6 days following the election.

9. Can a person with disabilities vote at the poll?

Yes. Voting equipment allows disable voters to vote independently. Voters physically unable to enter the polling location may also request to be allowed to vote at the "curbside" outside the polling location.
<http://www.harrisvotes.com/VotingInfo/DisabledVoters.aspx?L=E>.

10. Can a voter bring someone to the poll to assist with the voting process?

Yes. On the voter's request, the voter may be assisted by any person selected by the voter other than the voter's employer, an agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor union to which the voter belongs.

11. What if a voter has a concern while in the process of voting?

If a voter has a question while in the voting booth, the voter should press the help button on the eSlate and/or notify the Election Staff.

12. What devices are prohibited inside the polling location?

Wireless communication devices are prohibited within the polling location. The taking of photographs is prohibited within the polling location.

13. Is electioneering allowed within the polling location?

No. During the time a polling place is open for the conduct of voting, a person may not electioneer for or against any candidate, measure, or political party in or within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building or structure in which the polling place is located.

14. How does a voter know their vote was cast?

The voting process is complete when the voter presses the red Cast Ballot button and sees the waving American flag on the screen.

15. In Texas, does a voter have to register by/with a political party to vote?

No.