

Voter Education

How can you find out about candidates and issues before the next election? Here are some places to start:

Project Vote-Smart, <http://www.vote-smart.org/>, 1-888-VOTE-SMART

Project Vote Smart, a citizen's organization, has developed a Voter's Self-Defense system to provide you with the necessary tools to self-govern effectively: abundant, accurate, unbiased and relevant information. As a national library of factual information, Project Vote Smart covers your candidates and elected officials in five basic categories: biographical information, issue positions, voting records, campaign finances and interest group ratings.

Congress.org, <http://congress.org/congressorg/home/>

Congress.org is a service of Capitol Advantage, a private, non-partisan company that specializes in facilitating civic participation. Congress.org allows users to identify and contact elected leaders in Congress, the White House, and state legislatures; have your representative's votes sent to you weekly via e-mail with MegaVote; and more.

Seattle Community Network, <http://www.scn.org/politics/voter.html>, Seattle Community Network Association, P.O. Box 947, Seattle, WA 98111-0947

Seattle Community Network provides nonpartisan voter information for the Puget Sound, Washington State, the United States, and the world.

The Center for Responsive Politics, <http://www.opensecrets.org/>, (202) 857-0044

The Center for Responsive Politics is a non-partisan, non-profit research group based in Washington, D.C. that tracks money in politics, and its effect on elections and public policy. The Center conducts computer-based research on campaign finance issues for the news media, academics, activists, and the public at large. The Center's work is aimed at creating a more educated voter, an involved citizenry, and a more responsive government.

League of Women Voters, <http://www.lwv.org/>, 202-429-1965

It's not enough to register to vote. You need to go do it! Before you go vote on election day, you should

- Know who the candidates are and what they stand for
- Understand the issues being debated, so you can make up your own mind on where you stand on issues ranging from education and foreign relations to environment and jobs
- Watch or attend a candidate debate
- Learn the Election ABCs
- Understand the impact of the ballot initiatives you will vote on
- Know the Frequently Asked Questions on Voting and Elections

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