Taking Flight: Soaring Through Civic Engagement During the 2024 Election Season

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Overview

1. Election Engagement at UNC Charlotte
2. 49er Democracy Experience
3. Policy and Legal Considerations
4. Permissible Activities
5. Prohibited Activities
6. Enforcement
Trivia

What percentage of the voting-eligible population turned out to vote for the 2020 U.S. presidential election?

A. 42%
B. 66%
C. 28%
D. 82%

Source: Pew Research Center
Trivia

What percentage of the voting-eligible population turned out to vote for the 2020 U.S. presidential election?

B. 66%

This was the highest rate for any national election since 1900!
In 2020, 73% of eligible students voted in the presidential election.

This was up from 51% in 2016.

*National SLVE,
49er Democracy Experience

Voter Registration

Voter Education

Voter Mobilization
TurboVote can guide you through the voter registration process

**Register to Vote**
Register using the paper form or NC DMV online registration site.

**Update your address**
Did you move recently? Where will you be living during the voting period?

**Request an Absentee ballot**
Complete the form, print it, sign it, and return it to your local Board of Elections.

Instagram: 49ers_vote

Website: democracyexperience.uncc.edu
2024 Online Voter Registration in NC!
charlotte.turbovote.org

Do you have a valid North Carolina driver license or DMV-issued ID Card?

• If so, you can register to vote online.

• If not, you will need to use a paper voter registration form.
2024 TurboVote Will Guide You Through the Process

Why TurboVote?

• TurboVote sends important election reminders via text and email

• TurboVote helps students complete voter registration and absentee ballot request forms

• charlotte.turbovote.org
2024 TurboVote & Paper Voter Registration Form

- Online TurboVote Registration form
- Print and SIGN!
- Mail it or hand deliver it to the
  Mecklenburg County Board of Elections
2024 Campus Voter Registration

ID numbers
Preferred: last four digits of Social Security #

Signature
2024 Voter Lookup

https://vt.ncsbe.gov/voter_search_public/

- Verify your registration
- Find out where to vote on election day
- Review your ballot
BRING PHOTO ID TO VOTE!

In 2024, voters will be asked to show photo identification when voting in North Carolina.

- Your physical 49er Card (virtual cards are not approved for voting)
- North Carolina driver’s license

For a full list of acceptable IDs, visit

democracyexperience.charlotte.edu/get-informed/voter-id
WANT TO VOTE EARLY?
TO REGISTER AND VOTE ON THE SAME DAY
YOU WILL NEED TO PROVE YOUR RESIDENCE.

Where do you live?

ON CAMPUS

EARLY VOTING

go to

HOUSING.UNCC.EDU

on your mobile device to view your current housing assignment.
SHOW THIS PAGE to poll workers along with your student ID.

VOTE EARLY ON CAMPUS!
Visit bit.ly/2RwWwQO for dates and times and location.

OFF CAMPUS

PROOF OF RESIDENCE
documentation to your polling place. This must show the voter's current name and address and can include:

• A lease agreement
• North Carolina driver's license or photo ID (issued by a government agency)
• Current utility bill, bank statement, government-issued check, paycheck or other government document showing the voter's name and address

https://www.vote.org/voting-options/one-stop-early-voting

Welcome Home to UNC Charlotte!

49ERS_VOTE 49ERSVOTE
Election Process Information
Campus Support

- Invite members of the student team for informational presentations
Campus Support

• Invite members of the student team for informational presentations

• Connect with us on Instagram and share your voter engagement story: 49ers_vote
Campus Support

- Invite members of the student team for informational presentations
- Connect with us on Instagram and share your voter engagement story: 49ers_vote
- Sign up to volunteer with 49er Democracy Experience
Policy and Legal Resources

- North Carolina Law
  - N.C.G.S. Article 5, Chapter 126, Political Activity of Employees
- UNC Charlotte Policies
  - University Policy 102.3, Political Activities of Faculty and Staff Exempt from the State Human Resources Act
  - Political Activities of University Employees – Annual Memo
  - OLA website: https://legal.charlotte.edu/legal-topics/political-activities-employees
- UNC System Policies
  - UNC Policy Manual, Chapter 300.5
  - UNC System Procedures for Political Activities of EHRA Employees (2022)
  - UNC System Reminders Regarding University Employment and Political Activities (2018)
Permissible Activities - The Voting Process

- Voter Education & Registration
  - Cannot target voters of a particular party or help a specific candidate
- Polling
  - Questions must be framed neutrally and accepted polling techniques must be used
- Voter Guides and “Get-out-the-vote”
  - Cannot favor specific party or candidate
Permissible Activities - On Campus

• Websites and Online Information
  • Online information must be neutral and provide information on all candidates for that office

• Business with Candidates
  • All expenses related to the activity are paid for by the candidate, political organization, or sponsoring student organization
  • The goods/services must be made available to every candidate, and also generally be made available to the public
  • Charges and fees must be fair-market value and usual rates to the public
Permissible Activities - On Campus

- Providing information
  - UNC Charlotte may provide factual information and data to political candidates, while making it clear that the University will not be identified with any candidate or any party
  - The data must be made equally available to all candidates
Permissible Activities - Individual Involvement

- Civic Activities
  - Volunteering inside a polling facility
    - If non-partisan and unpaid, may use community service leave
  - Community engagement
- Registering to vote and voting
- Becoming a candidate and holding office
  - Comply with UNC System and UNC Charlotte policies
  - Petition must be submitted by timeline in UP 102.3
- Soliciting, accepting, receiving, and making campaign contributions in a personal capacity
Permissible Activities - Individual Involvement

• Participating in political campaigns or organizations
  • Includes handing out candidate information outside a polling location

• Teaching, inquiry, and classroom discussion on political issues within the course subject matter

• Participation in public affairs in a manner that does not compromise efficiency or integrity as employees or the neutrality, efficiency, or integrity of the constituent institution or unit in which they are employed.
  • Note: Employees must not imply the political opinions they assume are endorsed by the University.
Prohibited Activities

• Employees must not participate in political activity while on duty
  • Political Activity is defined as “actions directed toward the success or failure of a candidate for public office, political party, or partisan political group including, but not limited to, campaigning, political management, and soliciting financial contributions for political purposes.” UNC Policy Manual 300.5.1

• Employees must not use position or State property to gain support, or to oppose, any person or issue in any election
  • Examples of UNC Charlotte equipment or services: vehicles and other equipment, stationary, campus mail, computers and e-mail, postage, photocopiern, fax machines, etc.
Prohibited Activities

• Implying or expressing political opinions as an employee of UNC Charlotte (in other words, not in a personal capacity)
• Pressuring other State employees to support or oppose a political candidate or party
  • Making a promise of, or actually providing, preferential treatment
  • Making a threat of, or actually imposing, detrimental treatment
Enforcement

• Loss of tax-exempt status
• Excise tax liability
• Criminal misdemeanor
• Policy violations can lead to University disciplinary action
Questions?