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Elections and Voting Information

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Get out the vote!

1. Registration has closed for voting on November 4. BUT you can still register and vote at the one-stop early voting locations. Take a look at the [more information page](#) available from the NC Board of Elections and [the early voting page for Guilford County](#).
2. Check your registration and districts with the [Voter Lookup database](#) from the [North Carolina State Board of Elections](#). If you are not registered in North Carolina, find your state's Board of Elections [here](#).
3. Get early voting information or a sample ballot from your county board of elections.
 - o [Guilford County Board of Elections](#) & [Sample Composite Ballot for 2008 General Election](#)
 - o [Alamance County Board of Elections](#) & [Sample Ballot for 2008 General Election](#)
 - o [Forsyth County Board of Elections](#)
 - o More links to [NC County Board of Elections](#)
4. Learn about your candidates and the issues (see links below).
5. Know your rights!
 - o [Brennan Center's Student Voting Rights Guide](#)
 - Has information on residency and ID requirements.
 - o [Voter Rights: Accessibility](#) (OpenTheGovernment.org)
 - o [866ourvote.org](#)
6. VOTE!

Inform Yourself!: Candidate guides and information

[The News & Record's Candidate Guide](#)

Search the Library

- Catalog
- Journal Title
- Library Web Pages
- Google Scholar

[View Site Index](#)

- Best resource for Greensboro city and Guilford county level races.
- Profiles candidates at local, state, and national levels.
- Includes brief description of the duties, salary, and terms of the positions.

[The News & Observer's Candidate Guide](#)

- Best for state and national level races.
- Brief profiles of the background and key policies of the candidates.
- Also includes any major endorsements they have received.

[UNC-TV Online's Election 2008](#)

- Profiles candidates for all of the major state and national races.

[Congress.org](#)

- Information on the representatives and candidates at the national and state level.
- Provides contact information and issue positions for candidates and elected officials.

[Project Vote Smart](#)

- Big feature is the political courage test.
- Best for national and state level races.
- Covers candidates and elected officials in five basic categories: biographical information, issue positions, voting records, campaign finances and interest group ratings.

[Open Secrets](#)

- Best for national level races.
- 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.
- Each candidate has a quality of disclosure meter!

[Procon.org's Election 2008 Guide](#)

- Pro and Con ratings for each major Presidential candidate on the major issues.
- A nonprofit public charity with the mission to promote "education, critical thinking, and informed citizenship by presenting controversial issues in a straightforward, nonpartisan primarily pro-con format."

[PolitiFact.com's Truth-o-Meter](#)

- Best for the Presidential race.
- A joint project of the *St. Petersburg Times* and *Congressional Quarterly*.
- Aims to separate truth from fiction by monitoring campaign statements and claims through the Truth-o-Meter.

process

[Commission on Presidential Debates](#)

- A nonprofit, nonpartisan organization whose purpose is to sponsor and produce debates for the United States presidential and vice presidential candidates.
- Includes information about hosting a Debate Watch, debate history, and debate transcripts.

[League of Women Voters](#)

- Provides information on getting involved in the democratic process at the federal, state and local levels.
- Great guides on becoming an informed voter, such as the [2008 Presidential General Election Voters' Guide](#), [Debate 101](#), [Electing the President: A Guide to the Election Process](#), [Who Will Elect the President? The Electoral College System](#)

[CQ Voting and Elections Collection](#) (Off-campus access available only to the UNCG community)

- Covers the U.S. voter, major and minor political parties, campaigns and elections, and historical and modern races for Congress, the presidency, and governorships.
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Inform Yourself!: The issues

[University of Michigan's Election 2008](#)

- Comprehensive collection of links about the electoral process, the candidates, as well as issue information.
- [Section on the issues](#) is a great collection of links both governmental and non-governmental.

[CQ Researcher](#) (Off-campus access available only to the UNCG community)

- Provides analysis of current events, politics, and social issues.
- Particularly useful for health, international affairs, education, the environment, technology and economics.

[CQ Weekly](#) (Off-campus access available only to the UNCG community)

- Covers United States congressional activity, as well as executive and judicial decisions that affect Congress.
- Includes summaries of committee work, investigations, hearings, debates, and votes.

[Opposing Viewpoints](#) (Off-campus access available only to the UNCG community)

- Provides background information on controversial issues as well as arguments presented by supporters and opponents of each issue.
- Includes fulltext articles, reference sources, statistics, primary documents, images, web links, and more.

Inform Yourself!: Statistics & data sources

[Voting America](#)

- Visualizations of American voting patterns from the beginning of the modern party system to today.
- Developed by the Digital Scholarship Lab at the University of Richmond.

[United States Federal Elections Commission](#)

- Great source of campaign finance data! Can be downloaded in .csv or .xls formats.

[Roper Center For Public Opinion Research](#) (Off-campus access available only to the UNCG community)

- Large archive of public opinion polling data from major polling organizations and media sources.
- Includes a section called "Election 08" with hot topics for this election year!

[Vital Statistics on American Politics](#) (Off-campus access available only to the UNCG community)

- Statistics on turnout rates, ideological self-identification, judiciary, Congress, the media, the federal bureaucracy, the national budget, and much more.

[Statistical Warehouse](#) (Off-campus access available only to the UNCG community)

- Statistics on numbers of registered voters, turnout, the electoral process, and the 2000 & 2004 Presidential elections.

[Voting and Registration Data](#)

- From the U.S. Bureau of Census. 1998-2006 elections covered, with some projections of voting age population, and historical time series.

For more information, contact: [Lynda Kellam](#), Data Services & Government Information Librarian

