



Talk to Your Friends About Voting

The November 5 election is a big one! There will be lots of local races on the ballot, including for Mayor, City Council, and school board members. These elections typically see lower turnout, so you and your friends' votes are incredibly impactful! There's a lot of education to do to ensure voters participate in these trickier elections, and we need your help.

Chances are, your friends and family understand why voting is important, but they're going to need some hand holding through these unique circumstances.

If you're unsure what to say to motivate your friends, try sticking with a simple message about how their participation is important to you. Because if they're not regular voters, and don't yet see how their voter matters, they need to feel accountable to you.

Below are some sample scripts to get you started talking to your friends. Notice all of them include a question that should prompt a conversation, not just a yes or no answer.

Hot tip: don't text people you don't really want to talk to :)

Assume they already know about the election.

"Hey there. Are you as fired up as I am about this November 5 election?! *Do you want to vote by mail with me?*"

Use the gym-buddy method.

"Hey there - the November 5 election has important races on the ballot that I need all my friends to vote on. Do you know where you need to go to vote? Let me know if you need help finding your polling place or a sample ballot. I'm going to head over to the [courthouse/election office/community center, etc.] on Saturday to vote early. *Let me know if you're around and maybe we can go together?*"

(Next level) Add a bribe!

“Hi [name]. Just texting to remind you of the election happening Tuesday, November 5. I’m actually planning to vote early. *Do you want to go with me on Saturday, and then I’ll buy you a cup of coffee/bloody mary?*”

Use the Voter to Voter project as your excuse for reaching out.

“Hi there! I’m pretty fired up about the election on November 5, so I decided to volunteer for a cool voter turnout project where I’m getting in touch with people to see if they’re going to vote. I’m planning to vote by mail this year. You can just fill out an application online at ksvotes.org. *Have you been reading about these constitutional amendments?* I can send you the ballot language if that’s helpful.”

“Hey there. I’ve volunteered to be part of a project called Voter to Voter, where we get in touch with a handful of people we know to help get out the vote for local elections this year. *Is it okay if I stay in touch with you through the election, and we’ll figure this out together?!*” (We love this line for acknowledging that voting can be hard!)

(Next level) Tell them your actual goal.

“Hey. I signed up for this thing and agreed to get 10 of my friends to vote. *Will you be one of my ten? I promise I’ll walk you through it!*”

(Next level 2) Tell them it’s a competition, which now makes them accountable to you and your team.

“I’m volunteering with a voter turnout project, so your vote is not only important for the future of Kansas . . . it’s also important because my team gets more points if you show up! *Will you help me by voting on November 5?!*”

Share resources. Most people won’t know about them.

“Hey, there’s an important election coming up in November, and I’m volunteering to help get the word out so I wanted to reach out! If you go to KSVotes.org you can fill out a form online and they’ll send your ballot in the mail. I know you’re going to be busy this fall, so I thought you might like this! *Can you get it done before the October 16 deadline?* Once it comes, you can find out more info about your candidates at ksballot.org.”

“Hi _____. There are some important races up for a vote in Kansas on November 5, and I want to make sure all my friends are registered to vote. You can check your registration at ksvotes.org. It should just take a couple of minutes and can all be done online. You can also sign up to vote by mail at that site! If you end up requesting a ballot, they’ll just mail it to you a couple of weeks before the election and you can mail it back in. *What do you think?*”

Shorter, but still effective, versions.

“Hi [name]. There is an election on Tuesday Nov 5. I just signed up to vote by mail at KSVotes.org. *Do you want me to help you get signed up?*”

“Hey, I just found out about this cool website! If you go to KSVotes.org you can fill out a form online and they’ll send your ballot for this upcoming election in the mail. I know you’ll be busy this fall, so I thought you might like this! *Did you vote by mail last year?*”