

Talk to Your Friends About Voting

In 2025, the primary and general elections are no small thing! 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.

Be sure to include the date of the election you want to remind them of: 2025 Primary: August 5 Deadline to register to vote in the Primary: July 15 2025 General: November 4 Deadline to register to vote in the General: October 14

Below are some sample scripts to get you started talking to your friends. <u>Notice all of</u> <u>them include a question that should prompt a conversation, not just a yes or no answer</u>. **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 4 election?! Do you want to vote by mail with me?"

"Hi! What's your plan to vote in local elections this year? I'm gonna vote early this weekend - wanna go vote with me?"

Use the gym-buddy method.

"Hey there - the November 4 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) Habit stack or use it as an excuse to see a friend!

"Hi [name]. Just texting to remind you of the election happening Tuesday, November 4. I'm actually planning to vote early. *Do you want to go with me on Saturday, then we can catch up over 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 4, 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 read much about the school board candidates this year*? You can actually preview your ballot at <u>KSBallot.org</u>!"

"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 4?!"

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

"Hey, there're important local elections coming up in November, and I'm volunteering to help get the word out so I wanted to reach out! Have you made a plan to vote yet? If you go to <u>KSVotes.org</u> you can fill out a form online to request a mail-in ballot and they'll send it right to you. I know you're going to be busy this fall, so I thought you might like this! Once it comes, you can find out more info about your candidates at <u>KSBallot.org</u>. *What do you think?*"

"Hi ______. There are some important races up for a vote in Kansas on November 4, and I want to make sure all my friends are registered to vote. You can check your registration at <u>KSVotes.org</u>. It should just take a couple of minutes and can all be done online. Just make sure you register by the October 14 deadline! 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. *Can you get it done before the October 15 deadline?*"

Shorter, but still effective, versions.

"Hi [name]. There is an election on Tuesday, Nov 4. I just signed up to vote by mail at <u>KSVotes.org</u>. *Do you want me to help you get signed up?*"

"Hey, I just found out about this cool website! If you go to <u>KSVotes.org</u> 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?*"

"Chat, I fear primary election day snuck up on me... What's everyone's plan to vote on *Tuesday*, Aug 5? I found a sample ballot at <u>KSBallot.org</u>!"

(Next level) Remind them to return their mail-in ballot if they said they were voting by mail. Want to know which of your friends have requested a mail-in ballot?? Sign up to be an ambassador at <u>Votertovoter.org</u> for access to powerful data to help you help your friends!

"Howdy friend, I was just dropping my ballot off at a drop box and wanted to remind you to do the same. Seems like [insert drop box location] is the closest dropbox location to your house, I checked it at <u>KSBallot.org</u>! *Can you let me know once you've returned your ballot?*"