

Voting in San Francisco's School Board Elections:

You do **not** need to be a US citizen!

To vote, *all* of these statements must be true for you:

- I will be at least 18 years old on or before November 6, 2018.
- My child and I both live in San Francisco.
- I am the parent, legal guardian, or caregiver of a child younger than 19 years old.
- I am not in prison right now or on parole for a felony conviction.
- A court in the United States has never declared me "mentally incompetent."

If *all* of these are true for you, you can vote in San Francisco's School Board Elections.

If you did not check all of the boxes above, you cannot vote. Do NOT register to vote or try to vote if you cannot check all of the boxes. If you try to vote, you might put yourself and your family at serious risk.

Voting for the School Board is your right as part of a new San Francisco law called "Non-Citizen Voting Rights." This was also known as "Prop N." You CANNOT vote for anyone else, like supervisor, mayor, governor, or senator.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR NON-UNITED STATES CITIZENS

Any information that you give to the Department of Elections, including your name and address, may be obtained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and other agencies, organizations, and individuals. In addition, if you apply for naturalization, you will be asked whether you have ever registered or voted in a federal, state, or local election in the United States.

You may wish to consult with an immigration attorney, an organization that protects immigrant rights, or other knowledgeable source before providing any personal information to the Department of Elections and before registering to vote in San Francisco Board of Education Elections.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I register to vote under Prop N?

Get a “non-citizen voter registration form” from the Department of Elections at City Hall, the San Francisco Unified School District, or immigrant organizations in San Francisco. Do *not* get a “standard voter registration form” -- those are for US citizens only. Fill out your form, sign it, and return it. Then, watch your mail for information telling you where to vote, when to vote, and the names of the candidates.

2. Can ICE get information about me if I register to vote under Prop N?

Yes. When you register to vote, this is one more way that the federal government and ICE can get information about you. This includes your name and address. We strongly recommend talking with an immigration lawyer or organization to learn more about these risks -- and how to protect yourself and your family from ICE. The San Francisco Immigrant Legal and Education Network (SFILEN) can also give you advice. You can reach SFILEN online at <http://sfilen.org/> or by phone at (415) 282-6209.

3. How are School Board elections different from other elections?

There are different kinds of elections in the United States. Only US citizens can vote in federal, state and local elections. Federal (US) elections decide who will be president and serve in congress. State elections decide who will be California’s governor and lawmakers. Local elections are for San Francisco only, and include voting for San Francisco’s mayor and Board of Supervisors. School Board elections decide who will be in charge of the schools in San Francisco. Non-citizens are allowed to vote in the School Board elections.

4. What is Proposition N and why should I vote for the School Board?

In 2016, the people who live in San Francisco voted to pass a new law, called Proposition N (or, Prop N). This new law allows non-citizen parents, guardians, and caretakers of children (from ages 0 – 18) to vote in the San Francisco Unified School Board elections. The goal of Proposition N is to give non-citizen parents the opportunity to help choose who will make decisions about their children’s schools. It allows you to make your voice heard!

5. I am going to apply for naturalization to become a US citizen. What should I do if I am asked if I ever voted or registered to vote?

If you have voted or registered for Prop N elections, answer honestly. It is legal for you to vote for San Francisco School Board (see checklist for eligibility). But, make sure to ask for your “Right to Vote” letter. You can get this from the San Francisco Department of Elections. Make sure you ask for and keep this letter. When you apply for naturalization, include it in your application so that they know you registered and voted legally.