



Dear Student,

Welcome to your new school! For the next few years you will be on one of the most exciting journeys of your life. Among the many things you will experience, this journey will teach you about your rights and responsibilities as a citizen. One of the most important rights and responsibilities is the right to vote and responsibility to participate in our democracy. You should **Register** and **Vote** in all elections.

For many of you, your college years will afford you the first opportunity to exercise your right to vote. In Iowa, the procedures for registering and voting are simple and straightforward. The following questions and answers are provided to help you understand the process. If you have other questions about voter registration or elections, please call my office at 1-888-SOS-VOTE or log on our web site at www.sos.state.ia.us.

1. How do I register to vote? It's simple! Just fill out the attached form and put it in the mail. Or you may fill out and download a voter registration form on our web site at www.sos.state.ia.us. For more voter registration information, contact the county auditor in the county in which your school is located or call 1-888-SOS-VOTE.

2. What if I am already registered to vote? If you are already registered to vote, you have two options. First, you may re-register to vote at your school address. Again, just fill out the attached registration form and put it in the mail. Or if you would still like to vote in the town where you grew up, you do not need to re-register. But, if you will not be back home on election day, you will need to request an absentee ballot from your hometown county auditor. You may fill out and download an absentee ballot request form on our web site at www.sos.state.ia.us.

3. How can I get involved in politics? You can get involved in a campus political group or contact local, state, and federal candidates at their campaign offices. In addition, you can contact local, state or national political parties. Many candidates and political parties now have web sites. The state parties in Iowa can be contacted at the websites below.

The Iowa Democratic Party - 515-244-7292 or www.iowademocrats.org
The Republican party of Iowa - 515-282-8105 or www.iowagop.org
For more options, check out www.sos.state.ia.us

Good luck and enjoy your education experience!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chester J. Culver".

Chester J. Culver
Secretary of State,
Commissioner of Elections
And Registrar of Voters