

It is different from Election Day. You CANNOT register to vote or update your voter registration on Election Day, it must be done during Early Voting.

Go to the State Board of Elections for more information.

#### How the Electoral College Works in NC

We all know that the United States President and Vice President are elected by the Electoral College. How does this work in practice? The NC Secretary of State oversees the process in our state and <u>her website</u> details the process: "In North Carolina, state law says that when you vote for a candidate for President and Vice President, you are actually voting for the nominees for electors for those candidates. State law also says that the electors' names do not appear on the ballot.

Instead, the law requires that parties file the names of their nominees for electors for their candidates for President and Vice-President with the North Carolina Secretary of State. If unaffiliated candidates qualify to have their names on the printed ballots as an unaffiliated candidate, then they also have to file the names of their nominees for electors with the Secretary of State.

After the general election, state law requires that the NC State Board of

Elections certify the election results and deliver them to the Secretary of State. State law then says that the Secretary of State has to notify the Governor as to who has been elected to the office of elector for President and Vice-President of the United States.

After the Secretary of State certifies the election results to the Governor, the law says the Governor has to issue a proclamation. The proclamation names the electors. The law also instructs the electors to be present "in the old Hall of the House of Representatives in the State Capitol in Raleigh at noon on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December following their election." This year, that is Monday, December 14, 2020.

When the Electoral College meets, the electors vote separately for President and Vice-President of the United States. After they vote they sign certificates of the vote. The certificates are distributed according to federal law."

### Applications Open for New Rent and Utility Assistance Program

Applications are now being accepted for the N.C. Housing Opportunities and Prevention of Evictions (HOPE) Program, which will assist eligible low- and-moderate-income renters experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. The new program seeks to promote housing stability during the ongoing pandemic by providing rent and utility assistance to prevent evictions and utility disconnections.

The HOPE Program will provide \$117 million for rent and utility assistance for renters who have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic, have a current household income that is 80 percent of the area median income or lower, and are behind on their rent or utilities when they apply.

Renters who need rent or utility assistance can apply online - <u>nc211.org/hope</u>. Applicants who cannot access the online application can also call 2-1-1 and speak with a program representative, who will assist the caller through the application on the phone. Callers can reach 2-1-1 Monday-Friday between 7 am and 6 pm.

Renters can apply for utility assistance, rent assistance or both programs. Rent assistance is paid to the landlord on behalf of the applicant. This includes overdue and future rent payments, for up to six months. At least one month's rent must be overdue at the time of application.

Utility payments will be made directly to the utility provider for up to six months of past due essential utilities, such as electricity, water, sewer/wastewater, natural gas and propane. For more information about the HOPE Program, visit <u>nc211.org/hope</u>.

#### Virtual Learning Opportunities With the North Carolina State Capitol

Although the North Carolina State Capitol is still closed to the public, this fall they are offering virtual learning opportunities.

Whether students are in the classroom or learning remotely at home, anyone can join us for these live, interpreter-led sessions. These (free!) interactive programs are themed, take place via Zoom or Google Meet, and last 30-45 minutes. We require groups of at least 10 to book and are currently taking reservations through December 2020.

For more information or to make a reservation, please visit: https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/n-c-state-capitol/digital-resources

# Free Remote Learning Conference Available for Teachers, Parents

All North Carolina teachers and parents are invited to attend a free virtual conference on October 28 to help them navigate technology and remote learning.

The REAL 2.0 (Remote Education & Learning) Conference will include sessions by experts in fields including education, mental health and technology.

Educators from across the state are serving as content advisers for REAL 2.0. Sessions for parents will be available in both English and Spanish, and all sessions will include closed captioning.

For educators, topics covered will include: navigating asynchronous learning; how to teach students effective study habits, time management and daily routines for virtual learning; tips and timesavers in Canvas; ideas for getting students motivated during virtual learning; Google Classroom and Google Meets tips and tricks; resources for struggling students; addressing the needs of exceptional learners in the regular classroom; video creating and editing tips; and much more. Exceptional student needs will be addressed throughout the sessions.

For parents, sessions will include: digital literacy; understanding Canvas and Google Classroom; how to support children with autism during remote learning; the college application and FAFSA process; fostering good mental health for parents and their children; and much more.

To attend the REAL 2.0 Conference, register at <u>ncstudentconnect.com</u> up until October 28. Recordings of the REAL 2.0 Conference will be available at the same link following the conference and educators can also view the recordings from the first REAL Conference at the same link.

## **Get Your Flu Shot!**

The first and most important step in protecting you and your family from the flu virus is to get a flu vaccine each year. Yet many North Carolinians don't get

vaccinated.

Contact your health care provider or visit <u>https://vaccinefinder.org/</u> to find a convenient location to get a flu vaccination near you.

Stay safe .... PEACE!

Mary

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Visit our Website



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