



Empowering High School Voters

Early Voting Field Trips for High School Students 2021©

1212 Guadalupe #107, Austin, TX 78701
(512) 472-1100
LWVTexas@LWVTexas.org
LWVTexas.org

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Leah Stephanow, MEd, League of Women Voters CyFair for sharing her knowledge.

Why High School Educators Partner with the League?

We never support or oppose political parties or candidates. Our mission is empowering voters. defending democracy.

The League:

- Provides trusted nonpartisan resources for high schools to meet their legal obligation to register eligible high school students twice a year and to engage their community in voting.
- Is in [34 communities](#) in Texas.
- Considers diversity, equity, and inclusion is central to our success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policymakers in creating a more perfect democracy.

Early Voting Field Trip

Description

A 1-hour visit to the early voting location nearest to the high school. Students travel by school bus to vote at the vote center and return to school.

Process

1. Gain approval for the field trip.
 - a. Contact the high school principal.
 - b. If an early voting field trip has not occurred within the school district, contact the district superintendent's office for approval.
2. Contact the county elections administration office.
 - a. Locate the nearest early voting location.
 - b. Seek assistance in determining a day of the week for the field trip that has a record of relatively low attendance.
3. Early in the semester, arrange the field trip through the high school senior social studies teachers (government and economics classes).
 - a. Contact teachers personally or through a group meeting to gain their support, approval, and cooperation for the field trip.
 - b. Mutually agree upon the particular date the field trip will be scheduled during all their class periods on that date.
 - c. At least 1 month prior to the field trip, provide the teachers with sign-up sheets for registration for the field trip and field trip information sheets for their students.
4. Follow school/district procedures for the field trip to:
 - a. Secure school buses for transporting students to/from the vote center.
 - b. Report student attendance on the field trip.
5. One week prior to the field trip inform the students in writing to:
 - a. Review an individualized nonpartisan voters guide at VOTE411.org.
 - b. Print and complete a sample ballot individualized to their address from the county elections website. Bring the sample ballot to the field trip.
 - c. Obtain an acceptable form of identification required for presentation at the polling place before voting. Provide the current list of acceptable forms of identification (see the Texas Secretary of State website votetexas.gov
6. One day prior to the field trip the government and economics teachers should remind the students to bring the following materials to the field trip:

- a. Completed sample ballot
 - b. Acceptable voter ID.
 - c. Cell phone to be photographed outside the voting center following voting
 - d. Check off each student on the field trip registration list as students get on the bus.
 - e. Verify that the student has a sample ballot and voter ID.
 - f. Photograph students after they have voted.
 - i. See example frame for taking the picture.
 - ii. Ask students to post their photos on their social media accounts and encourage others to vote.
7. Report student field trip attendance according to school/district procedure

Example Picture Frame



Resources:

LWV Texas - [Civics Education in Texas](#)

LWVUS - [High School Voter Registration Manual](#)

Texas Election Code - [Voter Qualifications and Registration](#)