

# VOTE LABOR!

## THE UCWVA VOTER GUIDE / 2023 VIRGINIA ELECTIONS

EXTERNAL DISTRIBUTION



Elections for Virginia's General Assembly take place November 7, 2023. We're asking you to Vote Labor! This means voting for candidates who will work to advance the priorities of working people in the General Assembly. When UCWVA members head to the polls this fall, we have the power to elect representatives who will:

- Fight for full collective bargaining rights for all public sector employees, including graduate workers
- Champion free, universal access to high-quality, public education – starting with early childhood education – for all Virginians
- Raise employment standards for all public sector employees by ensuring that all Commonwealth employees earns a living wage and have access to quality health insurance, paid sick leave, and a livable retirement plan
- Work to give Virginians more control over their public institutions of higher education

### Why this Election?

It's always important to Vote Labor, but this year the stakes are incredibly high. Recent redistricting has made it so that a single shift in the House or Senate can be the difference between winning major labor victories like paid family leave, minimum wage increases, and collective bargaining or fighting to protect the meager ground we've already won. [Accessible childcare](#) is also a labor issue that we can work with the state government to improve our working conditions. Here are key reasons to vote this Election:

- **2023 is a major opportunity to shift the balances of power in the GA.** [Between retirements, primary upsets, and redistricting reform](#), 2023 is shaping up to be the most turnover Virginia's General Assembly has seen [in years if not decades](#). When incumbents are in office and continue running, they are always more difficult to defeat.
- **Power in the House and Senate are up for grabs.** With so many House and Senate seats up for grabs, control of both houses is too. This election will determine whether a single party can move their legislation through unchecked, or whether the House and Senate will have to negotiate to pass laws.
- **Virginia's off-off cycle elections protect incumbents and the status quo.** Off-off year elections typically see low voter turnout. During these elections, candidates don't see the Virginia electorate as powerful or hungry for change. Instead, they rely on pre-existing support and campaign donations to send them back to the General Assembly. It's harder to energize voters during off-off cycle elections. But if we make an impact, politicians will notice.
- **Now's the time to elect legislators who will fight for us in 2025.** General Assembly members are not paid as full-time legislators. [It can take them several sessions to learn the system and build relationships in order to successfully pass their first bill.](#)

## Voter Registration and Election Information

Remember! This is the first election after redistricting. Double check your House and Senate districts using the [Who's My Legislator? tool](#).

<b>September 22, 2023 (Friday)</b>	First day of in-person early voting at your <a href="#">local registrar's office</a>
<b>October 16, 2023 (Monday)</b> Online - 11:59 p.m. In Person - 5:00 p.m. By mail - Postmarked no later than 5:00 p.m.	Deadline to <a href="#">register to vote, or update an existing registration</a> ( <i>Voters may register after this date, through Election Day, and vote using a provisional ballot</i> )
<b>October 27, 2023 (Friday)</b>	Deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot. Your request must be received by your <a href="#">local voter registration office</a> by 5:00 p.m.
<b>October 28, 2023 (Saturday)</b>	First day of early in-person voting
<b>November 4, 2023 (Saturday)</b> at 5:00 p.m.	The last day of in-person early voting at your <a href="#">local voter registration office</a>
<b>November 7, 2023 (Tuesday)</b> General Election Day	Mail-in ballot must be postmarked by Election Day (and received 3 days after)
<b>November 10, 2023 (Friday)</b>	Deadline for mail-in ballot to be received by elections office

*(source: [Virginia Department of Elections](#))*

**Your vote matters! Together, we can build a coalition to elect candidates who support workers across the Commonwealth!**

**Stand in solidarity on the ballot and vote for our future!**



### Additional Information

- [Virginia Department of Elections](#)
- [Election and Voter FAQ](#)
- [UCWVA Childcare For All Campaign](#)

### Contact Information

If you have any questions about this guide or the upcoming election, please contact the following:

- **Cecelia Parks** (Co-chair, Political Coalition and Policy Committee) [parks.cecelia@gmail.com](mailto:parks.cecelia@gmail.com)
- **Khun Minn Ohn** (Chair, Strategic Communications Committee) [stratcomms@ucw-va.org](mailto:stratcomms@ucw-va.org)