

Wherever you are...

we're here for you

TITLE IX | ADA | DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

*the
mission
continues*

STEPHENS
COLLEGE

[ADA/Section 504 – Coordinator Sady Mayer Strand](#)

Election Day is less than three months away; it is imperative to begin educating yourself on candidates and issues if you haven't already done so. The following are some of the pertinent policies, initiatives, and issues at stake regarding disability rights:

- passing the Accessible Voting Act (an Act to make voting more inclusive and accessible)
- ensuring more policy makers with disabilities take active roles in administrations and in government as a whole
- creating inclusive and accessible education, K-12 as well as post-secondary
- ensuring affordable healthcare, equal employment opportunities, and economic security for persons with disabilities
- securing affordable housing and accessible transportation for persons with disabilities

To explore the presidential candidates' platforms and policies pertaining to disability rights, check out the [2020 Presidential Primary Candidate Survey on Disability](#) and the American Association of People with Disabilities' (AAPD) [resource on Presidential Elections, 2020](#). The AAPD's [REV UP: Register, Educate, Vote, Use Your Power](#) is also a valuable resource, whose mission is to "foster civic engagement and protect the voting rights of Americans with disabilities."

Tuesday, July 28 was National Vote by Mail Day. If you have an illness, physical disability, and/or are at-risk for contracting Covid-19, you may be able to ask for an absentee ballot. Check with your local county voting website. If you are a Boone County resident, the absentee ballot resource is found on the [Boone County government site](#). Boone County residents who have an illness, and/or physical disability, and/or are at-risk for contracting Covid-19 will not have to have their absentee ballots notarized. For information regarding states that allow absentee ballots, check out the Washington Post's recent article "[Vote by Mail: Which States Allow Absentee Voting](#)" or check out the infographic below, which was recently posted by Former President Barack Obama on his Instagram account:

2020 DEADLINES TO REQUEST YOUR VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT

as of 7/28/2020

STATE	Request Deadline	STATE	Request Deadline
Alabama**	10/29	Montana	11/2
Alaska	10/24	Nebraska	10/23
Arizona	10/23	Nevada	10/20
Arkansas**	10/27	New Hampshire**	N/A
California	10/27	New Jersey	10/27
Colorado	All Mail	New Mexico	10/20
Connecticut*	11/2	New York*	10/27
Delaware**	10/30	North Carolina	10/27
DC	10/27	North Dakota	N/A
Florida	10/24	Ohio	10/31
Georgia	10/30	Oklahoma	10/27
Hawaii	All Mail	Oregon	All Mail
Idaho	10/23	Pennsylvania	10/27
Illinois	10/29	Rhode Island	10/13
Indiana*	10/22	South Carolina*	10/30
Iowa	10/24	South Dakota	11/2
Kansas	10/27	Tennessee**	10/27
Kentucky*	10/27	Texas*	10/23
Louisiana*	10/30	Utah	All Mail
Maine	10/29	Vermont	11/2
Maryland	10/27	Virginia	10/23
Massachusetts	10/28	Washington	All Mail
Michigan	10/30	West Virginia**	10/28
Minnesota	11/2	Wisconsin	10/29
Mississippi*	N/A	Wyoming	11/2
Missouri**	10/21		

* - Excuse necessary / ** - Excuse necessary, COVID-19 concerns accepted
Some states permit later requests online, go to votesaveamerica.com to learn more.

In addition, for information regarding accessibility and voting, check out the [U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Resource for Voters with Disabilities](#) as well as [Congress.gov](#) for information regarding the proposed Accessible Voting Act of 2020.

The ADA/504 Office encourages you to take advantage of your rights, your responsibility, and your privilege to cast your vote on November 3, 2020.

[Title IX – Coordinator Shannon Walls '93](#)

The 19th Amendment was passed 100 years ago this month!

“The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.” passed August 18, 1920

Some inspiring readings, I'd like to share:

[Women's History Milestones: A Timeline](#) – *“From a plea to a founding father, to the suffragettes to Title IX, to the first female political figures, women have blazed a steady trail towards equality in the United States.”*

[A Record Number of Women Will Be Serving in the New Congress](#) (12/18/18) – *“When the 116th Congress convenes next month, women will make up nearly a quarter of its voting membership –*

the highest percentage in U.S. history, and a considerable increase from where things stood not too long ago.”

[Everyone Gains When Women Vote](#) – *“It’s important to vote in order to express our interests and what we want our governments to do to improve our lives and the lives of those around us.”*

To compare where the 2020 Presidential Candidates stand on issues that are important to you, check out:

<https://graphics.reuters.com/USA-ELECTION/POLICY/ygdpzwarjw/>

or

<https://2020election.procon.org/view.source-summary-chart.php>

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[Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Director Shaashawn Dial ‘98](#)

This week, Presidential Candidate and presumptive democratic nominee Joe Biden will announce his running mate. Biden has verbally committed to choose a woman as his running mate and if it is a woman of color it will be a her-storic decision. Joe Biden, who is 77 years old, will be 78 years of age by Inauguration Day, January 20, 2021, resulting in history as the oldest president in U.S. history if he wins.

Learn about the womxn being vetted as vice presidential candidates:

- Stacey Abrams (www.staceyabrams.com),
- Kamala Harris, Senator (www.kamalaharris.org),
- Susan Rice, Former National Security Adviser to President Barack Obama (www.susanricebook.com),
- Karen Bass, Representative (bass.house.gov),
- Elizabeth Warren, Senator (www.warren.senate.gov),
- Val Demings, Representative (demings.house.gov),
- Gretchen Whitmer, Governor (www.michigan.gov/whitmer),
- Tammy Duckworth, Senator (www.duckworth.senate.gov),
- Keisha Lance Bottoms, Mayor (keishalancebottoms.com/),
- Tammy Baldwin, Senator (www.baldwin.senate.gov),
- Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor (www.governor.state.nm.us/our-leadership/governor/), Maggie Hassan, Senator (www.hassan.senate.gov/), and
- Gina Raimondo, Governor (ginaraimondo.com/).

Stephens is an ecosystem dedicated to the unapologetic education of womxn through a journey of learning, growing, and leading. We celebrate the leadership of these womxn who trailblaze and make her-story.

What will YOU be the first to do or be?

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion encourages you to take advantage of your right, your responsibility, and your privilege to cast your vote on November 3, 2020.

We are Stephens. Let's continue to LEARN. GROW. LEAD.

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