Changing Your City’s Charter and/or School Board Policies

You will need to amend your city’s charter to allow for non-US citizen voting in local elections. If your city council and/or school board does not take the lead in forwarding an amendment to allow non-US citizens to vote on local issues or run for local office, you can turn in a citizen’s petition with the question to be added to the ballot.

EDUCATING YOUR RESIDENTS: Since your quest for a charter change must be approved by the voters in your town, you should hold educational programs to answer questions and concerns.

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS: If the ballot question passes, it will be sent to the state for approval by the Vermont Legislature and Governor.

REGISTERING NON-US CITIZENS TO VOTE: Once the state approval process is complete, your city can register non-US citizens to vote and/or run for office.

The League of Women Voters of Vermont will help any community interested in securing voting rights and representation at the local level for non-US citizens. Contact us at league@lwvofvt.org.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport

Since our founding in 1920, we pledged to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, and always encouraging informed and active participation of citizens in government.

Our mission is to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy.

“The right to vote is a fundamental principle of our democracy. When more Americans can participate in our elections, the outcome better reflects who we are as a country.”

Non-U.S. Citizen Voting in Vermont is a publication of the League of Women Voters of Vermont Education Fund, Inc. Copies available at no cost.

“Non-US citizen,” “non-citizen,” “all resident,” and “legal resident” voting is not new in the United States. While non-US citizens are prohibited from voting in federal elections, federal law does not address state or local elections.

At its 2023 Convention, the League of Women Voters of Vermont adopted a position on non-US citizen voting.

“The League of Women Voters of Vermont supports the inclusion of non-US citizens residing in Vermont municipalities, in some of our local democratic processes, at municipal, school district, and special district level (i.e., solid waste, water, etc.).”

LWVVT will now monitor non-US citizen voting in Vermont and across the country, give educational presentations, register non-US citizens in Vermont cities that have completed the process of securing immigrant voting rights, and assist individuals and groups interested in pursuing non-US citizen voting for their communities.

Non–US Citizen Voting in Vermont

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WINOOSKI:
All Resident Voting
Non-U.S. citizens can vote in all city elections on Town Meeting Day in March each year. Local municipal and school candidates, budgets, and issues are on the Town Meeting Day ballot. All Resident voters are also eligible to run for municipal and school district offices.

TO VOTE IN WINOOSKI: Non-US citizens must be residents of Winooski, in compliance with federal immigration laws and 18 years of age on or before Election Day.

REGISTERING TO VOTE
✓ In-person: City Clerk, 27 W. Allen Street, Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm
✓ By mail: Download All-Resident Voter Application (winooskivt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5499/All-Resident-Voter-Application) and return to the City Clerk by mail or in-person.

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION
✓ Enter your Vermont driver’s license #, non-driver identification, or last four digits of your Social Security Number (SSN).
✓ In the absence of the above, use the following: Permanent Resident Card, proof of residency document, or related paperwork; Vermont state or local government identification or paperwork; school Identification; or utility bill in voter’s name.

WHERE TO VOTE: Winooski Senior Center, 123 Barlow Street, 7 am–7 pm.
QUESTIONS: City Clerk: (802) 655-6410 or clerk@winooskivt.gov

MONTPELIER:
Non-Citizen Voting
Non-U.S. citizens can vote in all city elections on Town Meeting in March each year. Local municipal candidates, budget, and issues are on the Town Meeting Day ballot. Additionally, non-US resident voters are eligible to run for city offices.

TO VOTE IN MONTPELIER: Non-US citizens must be residents of Montpelier, in compliance with federal immigration laws and 18 years of age on or before Election Day.

REGISTERING TO VOTE
✓ In-person: City Clerk, 39 Main Street, Monday-Friday, 8 am-4:30 pm
✓ By mail: Call the City Clerk (802) 223-9500 and request the Non-US Citizen Voter Registration Form be mailed or emailed to you.

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION
✓ Enter your VT driver’s license #, non-driver identification, or last four digits of your SSN.
✓ In the absence of the above, use the following: Permanent Resident Card, proof of residency document, or related paperwork; Vermont state or local government identification or paperwork; school Identification; or utility bill in voter’s name.

WHERE TO VOTE: Montpelier City Hall, 39 Main Street, M–F, 7 am–7 pm. See montpelier-vt.org/922/City-Voter-Guide
QUESTIONS: City Clerk: (802) 223-9500 or jodum@montpelier-vt.org

BURLINGTON:
All Legal Resident Voting
Non-U.S. citizens can vote in all city elections on Town Meeting Day in March each year. Local municipal and school candidates, budgets, and issues are on the Town Meeting Day ballot. All Legal Resident voters are also eligible to run for municipal and school district offices.

TO VOTE IN BURLINGTON: Non-US citizens must be residents of Burlington, in compliance with federal immigration laws and 18 years of age on or before Election Day.

REGISTERING TO VOTE
✓ In-person: City Clerk office, 149 Church Street, Monday–Friday, 8 am-4:30 pm
✓ By mail: Download All Legal Resident Voter Registration Form (burlingtonvt.gov/sites/default/files/COB%20Legal%20Resident%20Voter%20Application_4.pdf) and return it to the City Clerk’s office by mail, email, or in-person.

COMPLETING THE APPLICATION
✓ Enter your Vermont Driver’s License number or Personal Identification (PID).
✓ In the absence of a Vermont driver’s license or PID, you can present a current and valid photo ID, bank statement, utility bill, or government document with your name and current address.

WHERE TO VOTE: Go to burlingtonvt.gov/CT/Maps-Wards-State-Districts-and-Polling-Places
QUESTIONS: City Clerk: (802) 865-7000 or burlingtontownclerk@burlingtonvt.gov