



Please share a self-care routine
that lifts you up.

Voter Registration and Get- Out-the-Vote (GOTV): What Nonprofits Need to Know

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For free coaching about
laws impacting nonprofit advocacy:
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Agenda

1. Types of Nonprofits

Important: 501(c)(3)s cannot support or oppose a candidate for public office

2. Voter education


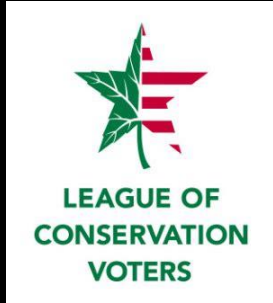

3. Voter outreach

a. Voter registration

b. Get-Out-the-Vote (GOTV)



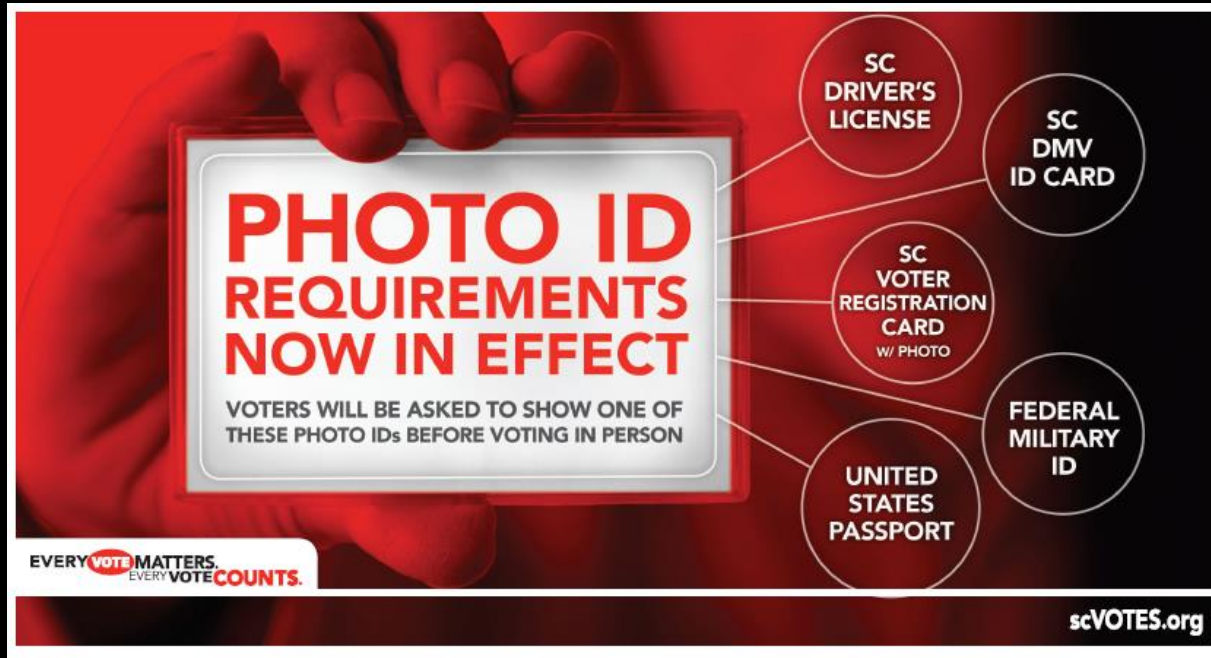
Types of Nonprofits

	501(c)(3) (Public Charities)	501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), 501(c)(6)	527 (Political Orgs)
Examples			
Tax Treatment	Tax-exempt Tax-deductible contributions	Tax-exempt	Tax-exempt
Electoral Activities	Cannot support or oppose candidates for public office	Secondary activity Follow federal & state election law	Usually, sole activity

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501(c)(3)s and 501(c)(4)s **CAN**
engage in **Voter Education**.

Educate Voters in the Voting Process



Website now changed to www.scvotes.gov

Register to vote by: Oct. 4 online or in-person, or Oct. 5 by mail

Early in-person voting: Very limited (available at in-person absentee locations)

Voter ID law: Strict (At the polls, you must show a government-issued photo ID or show a non-photo ID and sign an affidavit swearing that you could not obtain a valid photo ID.)

Vote by mail: Excuse required, and fear of COVID-19 does not count

Notable hurdle: Absentee ballots require an excuse and typically require a witness.

How easy is it to vote here: Very difficult

It's best practice for 501(c)(3)s to **have a disclaimer** in all voter education activities.

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose candidates or political parties.

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501(c)(3)s **CAN** engage in **Voter Outreach**, including voter registration and get-out-the-vote (GOTV) campaigns.

Voter Registration

No reference
to a party or a
candidate

No suggestion of
who to vote for

Make service
available to
EVERYONE

Targeting for
NONPARTISAN
reason



Don't Offer Incentives in Exchange for Voter Registration



Prioritizing Voter Engagement

501(c)(3)s MAY target voters because they are:

1. Your natural constituency
 - A. People who live in the region your nonprofit operates
 - B. The people your nonprofit serves (clients, patients, ethnic community)
 - C. The people your organization hopes to serve
2. Historically under-represented at the polls (Black voters, young voters, etc.)



What Funding Are You Using?



Federal funds have varying rules around voter registration.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Fund:

- **No restrictions!**

Community Service Block Grants (CSBG) and Head Start Funds:

- **CANNOT** use these funds to staff or materials to conduct drive, or provide rides to the polls

Use funds that don't restrict voter registration when possible!

Encourage all eligible voters to vote

No bias for or against a party or a candidate

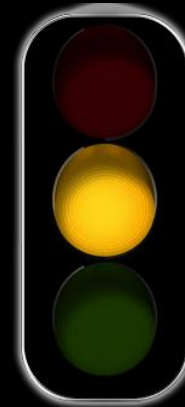
Not coordinated with any party or candidate

Targeting for NONPARTISAN reason

GOTV Campaigns



SHOW UP
SHOW UP
★ ★ ★ TO VOTE



**VOTE
PRO
CHOICE**

3

We are a **resource** for you
and your organizations!

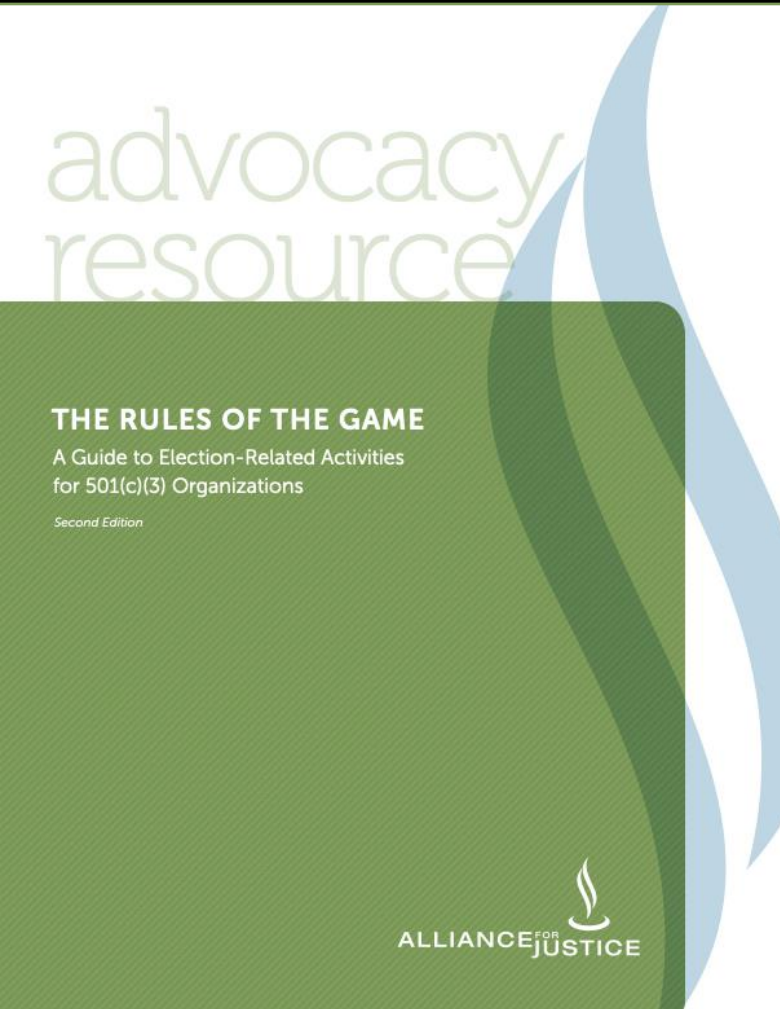
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