

Be A Voter

Voter Information Handbook

A Guide to State Referenda
and Voting Procedures in Rhode Island

General Election

November 6, 2018



401-222-2340



elections@sos.ri.gov



vote.ri.gov



@RISecState



Like us on Facebook
RI Department of State



Nellie M. Gorbea
Secretary of State

Be A Voter

Dear Rhode Island Voter:

Government policies impact your everyday life and voting is the easiest way for you to have some control over important policy decisions. From education to taxation, your vote for leaders in local, state and federal government matters. I am sending you this guide to make it easy for you to be informed, be engaged, and be a voter on November 6.

Your guide contains the information about the state questions you will see on your ballot. Statewide, there are three questions for you to approve or reject, that authorize the state to borrow money for capital projects. I have included short explanations of each of these questions (see pages 8-12) and I encourage you to contact my office if you need more information.

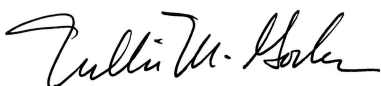
Locally, there are 18 communities in which you may also be asked to approve or reject municipal ballot questions. Help us keep poll lines short by viewing your sample ballot prior to Election Day. It's easy to view your sample ballot on your cell phone or your computer by going to our online Voter Information Center (vote.ri.gov). You can also call your local board of canvassers for more information about local ballot questions.

Finally, this year on Election Day, all polling places will have our new electronic poll books for voters to check in to receive their ballot. In many ways, your interaction at your polling place will be the same. You will present your photo ID, but instead of signing a paper ballot application, you will sign the electronic poll book. These electronic poll books have been tested successfully over the past two years in 34 municipalities' elections. Across the U.S., electronic poll books have been proven to reduce voters' wait time and dramatically increase data accuracy at your local boards of canvassers. Let us know what you think of them.

As a Rhode Island voter, you have the power to help move our great state forward. Your vote is absolutely critical to the state's success. Please help me get this information to as many people as possible by sharing it with your friends and family. This guide is also available on our website (vote.ri.gov).

If you need additional information, please contact our Elections Division at 401-222-2340, TTY 711; visit us during normal business hours at 148 West River Street in Providence; or write us at elections@sos.ri.gov.

Make a difference. Be A Voter!



Nellie M. Gorbea
Secretary of State

P.S. Be sure to follow us on Twitter (@RISecState) and on Facebook (RIDepartmentOfState)!

What's in this guide

Be Prepared for Election Day.....	4
Ways to Vote	5
Voting at the Polls	6
Accessibility and Voting Assistance at the Polls	7
State Bond Referenda Questions.....	8
Question 1 - Rhode Island School Buildings Bonds	9
Question 2 - Higher Education Facilities Bonds	10
Question 3 - Green Economy and Clean Water Bonds	11-12
Local Boards of Canvassers and State Board of Elections Contact Information	13
Definitions of Terms	14
Your Voter Checklist	15

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Rhode Island Department of State prepared this handbook with the help of the Budget Office of the RI Department of Administration, individual state agencies and counsel. We greatly appreciate their time and effort.

WARNING

Voter fraud is a felony and may be punishable by a fine and/or a jail sentence. You must be a United States citizen and registered to vote from your actual place of residence.



Esta guía esta disponible en español en
nuestra página de internet:
vote.ri.gov

Be Prepared for Election Day



Find your polling place

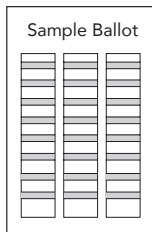
Your polling place is determined by your place of residence. You can find out where to vote by:



Visiting the Voter Information Center at vote.ri.gov

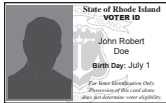


Calling your local board of canvassers.
See [page 13](#) for contact information.



Preview a sample ballot

Your choice of candidates depends on where you live. Locally, there are 18 communities in which you will be asked to approve or reject municipal ballot questions. You can see a sample of your local ballot by visiting the online Voter Information Center at vote.ri.gov.



Bring a valid Photo ID

Poll workers will ask you to show a current and valid photo ID when you vote at your polling place.

The following are valid and current forms of ID:

- › RI driver's license/permit
- › U.S. military ID card
- › U.S. passport
- › ID card issued by the U.S. government or State of Rhode Island (RIPTA bus pass, etc.)
- › ID card issued by any federally recognized tribal government
- › Government issued medical card
- › ID card issued by an educational institution in the U.S.
- › RI Voter ID card

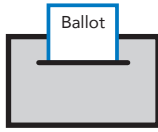
If you do not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls, you have the legal right to cast a provisional ballot. **You will never be turned away at the polls.** Your provisional ballot application will be reviewed by your local board of canvassers after Election Day to determine if you are eligible to vote, and if so, your vote will be counted.

Get a free Voter ID card

If you do not have any of the forms of valid photo identification listed above, we will provide you with one at no cost.

Contact the Department of State's Elections Division at 401-222-2340 or elections@sos.ri.gov for more information.

Ways to Vote



Vote at the Polls



Find your polling place
vote.ri.gov



Check polling place hours



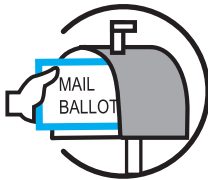
Bring a valid photo ID



Local Boards of Canvassers

In Rhode Island, each city and town has a local Board of Canvassers that manages local voter registration lists and elections.

See **page 13** for contact information.



Vote by Mail

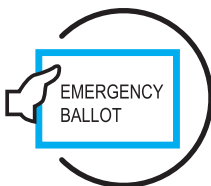
If you know you can't vote at the polls on Election Day, you can still be a voter by mail!



Find Mail Ballot Applications:
vote.ri.gov
or at your local board of canvassers



Return the application to your local board of canvassers where you are registered to vote by **October 16**.



Vote by Emergency Mail Ballot

If you miss the mail ballot application deadline, you can still vote before Election Day with an Emergency Mail Ballot.

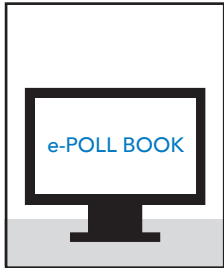


Find Emergency Mail Ballot Applications:
Contact your local board of canvassers where you are registered to vote.



Return the application to your local board of canvassers where you are registered to vote by **November 5**.

Voting at the Polls



Get your ballot

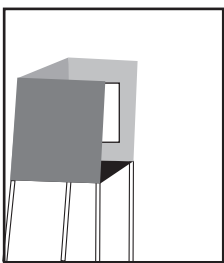
When you check in with poll workers, you will be asked to scan your photo ID into the electronic poll book.

They will ask you to sign a ballot application on the electronic poll book screen.

The poll workers will provide you with the appropriate ballot and a secrecy folder. The secrecy folder helps to ensure the privacy of your election choice(s).

Different address?

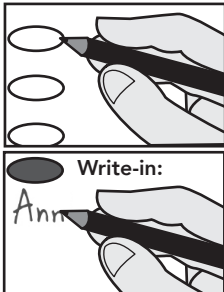
If you moved within the same city/town without updating your voter registration address you will need to complete an affirmation form before voting.



Go to the voting booth

Use the pen provided in the voting booth.

Important: Be sure to check both sides of the ballot. Some elected offices or questions will appear on the back of the ballot.



Mark your choice(s)

Fill in the oval to the left of your choice(s).

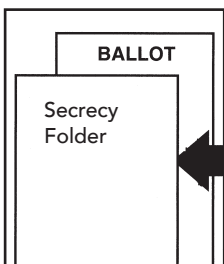
To vote for a write-in candidate

To vote for a candidate whose name is not on the ballot:

Fill in the oval to the left of "Write-in" and print the name clearly in the box.

! If you make a mistake when marking the ballot

If you make a mistake, do not cross out on the ballot or try to insert it into the voting machine. Instead, bring your ballot to a poll worker and ask for a new one to start over.



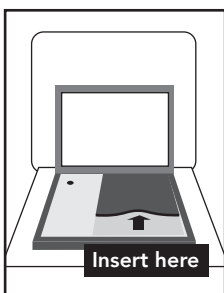
Protect your privacy

Place the ballot in the secrecy folder.

Proceed to the voting machine.

? Provisional Voting

If your name does not appear on the voter list, you do not have an acceptable form of photo ID, or there is another potential issue with your eligibility to vote, you will be allowed to cast a provisional ballot. This means that your vote may be counted by your local board of canvassers after Election Day.



Counting your vote

Remove your ballot from the secrecy folder and insert your ballot into the voting machine.

You will be able to see what number voter you are at your polling place.

Place the empty secrecy folder on top of the voting machine and proudly wear your "I Voted" sticker.

Accessibility and Voting Assistance at the Polls

Accessible polling place for elderly, disabled and visually impaired voters

Each polling place will have at least one handicapped-accessible voting booth designated for priority use by voters who are over 65 years of age or have some disability.

Voters who have a medical disability which would cause the voter to experience severe discomfort by standing in line will be allowed to move to the front of the line.

Each polling place will also be equipped with a sheet magnifier to assist voters who are visually impaired.

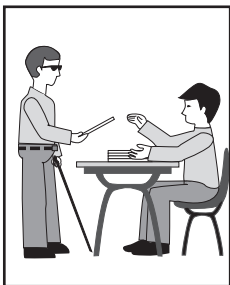
! If the polling place you are assigned to is inaccessible, you should notify your local board of canvassers and they will arrange an alternate means for you to cast your vote.

Using the accessible AutoMark equipment

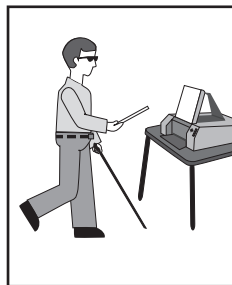
In accordance with the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and state law, an accessible voting unit (AutoMark) will be available at each polling place for every primary and election.

All registered voters are automatically entitled to use the accessible voting equipment located at each polling place. No special applications are required.

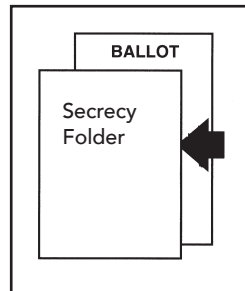
When you arrive at your polling place, you will proceed to the check-in table and tell poll workers that you wish to use the AutoMark to assist in marking your ballot.



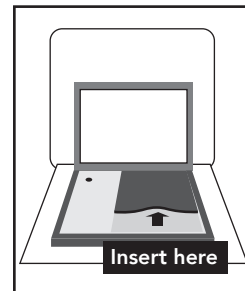
Receive ballot and secrecy folder from the poll worker.



Use the AutoMark unit to mark your ballot in private. Place your ballot into the AutoMark unit. Follow the instructions and make selections by using the keypad or touchscreen.



Insert your ballot into the secrecy folder and go to the voting machine.



Remove ballot from the secrecy folder and insert your ballot into the voting machine.

State Bond Referenda Questions

The Rhode Island Constitution requires that voters approve certain decisions made by the General Assembly. A referendum is the way our legislative body (the General Assembly or town or city council) asks voters to approve or reject proposals such as constitutional amendments, long-term borrowings like bonds, and special laws affecting some cities and towns (like municipal charters).

The referendum is always asked as a question to voters. There are a total of three statewide questions that will appear on the back of your ballot in 2018. You can visit vote.ri.gov to see what local questions will also appear on ballots in some communities.

Each of these questions involve authorizing the State to borrow money through bonds and temporary notes to make capital investments. ([Chapter 047 – Public Laws 2018](#))

What is a bond?

A bond is like a mortgage or loan. Just like people might borrow money to get an education or buy a home, the State is asking to borrow money from a lender with the promise to pay it back over time with interest. These questions are asking you to agree that we should borrow to invest in different areas of our state.

Here is a table of the bond proposals and their associated costs including principal and interest. Just as with a mortgage or loan, the total cost includes the principal amount borrowed and the amount of interest paid over the term of the bond. The total cost also includes any fees, printing, or underwriting expenses associated with issuing the bonds.

STATE BOND QUESTIONS	PRINCIPAL	INTEREST	TOTAL COSTS
1. Rhode Island School Building Bonds	\$250,000,000	\$151,212,936	\$401,212,936
2. Higher Education Facilities Bonds	\$70,000,000	\$42,339,622	\$112,339,622
3. Green Economy and Clean Water Bonds	\$47,300,000	\$28,609,487	\$75,909,487
TOTAL BORROWING COSTS FOR ALL REFERENDA	\$367,300,000	\$222,162,045	\$589,462,045

The total costs above are only estimates based on 20-year loans and an interest rate of 5%.

On Election Day, you will be asked:

“Shall the action of the General Assembly, by an act passed at the January 2018 session, authorizing the issuance of bonds, refunding bonds, and/or temporary notes of the State of Rhode Island for the capital projects and in the amount with respect to each such project listed below (Questions 1-3) be approved, and the issuance of bonds, refunding bonds, and/or temporary notes authorized in accordance with the provisions of said act?” Each bond question will be listed below this statement.

The following pages provide more information about each of the bond questions including their total estimated cost and project timetable. These estimated costs assume the bonds are gradually paid off with level payments over a twenty-year period.

About Question 1:

What it will look like on the ballot:

1. RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL BUILDINGS \$250,000,000

To provide state assistance to cities and towns for the construction of new public schools and renovation of existing public schools.

Approve

Reject

Approve

Your vote to "Approve" means that you support the state issuing \$250,000,000 in general obligation bonds to provide state assistance to cities and towns for the construction of new public schools and renovation of existing public schools.

Reject

Your vote to "Reject" means that you are against the state issuing \$250,000,000 in general obligation bonds to provide state assistance to cities and towns for the construction of new public schools and renovation of existing public schools.

Explanation and purpose of Question 1:

These bonds will be used to improve Pre-K-12 public school facilities and equip them for 21st century learning. Every school district will be eligible to receive matching funds paid for by these bonds. Funding will be available for public school projects that address immediate health and safety needs, early childhood education, career and technical education, and other educational enhancements. A portion of the bond proceeds will be made available to school districts each of the next five years, and no more than \$100 million of the \$250 million authorization may be issued in any one year.

How much money will be borrowed?

\$250,000,000

Project time table:

Bond proceeds will be made available to school districts annually for five years, beginning in 2019.

Useful life:

While each project and facility will differ, the Rhode Island Department of Education's expectation is that buildings will remain in service for up to 50 years.

Total cost:

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$249,000,000	\$150,608,084	\$1,000,000	\$604,852	\$250,000,000	\$151,212,936	\$401,212,936

* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

** Assumes an interest rate of 5%, with bonds amortized with level payments over 20 years.

About Question 2:

What it will look like on the ballot:

2. HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES

\$70,000,000

For higher education facilities, to be allocated as follows:

- (a) University of Rhode Island Narragansett Bay Campus - \$45,000,000
- (b) Rhode Island College School of Education and Human Development - \$25,000,000

Approve

Reject

Approve

Your vote to "Approve" means that you support the state issuing \$70,000,000 in general obligation bonds to fund higher education-related construction projects at the University of Rhode Island Narragansett Bay Campus and the Rhode Island College School of Education and Human Development.

Reject

Your vote to "Reject" means that you are against the state issuing \$70,000,000 in general obligation bonds to fund higher education-related construction projects at the University of Rhode Island Narragansett Bay Campus and the Rhode Island College School of Education and Human Development.

Explanation and purpose of Question 2:

These bonds would provide funds to the State of Rhode Island to pay for higher education-related construction projects.

(a) University of Rhode Island - Narragansett Bay Campus - \$45,000,000

Approval of these bonds would provide forty-five million dollars (\$45,000,000) to design, renovate, and construct new facilities and infrastructure including a new Ocean Technology Center building to support the evolving educational and research needs at the Graduate School of Oceanography, the College of Engineering, and the College of Environment and Life Sciences.

(b) Rhode Island College School of Education and Human Development - \$25,000,000

Approval of these bonds would provide twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) to renovate Horace Mann Hall on the campus of Rhode Island College in Providence to address significant deferred maintenance issues. Horace Mann Hall houses the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development.

How much money will be borrowed?

\$70,000,000

Project time table:

(a) Narragansett Bay Campus renovation and construction is expected to commence in January 2021. Construction is anticipated to be completed on or about June 30, 2023.

(b) Horace Mann Hall, the renovation and construction is expected to commence in December 2019. Construction is anticipated to be completed on or about July 1, 2021.

Useful life:

The University of Rhode Island estimates that the useful life of the new buildings at the Narragansett Bay Campus will be approximately 30 years.

Rhode Island College estimates that the useful life of the renovated Horace Mann Hall will be approximately 50 years.

Total cost:

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$69,720,000	\$42,170,264	\$280,000	\$169,358	\$70,000,000	\$42,339,622	\$112,339,622

* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

** Assumes an interest rate of 5%, with bonds amortized with level payments over 20 years.

About Question 3:

What it will look like on the ballot:

3. GREEN ECONOMY AND CLEAN WATER - \$47,300,000

For environmental and recreational purposes, to be allocated as follows:

- (a) Coastal Resiliency and Public Access Projects - \$5,000,000
- (b) Capital for Clean Water and Drinking Water - \$7,900,000
- (c) Wastewater Treatment Facility Resilience Improvements - \$5,000,000
- (d) Dam Safety - \$4,400,000
- (e) Dredging - Downtown Providence Rivers - \$7,000,000
- (f) State Bikeway Development Program - \$5,000,000
- (g) Brownfield Remediation and Economic Development - \$4,000,000
- (h) Local Recreation Projects - \$5,000,000
- (i) Access to Farmland - \$2,000,000
- (j) Local Open Space - \$2,000,000

Approve

Reject

Approve

Your vote to "Approve" means that you support the state issuing \$47,300,000 in general obligation bonds to invest in the environment and recreational projects.

Reject

Your vote to "Reject" means that you are against the state issuing \$47,300,000 in general obligation bonds to invest in the environment and recreational projects.

Explanation and purpose of Question 3:

These bonds would be issued to allow the State to invest in the environment and public recreation. The \$47,300,000 will be allocated as outlined below to preserve local open space, support municipalities in development of recreational facilities, protect farmland, develop bikeways, improve resiliency of wastewater treatment facilities, repair and/or remove state-owned dams, improve clean water and drinking water infrastructure, clean up contaminated land, dredge rivers in Providence, and improve coastal resiliency.

Specifically, approval of this question will provide:

(a) \$5,000,000 for up to 75 percent matching grants to restore and/or improve the climate resiliency of vulnerable coastal habitats and river and stream floodplains. Projects to be funded under this program would improve access and public safety in the face of increased flooding, major storm events, and environmental degradation.

(b) \$7,900,000 for investment in the Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRFs) to improve the environmental quality of our State's water. These funds will be used for, but not necessarily be limited to, drinking water and wastewater treatment upgrades, stormwater quality improvements, combined sewer overflow abatement projects, and water distribution system improvements.

(c) \$5,000,000 for up to 50 percent matching grants to help ensure water quality by protecting wastewater infrastructure from the impacts of flooding and major storm events.

(d) \$4,400,000 for the repair and/or removal of state owned dams that are aging and in an unsafe condition.

(e) \$7,000,000 for dredging sections of the Providence River, the Woonasquatucket River, and the Moshassuck River in the vicinity of downtown Providence and Waterplace Park for purposes of economic development, infrastructure maintenance, enhanced tourism opportunities, and improved water depths for boating, recreation, and climate resiliency.

(f) \$5,000,000 for the State to design, repair and construct bikeways. Projects to be funded under this program would include high priority bikeway connections, including the East Bay Bike Path.

(g) \$4,000,000 for the cleanup of former industrial or commercial “brownfield” sites that may be contaminated by hazardous waste or other environmental pollution. Provides up to 80 percent matching grants to public, private, and/or non-profit entities for brownfield remediation projects.

(h) \$5,000,000 for up to 80 percent in matching grants to municipalities to develop or rehabilitate local public recreational facilities such as parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields, and up to 50 percent in matching grants to municipalities to acquire land for public recreational facilities.

(i) \$2,000,000 for the State to help protect Rhode Island’s working farms through the State Farmland Access Program and the Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission.

(j) \$2,000,000 for up to 50 percent in matching grants to municipalities, local land trusts and non-profit organizations to purchase, acquire development rights, or conservation easements on open space lands in Rhode Island.

Project time table:

The program to fund investments in the environment, recreation and resiliency is anticipated to commence in Fiscal Year 2020 and be completed by Fiscal Year 2025.

Useful life:

- The Department of Environmental Management estimates the useful life of the construction, enhancements and renovations to be made to recreational, bikeway, resiliency, dam safety and water infrastructure throughout the State of Rhode Island to be 25 to 50 years.
- The Coastal Resources Management Council estimates the useful life of dredging the Downtown Providence Rivers to be approximately up to 20 years.
- The Department of Environmental Management estimates the useful life of local open space, farmland preservation and brownfields restoration to be permanent.

Total cost:

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$47,110,800	\$28,495,050	\$189,200	\$114,437	\$47,300,000	\$28,609,487	\$75,909,487

* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

** Assumes an interest rate of 5%, with bonds amortized with level payments over 20 years.

Local Boards of Canvassers

Barrington Town Hall
283 County Rd. 02806
247-1900 x4

Bristol Town Hall
10 Court St. 02809
253-7000

Burrillville Town Hall
105 Harrisville Main St.
Harrisville 02830
568-4300

Central Falls City Hall
580 Broad St. 02863
727-7400

Charlestown Town Hall
4540 South County Trl. 02813
364-1200

Coventry Town Hall
1670 Flat River Rd. 02816
822-9150

Cranston City Hall
869 Park Ave. 02910
780-3126

Cumberland Town Hall
45 Broad St. 02864
728-2400

East Greenwich Town Hall
125 Main St.
P.O. Box 111 02818
886-8603

East Providence City Hall
145 Taunton Ave. 02914
435-7502

Exeter Town Hall
675 Ten Rod Rd. 02822
294-2287

Foster Town Hall
181 Howard Hill Rd. 02825
392-9201

Glocester Town Hall
1145 Putnam Pike
P.O. Box B, Chepachet 02814
568-6206 x0

Hopkinton Town Hall
1 Town House Rd. 02833
377-7777

Jamestown Town Hall
93 Narragansett Ave. 02835
423-9804

Johnston Town Hall
1385 Hartford Ave. 02919
553-8856

Lincoln Town Hall
100 Old River Rd.
P.O. Box 100 02865
333-1140

Little Compton Town Hall
40 Commons
P.O. Box 226 02837
635-4400

Middletown Town Hall
350 East Main Rd. 02842
849-5540

Narragansett Town Hall
25 Fifth Ave. 02882
782-0625

Newport City Hall
43 Broadway 02840
845-5386

New Shoreham Town Hall
16 Old Town Rd.
P.O. Box 220 02807
466-3200

North Kingstown Town Hall
100 Fairway Dr. 02852
294-3331 x128

North Providence Town Hall
2000 Smith St. 02911
232-0900 x234

North Smithfield Municipal Annex
575 Smithfield Rd. 02896
767-2200

Pawtucket City Hall
137 Roosevelt Ave. 02860
722-1637

Portsmouth Town Hall
2200 East Main Rd. 02871
683-3157

Providence City Hall
25 Dorrance St.
Room 102 02903
421-0495

Richmond Town Hall
5 Richmond Townhouse Rd.
Wyoming 02898
539-9000 x9

Scituate Town Hall
195 Danielson Pike
P.O. Box 328, N. Scituate 02857
647-7466

Smithfield Town Hall
64 Farnum Pike
Esmond 02917
233-1000 x112

South Kingstown Town Hall
180 High St.
Wakefield 02879
789-9331 x1231

Tiverton Town Hall
343 Highland Rd. 02878
625-6703

Warren Town Hall
514 Main St. 02885
245-7340 x4

Warwick City Hall
3275 Post Rd. 02886
738-2010

West Greenwich Town Hall
280 Victory Hwy. 02817
392-3800

West Warwick Town Hall
1170 Main St. 02893
822-9201

Westerly Town Hall
45 Broad St. 02891
348-2503

Woonsocket City Hall
169 Main St.
P.O. Box B 02895
767-9223

State Board of Elections

50 Branch Ave., Providence, RI 02904

401-222-2345

Definitions of Terms

BONDS

A bond is written evidence of the State's obligation to repay money it has borrowed with interest at specified rates and maturity dates. *See questions 1-3.*

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

Money spent on capital assets, or items designed to last more than one year, are considered capital investments. These assets may include buildings, land, roads, and even information technology systems. *See questions 1-3.*

CONSERVATION EASEMENT

A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that permanently limits uses of the land in order to protect its conservation values. *See question 3.*

ELECTOR

A qualified voter in an election.

FISCAL YEAR

A fiscal year is a period of twelve consecutive months which serves as an accounting period for financial reporting purposes. The State's fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. Therefore, for example, fiscal year 2019 is the period commencing July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

A general obligation bond is a bond which is secured by the full faith and credit and taxing power of the State. *See questions 1-3.*

INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure systems, such as public transit, education, water and telecommunications systems, are the basic physical facilities and organizational structures needed for the operation of a municipality or state.

ISSUING BONDS

To "issue" bonds means to sell, deliver, and receive payment for bonds. The State generally issues bonds for particular projects upon determining the amount of cash necessary to implement such projects. *See questions 1-3.*

REFERENDUM

The Rhode Island Constitution requires that voters directly make certain decisions instead of the General Assembly. A referendum is the way our legislative body (the General Assembly or town or city council) asks voters to make those decisions on proposals such as constitutional amendments, long-term borrowings like bonds, special laws affecting some cities and towns (like municipal charters) or the expansion of gambling.

The referendum is always asked as a question for voters to approve or reject. Referenda is the plural form of the word referendum. *See questions 1-3.*

REFUNDING BONDS

Sometimes, after bonds have been issued by the State, interest rates fall and make it cheaper to refinance existing debt. When that is the case, the state asks voters to approve the issuance of refunding bonds. This means that the State can refinance existing bonds at lower interest rates by calling in and paying off the existing bonds and refinancing them at lower interest rates.

When the state issues refunding bonds, it is a similar action as when individuals refinance a mortgage – both save money. *See questions 1-3.*

STATE

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

TEMPORARY NOTES

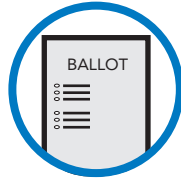
Each borrowing or bond question also authorizes the State to provide short-term financing, in the form of temporary notes, before bonds are issued so that money is available for projects needing immediate funding. *See questions 1-3.*

USEFUL LIFE

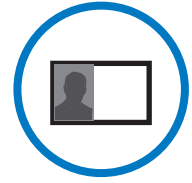
The period of time an asset is expected to be usable for the purpose it was acquired, built or established. It is good financial practice to issue bonds for projects with a long useful life. *See questions 1-3.*



FIND YOUR
POLLING PLACE



REVIEW YOUR
BALLOT



BRING A VALID
PHOTO ID

Your Voter Checklist

You can use this checklist to keep track of where and how you will vote.
Remember, your vote is private and you do not need to share it with anyone.

My Polling Place is _____

Officials

- US Senator _____
- US House _____
- Governor _____
- Lt. Governor _____
- Secretary of State _____
- Attorney General _____
- General Treasurer _____
- State Senator _____
- State Representative _____
- Local Office _____
- Local Office _____
- Local Office _____

State Referenda Questions

- Question 1 Approve Reject
- Question 2 Approve Reject
- Question 3 Approve Reject