

Making the Ask

Talking to applicants about registering to vote

Asking the Voter Registration Question

Helping someone register to vote starts with a having a good way to ask the question. Use your experience to identify what works best for you. Here are suggestions.

Making the transition to voter registration -

“The next question asks about registering to vote.” You may want to add that it’s a health center priority.

“Another important service we offer is helping you register to vote or update your registration. Your being a voter really matters to your health care and your health center. I can help you quickly register to vote or update your registration right now.”

Start with this question -

“Can I update your voter registration?” *This has proven more effective than just asking “Do you want to register to vote?”*

If the person says they’re registered, be sure to ask -

“Have you moved recently?” *Many people move and need to update their voter registration or they will be unable to vote.*

It’s Fast, Easy... and Convenient

Assure the patient it’s easy to do and can be done quickly.

“It’ll just take a few minutes.”

“Here, let me show you how easy it is.” *Bring up the online registration form. Fill it out. Print, review, and sign.*

Remind them doing it now saves the time and the trouble of doing it later

“Doing it here will save you time. We already have the form and we’ll return it for you to the correct election office.”

It’s Important

If people hesitate or say they don’t want to register, talk about the importance of voting or the importance to the health center of having everyone signing up for insurance registered to vote.

- Think of it this way. You’re signing up for a government service. It’s important to participate in government and make your voice heard.
- Don’t let others decide for you. If you don’t vote you give someone else the power to make decisions about your life and the lives of your family.
- Every vote counts. Many elections are decided by less than 100 votes.
- If you’re not registered, you can’t vote. Don’t miss the opportunity express your opinion in the next election.