

Staff and faculty

Will Concordia remain open all day on Federal Election Day, October 19, 2015?

Yes, the university will remain open all day and all classes, laboratories, academic activities and services will continue as normally scheduled.

Will Concordia give me time off to vote on Federal Election Day, October 19, 2015?

On October 19, 2015, polls will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Under the [Canada Elections Act](#), you are allowed to take three consecutive hours to vote. If your work schedule does not permit you to take this time off to vote, you will be granted additional time. Please speak directly with your department chair or supervisor to make arrangements.

For example, if you are scheduled to work from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., you have three consecutive hours after work to vote while the polls are open.

If, however, you are scheduled to work, for example, from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., there are various ways that your manager can accommodate you, in order for you to have three consecutive hours to vote while the polls are open. For example, you and your manager could arrange for you to arrive late (at 12:30 p.m.), or leave early (at 6:30 p.m.).

Please note that if necessary, your supervisor will work with you to schedule the time off to ensure that operational requirements are met. Also note that time taken to vote, if normally considered paid time, will still be paid.

Are academic activities cancelled on Federal Election Day, October 19, 2015?

All academic activities will take place as usual on Federal Election Day.

During the Quebec election in April 2014, the university's administrative offices closed at 4 p.m. and all academic activities were cancelled. Why is it different for this election?

Due to recent changes in the [Quebec Election Act](#), students are now given the day off to vote during **Quebec** provincial elections, and staff and faculty who are eligible to vote must be given **four** consecutive hours to vote.

Since the polls were open from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. during the most recent Quebec election on April 7, 2014, all academic activities were cancelled and the university's administrative offices closed at 4 p.m. to meet the legal requirements of the Quebec Election Act.

The **federal** law ([Canada Elections Act](#)) does not require universities to cancel classes or other activities; it does however require employers to allow **three** consecutive hours of voting time for employees who are eligible to vote. For the Federal Election Day on October 19, 2015, the polls are open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Consequently, classes and laboratories will take place as usual and all other activities will continue as normally scheduled.

I need to update my address with Elections Canada in order to vote, what should I do?

Voters have until Tuesday, October 13, at 6 p.m. to update the electoral list, the official list of voters. Why wait? Start by [seeing if you're on the list](#). If you're not, use the [Online Voter Registration Service](#) to register or make updates to your record.

Anyone from any riding in Canada can update the electoral list on campus, too. Bring two pieces of [accepted ID](#) to an Elections Canada location at Concordia on:

- Monday, October 5 to Thursday, October 8, inclusive, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Loyola Campus: Loyola Jesuit Hall and Conference Centre (RF Building);
 - Sir George Williams Campus: John Molson (MB) Building Atrium

You can also make changes to the electoral list by visiting [Elections Canada Online](#) or by calling 1-800-463-6868.

Can I vote on campus?

For the first time, **all Concordia staff, faculty and students are eligible to vote on campus before the October 19 election**, even if they don't live in the same riding as Concordia. Here's how it works.

Election Day

You cannot vote on campus on Monday, October 19 unless you live in one of the two federal ridings that Concordia falls into: [Notre-Dame-de-Grâce – Westmount](#) for the Loyola Campus, and [Ville-Marie–Le Sud-Ouest–Île-des-Sœurs](#) for the Sir George Williams Campus (Concordia ridings). Only those who have been assigned one of the Concordia polling locations on their voter information card can vote at these stations on election day. On election day, Monday, October 19, polls are open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. in various lobbies of our main buildings. Refer to your voter information card for the specific location of where you can vote on October 19.

However, anyone can update the electoral list and vote on campus **before** the election. Here's how.

How to vote on campus: Non-residents of Concordia ridings

You cannot vote on campus on election day, Monday, October 19 unless you live in a Concordia riding. Refer to your voter information card or ask [Elections Canada](#) for the specific location of where you can vote on October 19.

However, **anyone registered in any riding in Canada can vote on campus from Monday, October 5 to Thursday, October 8, inclusive, by special ballot.** All you have to do is come to one of the locations listed below with two pieces of [accepted ID](#) and you will be given a ballot. Remember, if you choose to vote on campus during this period, this is the only way you can vote. You cannot vote at the advance or election day polls, or apply for another special ballot.

Here's where you can vote on campus before the election:

- Monday, October 5 to Thursday, October 8, inclusive, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Loyola Campus: Loyola Jesuit Hall and Conference Centre (RF Building);
 - Sir George Williams Campus: John Molson (MB) Building Atrium

How to vote on campus: Residents of Concordia ridings

If you are already a registered voter, you should have received a [Voter Information Card](#) in the mail by October 1. It will give you the address of your polling location as well as the poll number.

The two Concordia ridings are:

- [Notre-Dame-de-Grâce – Westmount](#) for the Loyola Campus, and
- [Ville-Marie–Le Sud-Ouest–Île-des-Sœurs](#) for the Sir George Williams Campus

If you live in one of the Concordia ridings you can vote on the days and locations mentioned above or on election day. On election day, Monday, October 19, polls are open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. in various lobbies of our main buildings on both campuses. Please remember, that you cannot vote on campus on election day, unless you live in a Concordia riding. Refer to your voter information card for the specific location of where you can vote on October 19.

I heard that I could vote on campus during the advance polling period (Friday, October 9 to Monday October 12, inclusive). Is that true?

This was announced on October 5, however unfortunately, due to erroneous information provided to the university by Elections Canada, the polls in the J.W. McConnell (LB) Building from October 9 to 12 are restricted to voters who live in the riding of Ville-Marie–Le Sud-Ouest–Île-des-Sœurs and whose Voter Information Card lists the LB Building as an advance polling station.

Out-of-riding voters who planned to vote on campus this weekend are invited to vote at the nearest Elections Canada office located at [555 René-Lévesque Boulevard West, Suite 650](#) or at any [Elections Canada office](#) by Tuesday, October 13, at 6 p.m. Offices are open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

Voters can always vote at the advance polls indicated on their Voter Information Card.

Be sure to bring with you [accepted pieces of ID](#).

Where can I get more information about the Federal Election Day?

For more information about Federal Election Day, please refer to the [Elections Canada web site](#). You can also call 1-800-463-6868 or 1-800-361-8935 for the deaf or hard of hearing.

Department Chairs and Managers

Will Concordia remain open all day on Federal Election Day, October 19, 2015?

Yes, the university will remain open and all classes, laboratories, academic activities and services will continue as normally scheduled on October 19.

Will Concordia give staff and faculty time off to vote on Federal Election Day, October 19, 2015?

Polls will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Under the [Canada Elections Act](#), if employees are eligible to vote, they are allowed to take three consecutive hours to vote. If their work schedule does not permit them to take this time off to vote, they must be granted additional time. Employees should speak directly with their department chair or supervisor or to make arrangements for additional time off to vote.

If your employees are scheduled to work from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. they have three consecutive hours after work to vote while the polls are open.

If, however, if you have employees scheduled to work, for example, from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., there are various ways that you can accommodate them, in order for them to have three consecutive hours to vote while the polls are open. For example, you could arrange for staff members to arrive late (at 12:30 p.m.), or leave early (at 6:30 p.m.).

Please work with your employees to provide the time necessary while meeting operational requirements. Also note that time taken to vote from hours that would normally have been paid will still be paid.

Are academic activities cancelled on Federal Election Day, October 19, 2015?

All academic activities will take place as usual on Federal Election Day.

What is my responsibility as a department chair or manager on Federal Election Day?

Employees who report to you are allowed to take three consecutive hours to vote. If work schedules do not allow your staff members to take this time to vote, you must grant them additional time. Polls are open from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Please work with staff to provide the time necessary while meeting operational requirements.

Where can I get more information about giving my staff or faculty time off on Election Day?

Department chairs and managers, please contact Concordia Human Resources at hr-reception@concordia.ca for more information about time off for elections.

Students

Do I get released from class to vote on Federal Election Day?

All academic activities will take place as usual on Federal Election Day.

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Where can I get more information on how and when to vote?

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