



Ocean County College Library Research How To Guide



Elections 2008

Research the Candidates

Databases

Subscription databases offer access to news and reliable references sources. Some topical databases include:

- Current Biography - contains over 111,000 biographies across a variety of fields
- Encyclopedia Britannica - online reference source for timelines, data, quotations, and more
- Points of View Reference Center - presents controversial issues with pro and con arguments
- SIRS Researcher - presents popular and current issues with interactive features
- TopicSearch - presents articles on current events and popular issues
- New York Times - full-text access to New York Times material from 1851 to 2004.

General Websites

Look for websites from **known and reliable sources**, not blogs or Wikipedia!

- Elections 2008 (U of Michigan Documents Center)
<http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/elec2006.html>
- CQ Politics (Congressional Quarterly Inc.)
<http://www.cqpolitics.com/wmspage.cfm?parm1=5>
- Election Center 2008 (CNN)
<http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/>
- Election 2008 (NPR)
<http://www.npr.org/templates/topics/topic.php?topicId=1102>
- Politics (C-Span)
<http://www.cspan.org/Politics/Default.aspx>

Candidate websites:

Look for **official** candidate websites, like:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Barack Obama | http://www.barackobama.com/ |
| John McCain | http://www.johnmccain.com |
| Ralph Nader | http://www.votenader.org/ |
| Frank Lautenberg | http://www.lautenbergfornj.com |
| Richard Zimmer | http://www.zimmerforsenate.com |
| John Adler | http://www.adlerforcongress.com/ |
| Chris Myers | http://www.chrismyersforcongress.com/ |

**Don't forget
3rd party candidates!
Do you know who
else is running?**

Journals, Magazines, Newspapers

The library has a large collection of both popular and scholarly periodicals. Remember, popular and news sources may contain *opinion* as well as fact. You will need to judge the *authority* of your source.

Scholarly

- Political Science Quarterly
- New Perspectives Quarterly
- Current History
- Social Science Quarterly

Popular

- Newsweek
- The Economist
- The Nation
- Vanity Fair

Newspapers

- The New York Times
- The Asbury Park Press
- USA Today
- The Wall Street Journal



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Voting and the Electoral Process

General Election Resources

Library Resources

The library holds a number of useful print resources, including books, periodicals, and reference guides. Try a "subject" search using terms like "elections," "voting," "electoral college," or "political campaigns." Combine terms, like "elections and New Jersey" to narrow your search.

elections subject Search

Search only Electronic Books

Power Search

General Websites

Elections... the American Way (Library of Congress)

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/features/election/home.html>

Voting and Elections (USA.gov, Office of Citizen Services and Communications)

<http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Voting.shtml>

Voter Information Center (US Election Assistance Commission)

<http://www.eac.gov/voter>

Election Process (Ben's Guide to US Government, Government Printing Office)

<http://bensguide.gpo.gov/9-12/election/>

Historical Election Results (National Archives and Records Administration)

<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/historical.html>

New Jersey and Local Elections

Library Resources

The library is a depository for New Jersey government documents. These are located on the 2nd floor and are arranged by name, but not all items appear in the catalog. Try browsing through related departments, such as the State Department or New Jersey Election Law Enforcement.

General Websites

2008 Election Dates, Deadlines & Notices (New Jersey Division of Elections)

<http://www.njelections.org/>

2008 General Election [New Jersey Candidates] (New Jersey Division of Elections)

http://www.njelections.org/2008-general_election_candidates.html

Voter Resources [New Jersey Voter Registration] (New Jersey Division of Elections)

<http://www.njelections.org/voter-registration-application.html>

Election Services [Ocean County] (Office of the County Clerk, Ocean County)

<http://www.oceancountyclerk.com/election/default.htm>



Did you know...? The library has access to over 8000 Social or Political Science Journals through our Full Text searching? Check it out!