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# FAQs:

# Disinformation and Election Security: Protect 2020

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Here are some frequently asked
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### What is foreign interference, and why should I be concerned about it?

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## How do foreign adversaries spread disinformation online, and how do I spot it?

Disinformation is most commonly spread through social media accounts and links to disinformation websites. Pretending to be Americans, foreign actors use state media, official accounts, fake accounts and social media bots to disseminate false information, innuendo and rumor that support their narratives. Foreign interference through disinformation involves behavior like targeting divisive issues, manipulating accounts, raising tensions and getting the mainstream media to share the controversy. One way to verify an account is fake is by looking at its history because genuine accounts have multiple interests and post content from multiple sources. You can report disinformation to the social media platform where you found it. Most social media companies have policies in place to help stop the flow of disinformation. Many of the accounts used for disinformation don't have a real person behind them. They are operated by social media bots, which are programs that mimic human behavior.



### How do I find out where I can vote, or how to vote by mail?

You can visit your state or local election office website to find out where you vote and how to get an absentee ballot. You can visit **www.usa.gov/election-office** to find your local website.



#### How do I register to vote?

People should visit their state election website to learn how to register because each state has its own rules. If you don't know the website, you can visit **www.vote.gov** to register to vote. Thirty-nine states and the District of Columbia allow people to register to vote online. More general information about registering to vote is found at **www.usa.gov/register-to-vote**. For more information, visit your state election office website or the U.S. Vote Foundation to obtain your state's registration deadline.

