

U.S. Selective Service System  
Public and Intergovernmental Affairs  
1515 Wilson Blvd, Fifth Floor, Rm 520  
Arlington, VA 22207

Plainfield South High School  
Attn: Principal  
7800 Caton Farm Rd  
Plainfield, IL 60586-1687

**Please read and post the attached letter from the  
Director of the U.S. Selective Service System.**

### **Please Remember**

- It takes just 45 seconds to register online at SSS.gov.
- It's the law and registering can save a man a lifetime of headaches. Benefits lost by failing to register include access to:
  - College loans and grants
  - Job training programs
  - All federal, and postal employment, and many state, municipal and contractor jobs
  - Delays in citizenship processing up to five years
- Online and print material is available at <https://www.sss.gov/Resources/Resources>

**Thank you, educators, for all that you do!**

If you have any questions or concerns, please email [HighSchoolRegistration@sss.gov](mailto:HighSchoolRegistration@sss.gov)



THE DIRECTOR OF SELECTIVE SERVICE  
Arlington, Virginia 22209-2425

September 2019

Dear Principals and Educators:

School is back in session and before we know it, autumn will be upon us. I have no doubt your calendar is jam-packed. However, I'm asking that before the leaves start to fall, you add one more lesson to the students' curriculum. Please inform your student body (especially male juniors and seniors) about Selective Service registration and the severe lifetime consequences of failing to do so.

Our research indicates – that in almost every school district across the country – there is an increase in the number of young men who fail to register. The main reason is because men are not informed that they are required by law to register within 30 days of their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Registration is not only a legal requirement, but a civic duty and a key component of our national defense readiness.

To help men register, they only need to go to [SSS.gov](http://SSS.gov). They can *preregister* at 17 years and 3 months of age and their registration will be held until they reach age 18. Why is this so important? Because every year, tens of thousands of men turn 26 years of age who failed to register. By then, the registration door is permanently closed. That means they are unable to receive federally funded college loans and grants; are unable to get into federally funded training and certification programs; are barred from all federal employment; ineligible for many state and local government jobs; and immigrants – documented and undocumented – will have a 5-year delay in processing their citizenship application. I can't stress enough – 45 seconds online registering at [SSS.gov](http://SSS.gov) can save a man 45 years of headaches and heartaches.

Your support in getting this message out is **invaluable**. Here's how you can help:

- Post the educational material about registration that is available at [SSS.gov](http://SSS.gov);
- Share this information with your counselors, coaches, and teachers;
- Add "Selective Service registration" to your graduates' career/college check list; and
- Assign the duty of "Selective Service System Liaison" to a member of your staff.

It may surprise you to know that while over 90 percent of men register, we continue to receive tens of thousands of requests annually from former students trying to reclaim the benefits they have lost because they failed to register. Please make sure that every male high school student knows about registration and ***the potential lifetime of consequences associated with failing to do so.***

We wish you a successful school year. With your help, we can ensure that no man fails to register without knowing the consequences that failing to register entails.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald M. Benton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donald M. Benton  
Director, U.S. Selective Service System