



Voting in the Time of Pandemic: Part 3

Training by Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition &
Wisconsin Election Commission



*A project of Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin
Board for People with Developmental Disabilities.*

Why Vote?

- ▶ A personal perspective on voting from Chris Wood, self-advocate

What's New?

- ▶ Elections news and updates

Richard Rydecki

- ▶ Assistant Administrator

- ▶ Wisconsin Elections Commission



What are the Key Dates?

- ▶ **Registration Deadlines:**
 - ▶ Mail or online: Oct 14
 - ▶ At Municipal Clerk's Office: Oct 30
 - ▶ In-Person: Nov 3
- ▶ **Early In-Person Voting:**
 - ▶ Begins Oct 20

What are the Key Dates?

- ▶ Deadline to Request Absentee Ballot:
 - ▶ Regular Voters: Oct 29 @ 5 pm
 - ▶ Indefinitely Confined Voters: Oct 30 @ 5 pm

We recommend requesting your absentee ballot by Oct 20!

- ▶ Deadline to Return Absentee Ballot
 - ▶ Nov 3 by 8 pm
- ▶ ELECTION DAY1
 - ▶ Tues, Nov 3, 7 am to 8 pm

What are Wisconsin's Photo ID requirements for voting?

- ▶ Most Wisconsin voters must show an acceptable photo ID when voting at the polls on Election Day or by absentee ballot. There are some exceptions for absentee voters.
- ▶ An acceptable Photo ID for voting does NOT have to include a current address. You only prove your address when registering.
- ▶ More information on the Photo ID law is available at <http://bringit.wi.gov>

Acceptable Photo IDs

WI DRIVER LICENSE



US UNIFORMED SERVICES



US PASSPORT BOOK OR CARD



WI DRIVER, STATE ID, OR IDPP RECEIPT



CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION



VETERAN AFFAIRS ID CARD



WI STATE ID



UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE TECH COLLEGE + ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION



TRIBAL ID



*Some ID variations are not shown.

Is there anyone who does not need to provide a photo ID?

- ▶ **Indefinitely confined voters**
- ▶ **Voters in special care facilities**
- ▶ **Confidential electors are always exempt from Photo ID requirements.**
- ▶ **Active Military and Permanent Overseas voters are not required to provide a Photo ID when they vote by absentee ballot**

I do not have an acceptable Photo ID for voting. How can I get a state ID?

- ▶ Get a free Photo ID for voting from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).
- ▶ Contact the DMV Voter ID Hotline at 844-588-1069.
- ▶ DMV Customer Service Centers:
[wisconsin.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/find-dmv/default.aspx](https://www.wisconsin.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/find-dmv/default.aspx)
- ▶ Bring It to the Ballot: bringit.wi.gov/
- ▶ Wisconsin Voter ID Coalition will help with questions about photo ID and may assist with transportation to DMV - 608-285-2141

Am I Registered to Vote?

- ▶ Check at www.myvote.wi.gov.
- ▶ Confirm your voting address and mailing address are current (can update online).
- ▶ Options if you are not registered to vote:
 - ▶ Online at myvote.wi.gov/ Requires Photo ID.
 - ▶ Mail. Up to 20 days before Election Day. Mail completed form to your municipal clerk.
 - ▶ In person, at the municipal clerk's office. Must provide proof of residence.
 - ▶ At your polling place on Election Day. Must provide proof of residence and photo ID.



www.myvote.wi.gov

My
Voter Info

Find
My Polling
Place

What's
On My Ballot

Update
My Name or
Address

Register
To Vote

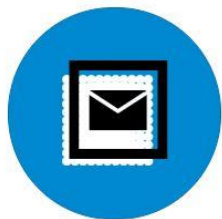
Vote
Absentee



NEXT STATEWIDE ELECTION

2020 Partisan Primary

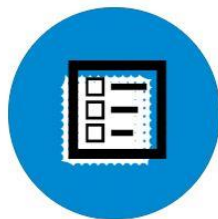
Tuesday, August 11, 2020



[Vote Absentee](#)



[Where Do I Vote?](#)



[What's On My Ballot?](#)



[Register To Vote](#)

What documents do I need to register to vote?

You **MUST** provide a **Proof of Resident** document when registering to vote.

- ▶ If you register online at myvote.wi.gov/ your valid State of Wisconsin driver's license or State of Wisconsin ID card issued by the DMV qualify as a valid Proof of Residence document.
- ▶ If you register to vote by mail, in-person in your clerk's office, or at your polling place on Election Day, you need to provide a **Proof of Residence document** such as current utility bill, lease, paycheck or paystub, university ID card or other official document showing voter's name and current address.
- ▶ List of acceptable documents can be found at:
myvote.wi.gov/en-us/ProofofResidence

What is the difference between Proof of Residence and Photo ID?

The Difference Between

PROOF OF RESIDENCE AND PHOTO ID

for Voting in Wisconsin



PROOF OF RESIDENCE

Proof of Residence is used to Register to Vote

Can use documents like...



CABLE, PHONE
OR UTILITY BILL

UTILITY BILL

Issued within 90 days of the Election



WI DRIVER LICENSE
or RECEIPT

DRIVER LICENSE OR ID

Must be valid and show the
voter's current name and address



PAY STUB

PAY STUB, BANK STATEMENT...

There are many other documents
like a pay stub that can be used

Shows voter's current name and **current address**

Can show a **copy** or show it on your **electronic device**

MORE INFORMATION ON PROOF OF RESIDENCE:

<https://myvote.wi.gov/ProofofResidence>

PHOTO ID

Photo ID is used after you're registered to get your ballot

Can use documents like...



US PASSPORT

U.S. PASSPORT

Can be expired since Nov. 8, 2016



WI STATE ID CARD
or RECEIPT

WISCONSIN DRIVER LICENSE OR ID

Can be expired since Nov. 8, 2016
Can be used if revoked



VETERAN'S ID

VETERAN'S & MILITARY ID...

ID's like a Veteran's ID can also be used

DOES NOT NEED A CURRENT ADDRESS

Shows **voter's name** as they are registered to vote

MORE INFORMATION ON PHOTO ID:

<https://myvote.wi.gov/PhotoIDRequired>

I moved recently. Can I register to vote using my new address?

▶ NEW RULING IN EFFECT:

- ▶ Voters must have resided at their current address for **28 consecutive days** prior to election day in order to register at that address.
- ▶ Voters who do not meet the 28-day requirement at their new address are eligible to participate using their former address.

What do people who were recently evicted or homeless use for an address for voting?

- ▶ Voters who have been evicted in the last 28 days may register and vote from their previous address.
- ▶ If you are homeless, you may use a letter from a shelter or other organization providing services to the homeless as proof of residence when registering to vote. It should describe the individual's residence for voting purposes.

I live at a group/nursing home. What can I use for proof of residence when registering to vote?

- ▶ You may use an intake document from a residential care facility such as a nursing home or assisted living facility for proof of residence.

Are care facility staff allowed to assist residents with voting if they request it?

- ▶ Yes! Facility staff can help residents complete their ballots, voter registration forms and/or absentee requests or by acting as a witness.
- ▶ Staff can only assist with the resident's permission and may not influence their decision nor disclose to others who the resident voted for.
- ▶ Staff can read the ballot, candidate names, party affiliations, ballot instructions and can mark the ballot as directed by the voter.
- ▶ Staff cannot answer questions about candidates or their political platform.
- ▶ After assisting a voter, staff should sign the ballot in the box that says, "Certification of Voter Assistance".

Can I still vote if I have a guardian?

- ▶ In Wisconsin, a person under guardianship retains the right to vote unless the court expressly removes it.
- ▶ To find out if you have the right to vote, ask the guardian to look at the “Determination and Order on Petition for Guardianship Due to Incompetency” (GN-3170) form.
 - ▶ A copy can be requested from Probate Court in their county (costs about \$2.00/copy).
- ▶ Contact their Municipal Clerk. The Clerk can check the list they receive from the state of individuals adjudicated incompetent and ineligible to vote.
- ▶ A person who has a guardian and has lost the right to vote may petition the court to restore their right to vote (Wis. Stat 54.64(2)(a)).
- ▶ See resources on voting and guardianship at www.disabilityvote.org.

Can I still vote if I was convicted of a misdemeanor or felony?

▶ MISDEMEANOR

- ▶ You do not lose your right to vote if convicted of a misdemeanor (except for misdemeanor treason or bribery).
- ▶ You can vote even if you are in jail or prison, or “on paper” (on probation, parole or extended supervision) for a misdemeanor.

▶ FELONY

- ▶ If you have been convicted of a felony (or any treason or bribery crime), ***you can vote after you have finished your sentence and are “off paper”*** (off probation, parole or extended supervision).
- ▶ If you’re not sure if you are “off paper,” ask your parole/probation officer.

How do I request an absentee ballot?

- ▶ **ONLINE:** myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoteAbsentee
 - ▶ You will need to upload a photo ID the first time you request an absentee ballot online.
- ▶ **BY MAIL:** Download the Application for Absentee Ballot from the Wisconsin Election Commission web site. Mail the completed form and copy of your acceptable photo ID ASAP to your municipal clerk.
- ▶ **By Email:** Email your clerk your request with your full name, Wisconsin voting address, the election you want a ballot for or if requesting for the calendar year, and mailing address if different than voting address. Include a copy of your photo ID unless it is already on file or you are exempt by law.
- ▶ **In-person:** Apply for an absentee ballot in person at your clerk's office.

What is Early Voting/In-person absentee voting?

- ▶ Voters can vote early at their local clerk's office in advance of each election. This is also called "in-person absentee voting."
- ▶ If you need to register to vote, you may do so at this time.
- ▶ Each municipality sets their own dates and hours for in-person absentee voting.
- ▶ Contact your clerk for absentee voting hours and locations.
- ▶ Coming Soon! Early voting locations will be listed on the My Vote Wisconsin website.

I have a disability but how do I know if I'm indefinitely confined?

- ▶ You are indefinitely confined if you need to vote absentee due to disability, age, illness, or infirmity.
- ▶ According to the WEC, “Designation of indefinitely confined status is for each individual voter to make based upon their current circumstance. It does not require permanent or total inability to travel outside of the residence. Statutes do not establish the option to require proof or documentation from indefinitely confined voters.”
- ▶ An “indefinitely confined” voter will have their ballot mailed to them for each election until they don’t return a ballot. If this occurs, the municipal clerk will contact the voter to see if they want to remain on the “indefinitely confined” voter list.
- ▶ Indefinitely confined voters do not need to provide a Photo ID.
- ▶ How to apply to be an “indefinitely confined” voter: Complete the absentee ballot application. Choose the “indefinitely confined” option in section 6 of the form, certifying that you are indefinitely confined, or send a request in writing to your [municipal clerk](#).

I live at a group/nursing home and I want to vote absentee. I do not have a photo ID. Can I still vote?

- ▶ The resident may certify they are an “indefinitely confined” voter, which also exempts the voter from providing a photo ID.
- ▶ The care facility administrator can sign a special certificate (EL-122sp) to verify the voter’s identity if they do not have a photo ID.
- ▶ This certificate is available for download on the WI Elections Commission website at elections.wi.gov/forms/el-122.

Who can I get to sign as my witness on my absentee ballot envelope if I live alone?

- ▶ Must be a US citizen, over age 18.
- ▶ Can be friend, spouse, neighbor, family member, care worker.
- ▶ Some communities offer drop off locations and may have staff to witness your ballot.
- ▶ A family member, friend or neighbor may watch you vote through a window. Put the ballot in the envelope, seal it and leave it outside the door for the witness to sign.
- ▶ Contact your clerk if you're have trouble finding a witness.

What is the witness supposed to do?

- ▶ Verify that you completed the absentee ballot but cannot tell you who or what to vote for and cannot see the choices you make on your ballot.
- ▶ Sign the certificate envelope on the line marked “Signature of Witness” and write their full address underneath the witness signature.
- ▶ You (or your assistant) must sign and date the certificate on the return envelope on the line marked “Signature of Voter”.

X _____ Today's date: month _____ day _____ year _____
▲ Signature of Voter ▲
(All voters must sign. If a voter is unable to sign, an assistant may sign the voter's name for them. The assistant must also sign their own name under the Certification of Assistant.)

3 Have your witness sign and write their address (below).
CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS (Required!)
I, the undersigned witness, subject to the penalties for false statements of Wis. Stat. § 12.60(1)(b), certify that I am an adult U.S. citizen and that the above statements are true and the voting procedure was executed as stated. I am not a candidate for any office on the enclosed ballot (except in the case of an incumbent Municipal Clerk). I did not solicit or advise the voter to vote for or against any candidate or measure. I further certify that the name and address of the voter is correct as shown.

1. _____
▲ Signature of ONE Witness – an adult, U.S. citizen ▲
(If witnesses are Special Voting Deputies, both must sign.)

2. _____
▲ Address of Witness – REQUIRED ▲
(street number or P.O. box number, municipal route and box number, municipality, state and zip code.)

4 Mail back by _____
is received by Election Commission _____
Allow 4-5 days for delivery to be sure that your ballot
after Election Day will NOT be counted.

Waukees, WI 53202 | 414-286-3491 | www.milwaukee.gov

What is the process for receiving assistance with completing my absentee ballot?

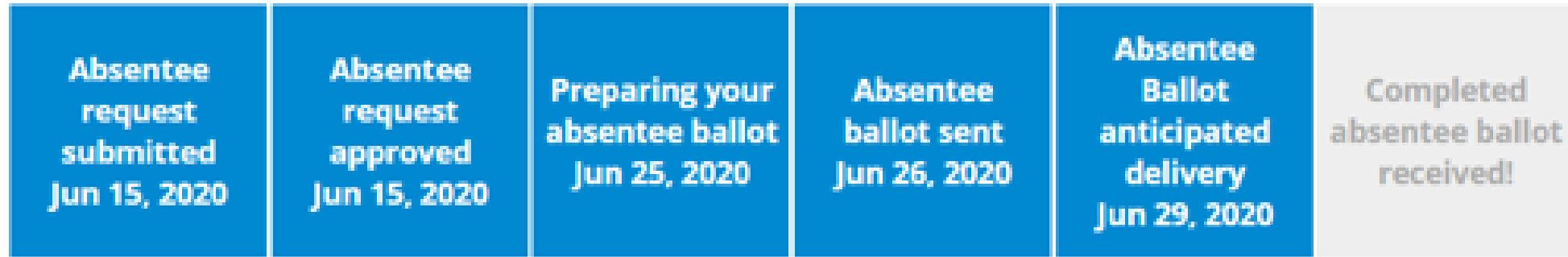
- ▶ You may request assistance from anyone who is not your employer or a representative of your labor union.
- ▶ Explaining how to fill out your ballot or return envelope is not considered “assistance.”
- ▶ Your assistant must sign in the Certification of Voter Assistance section on your ballot.
- ▶ Your assistant can read your ballot to you or fill out your ballot under your direction but cannot tell you how to vote.
- ▶ If someone signs your absentee return envelope on your behalf, make sure they also sign in the Certification of Assistant section.
- ▶ Your assistant may also serve as your witness.

What is the deadline for returning my absentee ballot?

- ▶ *Your completed absentee ballot must be delivered to your polling place no later than 8 PM on Election Day.*
 - ▶ **By Mail:** The U.S.P.S. recommends a minimum of one week before Election Day to arrive in time.
 - ▶ **Other delivery:** If within a week of the election, you can drop off your ballot at your clerk's office or an absentee ballot drop box if available.
 - ▶ **On election day:** Ask your clerk about options to drop off your ballot on election day.
- ▶ You may ask someone else to deliver your ballot for you.

How do I know if they received my ballot?

MY ABSENTEE STATUS



- ▶ **If you requested your absentee ballot and it did not arrive you may vote in person on Election Day or you could vote early at your clerk's office.**

What are some tips for staying safe while voting in person?

- ▶ Know who you want to vote for - get in, get out! (Check who is on the ballot at [My Vote WI](#)).
- ▶ Curbside voting - if you are not able to enter your polling place due to disability.
- ▶ Check your polling place before you go. It may have changed, or they may be offering drive through voting.
- ▶ If you must get out of your car to vote, practice social distancing, wash your hands before and after you vote, wear a mask.
- ▶ Be patient and courteous. Election workers are doing their best under difficult circumstances.
- ▶ Bring your own black pen.

Is there a requirement to wear face coverings (masks) while voting at the polls on election day?

- ▶ The WEC and the WDVC recommends the use of face coverings/masks by voters, unless they are unable to do so because of disability related or medical reasons.
- ▶ If you choose not to wear one, this will not interfere with your right to vote.
- ▶ You may be asked to remove your mask briefly for identification purposes.
- ▶ Poll workers and election officials are required to wear face coverings.
- ▶ Clerks may establish procedures to allow for voters without facial coverings to cast a ballot safely on election day (i.e. using designated areas of the polling place for these voters or assigning poll workers with additional personal protective equipment (PPE) to serve these voters).

What is curbside voting?

- ▶ Required by law for any voter who cannot enter the polling place due to a disability.
- ▶ The WEC believes that individuals who are immunocompromised or have symptoms of COVID-19 are eligible to curbside vote.
- ▶ Curbside voting should also be available during in-person absentee voting at the clerk's office or alternate site.
- ▶ Contact your Municipal Clerk in advance of Election Day to determine the process to access curbside voting (e.g. honk your horn, ring a doorbell, call a phone number).

What is an accessible voting machine?

- ▶ The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) requires at least one accessible voting system for persons with disabilities, including citizens who are blind or visually impaired, at each polling place.
- ▶ The accessible voting system must provide the opportunity for voters to vote privately and independently.
- ▶ States can satisfy this accessibility requirement through use of a direct recording electronic voting system or other voting system equipped for individuals with disabilities.
- ▶ The ADA requires elections officials to make sure that accessible voting systems are maintained and function properly in each election, and that election officials have been adequately trained to operate them.

What are my key rights as a voter with a disability?

- ▶ Right to vote privately and independently.
- ▶ Right to access the polling place.
- ▶ Right to use the **accessible voting machine** at your polling place.
- ▶ Right to **ask for accommodations**, such as a chair to sit in rather than standing in line, signature guide, magnifying glass.
- ▶ Right to assistance marking your ballot (just not your employer or your union representative)

More rights

- ▶ Right to Curbside Voting if you can't get into your polling place as a result of a disability.
- ▶ You can **file a complaint** if you feel your rights have been violated.
- ▶ You may bring a **“cheat sheet”** into the polling place.
- ▶ If you make a mistake, you can **request another ballot** from the election officials.
- ▶ **No one should tell you how to vote.**

How can I be an informed voter?

- ▶ Review your elected officials and your ballot in advance of the election.
 - ▶ Myvote.wi.gov
- ▶ Learn about the candidates
 - ▶ Vote411.org, Ballotpedia.org, wisconsinvote.org.
- ▶ Ask questions - we have samples!
- ▶ Follow the Disability Vote Coalition
 - ▶ E-newsletter, resources, website, Facebook page

What do I do if I run into a problem?

- ▶ Contact the Chief Election Inspector at your polling place or the municipal clerk.
- ▶ If you aren't satisfied, report the issues to the Wisconsin Elections Commission at elections.wi.gov/complaints or call toll free 1-866-VOTE-WIS (866- 868-3947) for assistance.
- ▶ Contact the *Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline* at 844-DIS-VOTE (844-347-8683) or info@disabilityvote.org
- ▶ Wisconsin Election Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE/866-687-8633.

What do I do if I run into a problem?

- ▶ File a complaint
 - ▶ Online at elections.wi.gov/complaints or call the Commission. You may use the option to “Report an Accessibility Concern”.
 - ▶ Call or email to request that a complaint form be mailed to you, or to share your concern. Email elections@wi.gov or call 1-866-VOTE-WIS.
 - ▶ For assistance with reporting a complaint, contact the DRW Voter Hotline.

New Resources for Voter Education

From the Disability Vote Coalition

- ▶ *2020 Elections Frequently Asked Questions* (rev. 9/2020)
- ▶ *Absentee Voting Fact Sheet* (rev. 9/2020)
- ▶ *Make Your Plan to Vote on November 3rd*
- ▶ *Guardianship & Voting - Restoring Your Rights to Vote*
- ▶ *Candidate education: Issues that Impact People with Disabilities in Wisconsin Background Papers*

New Resources for Voter Education

Coming Soon

New Disability Vote Coalition Video training series

- ▶ Voter Registration
- ▶ Absentee Voting
- ▶ Voting in person
- ▶ Voter rights
- ▶ Voting Overview - Plain language version

WEC Voter Education Resources

Wisconsin Election Commission Voter Education Materials

elections.wi.gov/clerks/voter-outreach

- ▶ 2020 Absentee Voting Videos
- ▶ Absentee Voting fact Sheets
- ▶ And much more!

National Voter Registration Day - 9/22

- ▶ Voter Registration Resources will be highlighted on the DVC website.
- ▶ Include Voter Registration in your wellness calls and have care workers share materials. To request materials, email info@disabilityvote.org
- ▶ Voting Training with People First Wisconsin

September 22, 2020 at 2:00 PM

Join us to celebrate *National Voter Registration Day* and make your plan to vote safely on November 3. Learn more about voter registration, absentee voting voter rights, and voter resources. [Link to register.](#)

What are the key voting resources I should know about?

▶ Disability Vote Coalition:

- Website www.disabilityvote.org
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wisconsin Disability Vote/>
- Email: info@disabilityvote.org

▶ Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline

- 844-DIS-VOTE (347-8683) or email info@disabilityvote.org

▶ WI Voter Information

- www.myvote.wi.gov

▶ Photo IDs

- www.bringit.wi.gov
- Wisconsin DMV Voter ID hotline: 844-588-1069
- Your municipal clerk <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk>