

# ***November 8 Election Update Assisted Living Forum***



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*The Disability Vote Coalition is a project of  
Disability Rights Wisconsin and  
Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities.*

# About the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition

- ▶ A non-partisan effort to help ensure full participation in the electoral process of voters with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places.
- ▶ The Coalition is coordinated by Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities. Members include people with disabilities, over 40 community agencies, and other partners.
  - ▶ Check out our resources: <https://disabilityvote.org/>
  - ▶ Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
  - ▶ Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline: 844-347-8683 or email [info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org)

# Voter Eligibility

## You are eligible to vote if:

- You are a U.S. Citizen
- You will be at least 18 years old on or before Election Day
- You are a resident of Wisconsin and have resided at the registration address for 28 days prior to the election
- You are not currently serving a sentence including incarceration, parole, probation, or extended supervision for a felony conviction, also known as being “on paper” or a misdemeanor treason or bribery conviction.
- You have not been determined by a court to be ineligible to vote (for example: through a guardianship decision)

# Important dates: Are you registered?

- ▶ **Check your voter registration** <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>
- ▶ If you aren't registered, if you have not voted in 4 years, or if you moved and need to re-register, act now:
  - Deadline to register online or by mail: **October 19**
  - Deadline to register in person at your clerk's office: **November 4**
  - Register at your polling place: **November 8**

# How can I check Voter Registration Status?

With the person's permission:

- ▶ Go to myvote.wi.gov
- ▶ Click "Register to Vote"
- ▶ Enter first name, last name, date of birth
- ▶ Click the green "Search" button

The screenshot shows the MyVote Wisconsin website interface. At the top, there is a logo for MyVote WISCONSIN and a button for Military & Overseas Voters. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links: View My Voting Activity, Find My Polling Place, What's On My Ballot, Update My Name or Address, Register To Vote, and Vote Absentee. The main content area is titled "REGISTER TO VOTE" and features a "SEARCH BY NAME" section. This section includes a "Need Assistance?" link, a "Find My Clerk" button, and a "Next Statewide Election" section with the date 1/24/2017 Special Election Test deadlines. The search form has three input fields: "First Name\*" (containing "jane"), "Last Name\*" (containing "Doe"), and "Date of Birth\*" (containing "05/05/1955"). A green "Search" button is located at the bottom right of the form. A mouse cursor is pointing at the Date of Birth field.

If the voter is registered, you will be given the option to "update name and address". If an update is needed, click the button and follow the directions on the screen to update either or both.

# What do I need to register?

## Online:

- ▶ WI Drivers License or WI ID Card

## Paper Form:

- ▶ An acceptable proof of residence document
- ▶ Your WI DL/ID # or the last 4 digits of your social security # if you don't have a WI ID



★ ★ ★  
**REGISTRATION  
ONLY**

**NEW VOTERS or  
CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

★ ★ ★ ★

# What can I use for Proof of Residence?

You must provide a Proof of Residence Document when registering to vote in Wisconsin.

Must include your name and current residential address.

Can be paper or electronic.

## ▶ Examples

- ▶ current and valid state of Wisconsin Driver License or State ID card
- ▶ current utility bill
- ▶ lease
- ▶ paycheck or paystub
- ▶ Intake document from group home, nursing home, assisted living facility.
- ▶ Letter to you from a government agency with your voting address.
- ▶ University ID card or other official document w/voter name & current address

## ▶ List of acceptable documents at:

[https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2021-08/29-30%20Proof%20of%20Residence\\_for%202021.pdf](https://elections.wi.gov/sites/elections.wi.gov/files/2021-08/29-30%20Proof%20of%20Residence_for%202021.pdf)





# What are Wisconsin's Photo ID requirements for voting?



- ▶ Wisconsin requires photo ID for voting with a few exceptions.
- ▶ 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 + 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.** The signature of both SVDs on the Absentee Ballot Certification Envelope satisfies the photo ID requirement
- ▶ **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

# If someone does not have acceptable photo ID, how can they 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)
- ▶ Even if you don't have the requested documentation, you can still get an ID for voting. The ID Petition Process (IDPP) is used by the DMV to help people whose documents to prove U.S. citizenship, name and date of birth, or legal name change are unavailable.
- ▶ Bring It to the Ballot: [bringit.wi.gov/](https://bringit.wi.gov/)
- ▶ Wisconsin Voter ID Coalition will help with photo ID questions. They may assist with transportation to DMV: 608-285-2141
- ▶ You can help: Members may need help to obtain their birth certificate, or other documents or to go to DMV

# Voting by mail?

Many disabled and older voters choose to vote absentee. In Wisconsin, any registered voter may request absentee ballots for the year.

- ▶ Request ASAP.  
On My Vote, by mail or at clerk's office.
- ▶ Follow directions carefully.
- ▶ You may request assistance.
- ▶ You will need a witness.
- ▶ Return ASAP. Allow at least a week for mailing.
- ▶ Check the status of your ballot on My Vote Wisconsin, Track My Ballot: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Track-My-Ballot>

The image shows a close-up of a Wisconsin absentee ballot envelope. A hand is pointing to the 'Address of Witness - REQUIRED' field. The form includes sections for the voter's signature, a witness's signature and address, and a certification of witness. It also contains instructions for mailing the ballot back and a note about the deadline for delivery.

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, street name, city, county, state and zip code.)

**4 Mail back \_\_\_\_\_**  
**is received by Election Day.**

Return your ballot 4-5 days for delivery to be sure that your ballot is received by Election Day. Ballots received after Election Day will NOT be counted.

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

# If you always need to vote absentee...

- ▶ *Indefinitely Confined Voters:*

If a voter has a hard time getting to the polls on Election Day due to age, illness, infirmity, or disability, they may request an absentee ballot for every election and certify that they are “indefinitely confined because of age, illness, infirmity, or disability”.

- ▶ Indefinitely confined voters are not required to provide a Photo ID when voting by absentee ballot. They prove their identity by providing proof of residence when registering to vote, and the witness also confirms their voter’s identity.

If they vote in person, they must present a Photo ID.

- ▶ Indefinitely confined voters will continue to receive a ballot until they stop returning it.
- ▶ It is up to the voter to determine if they are indefinitely confined. It is not a medical diagnosis.

# What is the absentee ballot witness supposed to do?

- ▶ Verify that you completed the absentee ballot but cannot tell you who or what to vote for.
- ▶ The witness should see you complete your ballot but should not 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”.

Today's date: month \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_  
▲ 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. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(If witnesses are Special Voting Deputies, both must sign.)

▲ Signature of ONE Witness – an adult, U.S. citizen ▲

▲ Address of Witness – REQUIRED ▲  
(street number or P.O. box, street name, city, county, state and zip code.)

4 Mail back to \_\_\_\_\_  
is received by Election Commission \_\_\_\_\_

How 4-5 days for delivery to be sure that your ballot  
and after Election Day will NOT be counted.

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

# Who can I get to sign as my witness?

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Contact your clerk if you're have trouble finding a witness.



# Updates on absentee voting

- ▶ **Carefully follow the instructions for completing your absentee ballot and the certificate envelope.** Make sure your witness signs their name and records their complete address. There is disagreement over what an address must include.
- ▶ **Clerks are no longer able to correct missing or incomplete witness address information.**
- ▶ **Drop boxes are no longer an option** for returning your absentee ballot, due to a July court ruling in the Teigen v. WEC case.
- ▶ **Reminder:** Your municipal clerk must have your ballot by 8 PM on election day for your vote to count. Locations for returning your absentee ballot vary by municipality.

For more information, contact your clerk. Find their contact information here: [myvote.wi.gov/my-Municipal-Clerk](https://myvote.wi.gov/my-Municipal-Clerk).

# The Right to Assistance for Voters with a Disability

- ▶ Voters with a disability have the right to assistance with any part of the voting process. That right is protected by federal law.
- ▶ An August 31 court order in the Carey v. WEC case clarified that voters with a disability, may request assistance with mailing or delivering their ballot from anyone who is not their employer or a representative of their labor union.
- ▶ Voters who do not have a disability can not have assistance delivering their ballot.

# Information for your assistor

- ▶ If you ask someone to return your ballot, let your assistor know they may be asked a few questions by the election official.
  1. *Are you the voter? If not, then:*
  2. *Are you delivering the voter's ballot because the voter has determined that they require assistance returning their ballot due to their disability? If yes, then:*
  3. *Are you someone other than the voter's employer, an agent of that employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union? If yes, then the ballot can be accepted.*
- ▶ The voter and assistor should **not** have to fill out any forms or provide proof of disability.

# Resources on ballot return assistance

- ▶ *[Here is a link](#) to Wisconsin Elections Commission guidance on absentee ballot return options under the Federal Voting Rights Act.*
- ▶ Guidance from Disability Rights Wisconsin:  
<https://disabilityrightswi.org/press-release/absentee-ballot-return-assistance-for-the-nov-8th-election/>
- ▶ Questions? Contact the DRW Voter Hotline at 844-347-8683 or email [info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org)

# Voting in person

## Be Prepared

- ▶ Check your polling place - MyVote
- ▶ Preview your ballot - MyVote
- ▶ Check your voter registration
- ▶ Early voting may be available - ask your clerk
- ▶ Know your rights
- ▶ Curbside voting- call ahead
- ▶ Transportation - plan ahead.
  - DVC is updating our Rides to the Polls.
- ▶ **Bring your photo ID**

## Questions, problems or complaints

- ▶ Call DRW Voter Hotline 844-347-8683

# I support people under guardianship. Are they able to vote?

In Wisconsin, a person under guardianship retains the right to vote unless the court expressly removes it.

- If an individual under guardianship is unsure of their right to vote, the Court's decision regarding the right to vote is recorded on a court form called "A Determination and Order on Petition for Guardianship Due to Incompetency." (GN-3170).
- The language in the court order will not say that the person has retained the right to vote; however, a box will be checked if the right has been removed.
- Incompetency for voting purposes can only be determined by a judge. Family members, doctors, or caretakers may not determine that a voter is incompetent to vote.
- If you lose the right to vote due to guardianship, you may petition the court to restore your right to vote. DRW can provide resources:  
<https://disabilityrightswi.org/news/new-guardianship-and-voting-resources/>

# I live in a nursing home. How do I vote?

- ▶ Residents of nursing homes and other congregate settings have the same right to vote as any other citizen unless they have lost that right. Voting is a resident rights issue.
- ▶ CMS states: Nursing homes should have a plan to ensure residents can exercise their right to vote, whether in-person, by mail, absentee, or other authorized process. If a state has specific programs to enable nursing home residents to vote, the facility should coordinate and engage with those programs, as appropriate.
- ▶ Wisconsin's Special Voting Deputy program conducts absentee voting in nursing homes and other qualified facilities. SVDs are supposed to visit a facility twice to conduct in-person absentee voting. They may not be able to assist with voter registration.
- ▶ Residents may request assistance with registering to vote and with requesting an absentee ballot.
- ▶ For more information: [Absentee Voting in Residential Care Facilities and Retirement Homes \(SVD Voting\) | Wisconsin Elections Commission](#)

# I am living at a psychiatric facility. I want to vote.

- ▶ If you are a registered voter, you may request an absentee ballot. In some cases, the resident may choose to certify as an Indefinitely Confined Voter.
- ▶ Your address for voting is your last home address - not the address of the facility. *(note: nursing home and group home residents may choose to use either the facility address or their last home address)*
- ▶ Your Proof of Residence must include name and your voting address.
- ▶ If you do not have access to the most forms of Proof of Residence (State ID/ drivers license, utility bill, bank statement, etc), any document issued by a governmental entity is acceptable. It must include your full name and the address of your residence for voting.



## I am homeless and don't have a permanent address. What should I use as my address for voting?

- ▶ If you are otherwise qualified to vote, Wisconsin law has a provision to protect the right to vote of individuals experiencing homelessness. 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.
- ▶ For additional guidance, the Wisconsin Election Commission has a sample letter and a guide for homeless voters on their website at [elections.wi.gov/publications/brochures/enabling-homeless-voters](https://elections.wi.gov/publications/brochures/enabling-homeless-voters).

# I have criminal conviction. Can I vote?

## Persons convicted of a misdemeanor (except for misdemeanor treason or bribery)

- ▶ They retain their right to vote - ***they can vote even if they are in jail or prison, or “on paper”*** (on probation, parole or extended supervision) for a misdemeanor.

## Persons convicted of a felony, treason, or bribery

- ▶ ***They can vote after they have finished their sentence and are “off paper”*** (off probation, parole or extended supervision). Their right to vote is restored automatically
- ▶ If someone has been charged with a felony but not yet convicted, they are eligible to vote.
- ▶ If someone has been convicted of a felony but has not been sentenced, they ***cannot*** vote.
- ▶ If in doubt, call the WI Election Commission Voter Helpline: 1-866-VOTE-WIS
- ▶ **Toolkit for Supporting Voters with Criminal Convictions:**  
<https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/resources/voting-rights-restoration-toolkit>

# How can I learn about the candidates?

1. Decide what you are looking for in a candidate:
  - ▶ What issues are important to you? What qualities do you want in a leader?
2. Learn about the candidates
  - ▶ Watch candidate forums and interviews. Look for news coverage of the candidates. Google the candidates.
  - ▶ Seek nonpartisan sources for information such as [vote411.org](https://vote411.org)
  - ▶ Review candidate websites, campaign materials, or contact the campaign to ask questions. <https://disabilityvote.org/2022/key-questions-for-candidates-2022-elections/>
3. Sort it out.
  - ▶ Which candidate's priorities and views match yours?
  - ▶ Who seems most prepared?



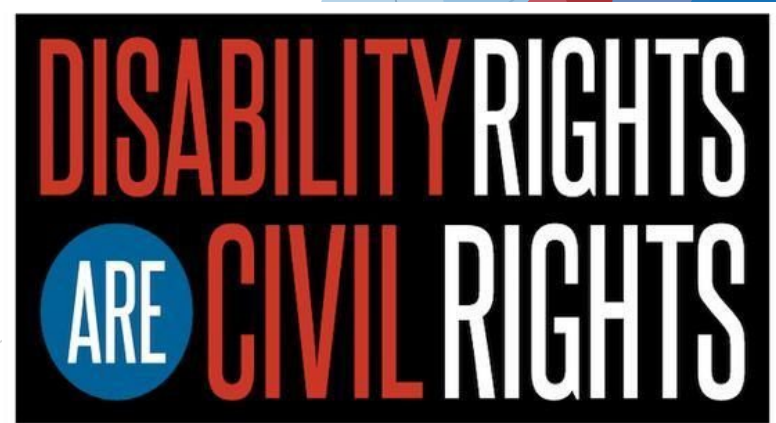
**I Support**  
**DISABILITY**  
**RIGHTS**

## 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, assistance stating your name and address.
- ▶ Right to **assistance** marking, mailing or returning 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.
- ▶ If you make a mistake, you can **request another ballot** from the election officials.
- ▶ You may bring a “**notes sheet**” into the polling place.
- ▶ **No one should tell you how to vote.**



# For Help with Voting Concerns

- ▶ **MyVote Wisconsin:** <https://myvote.wi.gov/>
- ▶ **Your municipal clerk:** [myvote.wi.gov/en-US/MyMunicipalClerk](https://myvote.wi.gov/en-US/MyMunicipalClerk)
- ▶ **Wisconsin Elections Commission:** 866-VOTE-WIS / 868-3944 (staffed Mon - Fri from 7:45 AM - 4:30 PM / longer hours on Election Day)
  - Email: [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov) Website: <https://elections.wi.gov/>
- ▶ **Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline:** 844-DIS-VOTE / 844-347-8683 or email: [info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org)
- ▶ **Photo ID:**
  - **DMV Voter ID Hotline: (844) 588-1069.** Apply for a free Photo ID for voting at DMV: <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/dmv/license-drvs/how-to-apply/id-card.aspx>
  - [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov)
  - LWV Voter ID Helpline: 608-285-2141
- ▶ [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org): nonpartisan information about the candidates
- ▶ **Disability Vote Coalition:** [disabilityvote.org/](http://disabilityvote.org/) [www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote/](https://www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote/)
- ▶ Order DVC postcards, posters, and [Make Your Plan to Vote](#).

# What do I do if I need help or run into a problem?



Contact the *Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline*

844-DIS-VOTE (844-347-8683) or  
[info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org)