



Elections are More Than Voting Webinar

August 20, 2024





About Us

➤ The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition (DVC) is a nonpartisan effort to help ensure full participation of voters with disabilities in the electoral process, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places. It is coordinated by the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities and Disability Rights Wisconsin. Members include people with disabilities and over 40 community agencies.

Visit the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition website here.

➤ The **League of Women Voters (LWV)** is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization established in 1920. We advocate for informed and active participation in government and welcome anyone who wishes to improve our systems of government and impact public policies through education and advocacy.

Visit the League of Women Voters website here.

Upcoming Elections

Fall Elections: What's on the Ballot?

- U.S. President
- U.S. Senate (1 of 2)
- > 8 U.S. Representatives
- 16 Wis. Senators
- All 99 Assembly Representatives
- County District Attorney
- County Partisan Offices

View your ballot at My Vote Wisconsin: myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot

Next Election:

General Election – November 5, 2024

Registration Deadlines for the Nov. General Election:

- > **By Mail:** Wednesday, October 16, 2024
- > **In Person:** Tuesday, November 5, 2024
- Online: Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Register to vote online via Vote411!

Getting Involved

Vote!

Voting in every election is important.

Local races are as important, if not more, than larger races.

Local races elect people who make decisions about things that impact your everyday life.

View the Local Elections Matter factsheet here:

disabilityvote.org/2022/ local-elections-factsheet/



LOCAL ELECTIONS FACT SHEET

Local governments make decisions that directly affect our local communities. They are accountable to you and your neighbors.

They Make Decisions About Public Schoo Public Quality transit housing health Economic Policing and development Sanitation Water quality public safety and job training programs How millions Planning and of local tax Libraries administration dollars are

Why vote in local elections?

Local officials are supposed to represent the community, but if only a fraction of voters vote them in, then only a small part of the community's interests are represented. When more voters cast their votes, the people who are elected are more reflective of the community. This means that they are likely to be more responsive.

Which local offices are elected?

Which local offices are elected varies by municipality. However, they can include:

Mayor

- City Treasurer
- City Council

- Municipal Judge
- · School Board
- Coroner

City Clerk

Sanitation Commissioner





disability**rights** wisconsin

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

DRW Voter Hotline 844-DIS-VOTE / 844-347-8683

www.disabilityvote.org/



www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote/

Remind 3 Friends to Vote



- Most of us are aware of big elections like the Presidential Election. But many people aren't aware of lower turnout races.
- A simple reminder and a little encouragement may be all that's needed.

Encourage Friends and Family to Register to Vote

- Share resources and support people who are new to voting.
 - Share the Voter Registration Fact Sheet:

disabilityvote.org/wpcontent/uploads/2021/09/ DVC-Voting-Registration-Fact-Sheetacc.pdf

- Offer to go with first-time voters.
- You help them register online or check their status on My Vote Wisconsin: myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Register-To-Vote



Registration Resources

- Register online or check your status at My Vote Wisconsin:
 - myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Register-To-Vote
- DVC Voter Registration Fact Sheet: disabilityvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/ DVC-Voting-Registration-Fact-Sheet-acc.pdf
- LWV Registration Information Page: my.lwv.org/wisconsin/voter-information/register-vote

Use the Accessible Voting Machine

- Be an ally!
 Consider using an accessible
 voting machine. It will increase awareness among other voters and poll workers.
- Every polling place is required to have one.
- It provides the opportunity for voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently.



Like and Share Social Media Posts About Voting

- Sharing social media posts is a quick and easy way to spread information about upcoming elections, disability voting rights, and how-to's for voting (registering, requesting an absentee ballot, etc.).
- Follow us on social media!
 - Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition: www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote
 - League of Women Voters of Wisconsin:

www.facebook.com/LWVWI.ORG



Help with "Get Out the Vote" Activities



Volunteer to call or text voters to remind them an election is coming up.

- You can follow a script.
- You have flexibility in when you volunteer.
- People are typically registered voters who are friendly to the reminder.

Send a Thank You to Your Local Clerk

- Municipal clerks work hard to have safe and fair elections.
- Show your support by sending a thank you note, especially if they have done a good job providing disability accommodations.
- Your support could mean they push further to make voting more accessible to people with disabilities.



Volunteer with Voting Organizations

- Voting organizations throughout the state are looking for volunteers to help with things like:
 - Voter registration drives
 - Providing rides to the polls
 - Calling or texting voters
 - Writing and sending postcard reminders
- Call to learn more!









Be a Poll Worker

It's important for people with disabilities to be poll workers because:

- It makes other people with disabilities feel welcome.
- It makes others feel more comfortable using the accessible voting machine.
- Other poll workers become more knowledgeable.
- It helps others see people with disabilities as part of the voting community.
- Ensures the polling place is sensitive to people with hidden disabilities.
- It allows firsthand experience about issues that impact people with disabilities.

See our **Becoming a Poll Worker** Factsheet for information on how to become a poll worker:

disabilityvote.org/2024/becoming-a-poll-worker-factsheet/



Be an Election Observer

- Anyone can observe at a polling place to make sure the process is working the way it's supposed to.
- Paying extra attention to disability accommodations is particularly helpful.
- Check in with the election official in charge.
- There should be designated areas for observers.

For more information on being an election observer, see the Wisconsin Elections Commission's article on Election Observers:

elections.wi.gov/poll-workers-observers/election-observers

Observe Pre- and Post-Election Activities

- Observe pre- and post-election equipment audits to ensure the process is working the way it's supposed to.
- Observe election recounts.
- Training is encouraged.

For more information, contact the League of Women Voters at my.lwv.org/wisconsin

Voting 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 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 tools to help poll workers interact with deaf and hard of hearing voters, like a pen and paper or an easel for announcements.
- Right to assistance marking your ballot (just not your employer or your union representative)
- Right to use the accessible voting machine at your polling place.



Voting Resources

For Help with Voting Concerns (1/2)

- MyVote Wisconsin: myvote.wi.gov
- Find Your Municipal Clerk:
 myvote.wi.gov/en-US/MyMunicipalClerk
- Wisconsin Elections Commission:
 Call 866-VOTE-WIS or 866-868-3944.
 This phone number is staffed Monday to Friday, from 7:45 A.M. to

4:30 P.M. It has longer hours on Election Day.

- Email: <u>elections@wi.gov</u>
- Website: <u>elections.wi.gov</u>
- Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline:
 - Call: 844-DIS-VOTE / 844-347-8683
 - Email: <u>info@disabilityvote.org</u>

For Help with Voting Concerns (2/2)

- Photo ID Resources
 - Department of Motor Vehicles Voter ID Hotline:
 - Call (844) 588-1069.
 - You can apply for a free Photo ID for voting at the DMV: wisconsindot.gov/Pages/dmv/license-drvs/how-to-apply/ id-card.aspx
 - Bring It to the Ballot: <u>www.bringit.wi.gov</u>
 - League of Women Voter ID Helpline: Call 608-285-2141
- > **Vote411.org**: nonpartisan information about the candidates
- Disability Vote Coalition:
 - Website: <u>disabilityvote.org</u>
 - Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote/</u>
 - Order DVC postcards, posters, and <u>Make Your Plan to Vote</u> here: <u>form.jotform.com/232995947547174</u>