



# Why Primary Elections Matter: Voting in the Spring Primary Election

- ▶ Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition
- ▶ February 11, 2025

# The February 18 Wisconsin Spring Primary

There are 3 candidates for State Superintendent of Schools.

The Primary will narrow this to 2 candidates. The 2 candidates with the most votes will be on the ballot in April.

# 2025 Spring Elections

- ▶ Spring Primary: February 18, 2025
- ▶ Spring Election: April 1, 2025

## Office to be Elected

- ▶ State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- ▶ May have local offices such as alderman or school board

# Registration Deadlines Spring Primary

- ▶ Municipal Clerk's Office: Feb 14
- ▶ In-Person: Feb 18

# Am I Registered to Vote?

- ▶ Check at [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://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 deadline has passed for Feb 18 primary.
  - ▶ 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.



# State Superintendent of Public Instruction

What is the State Superintendent of Public Instruction?

- Head of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
- Oversees public schools and libraries
- Seeks and promotes ways to improve schools
- Assesses performance of schools
- Elected to serve a four-year term
- Nonpartisan office with no term limit
- Ensures school districts meet their responsibilities to students with disabilities as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- The Superintendent also sits on the UW Board of Regents, which votes on tuition and other issues.

# Primary Candidates:

## Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction

- ▶ Jill Underly, PhD
- ▶ Brittany Kinser
- ▶ Jeff Wright

**Vote 411 Voter Guide:**

[lww-gcv.clubexpress.com/handlers/celinks.ashx?id=58621](http://lww-gcv.clubexpress.com/handlers/celinks.ashx?id=58621)

# 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.
- ▶ 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 [bringit.wi.gov](https://bringit.wi.gov).

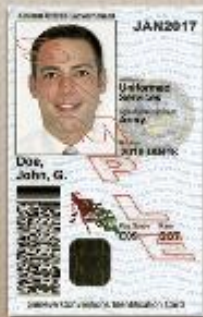


# Acceptable Photo IDs

## 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.

# 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:  
[wisconsindot.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/find-dmv/default.aspx](https://wisconsindot.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.
- ▶ 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

# How do I request an absentee ballot?

- ▶ **ONLINE:** [myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoteAbsentee](https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoteAbsentee)
  - The first time you request an absentee ballot online, you must upload your photo ID.
- ▶ **BY MAIL:** Download the Application for Absentee Ballot from the Wisconsin Election Commission web site. Mail the completed form and a copy of your acceptable photo ID 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 at your clerk's office.



# What is Early Voting/In-person absentee voting?

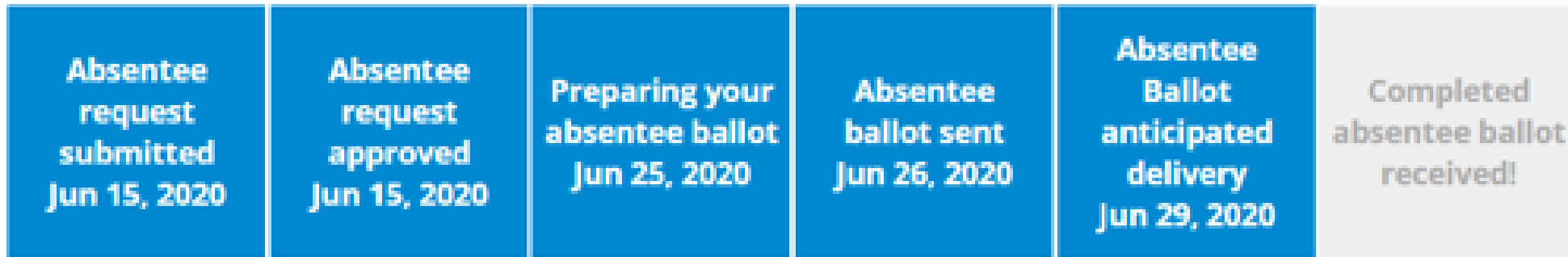
- ▶ Voters can vote early at their local clerk's office in advance of each election. This is also called "in-person absentee voting."
- ▶ If you need to register to vote, you may do so at this time.
- ▶ Each municipality sets their own dates and hours for in-person absentee voting. Contact your clerk for absentee voting hours and locations.
- ▶ Early In-person voting may begin on **February 4** and may run through **February 16**.
- ▶ Early voting locations are listed on [MyVote.wi.gov](https://MyVote.wi.gov).

# What are Key Dates for Absentee Voters?

- ▶ **Deadline to Request Absentee Ballot:**
  - Regular Voters: **Feb 13** by 5 pm
  - Indefinitely Confined Voters: **Feb 14** by 5 pm
  - Request it ASAP.
- ▶ **Deadline to Return Absentee Ballot**
  - Feb 18 by 8 pm
  - If returning by mail, mail ASAP and allow a week to ten days.

# How do I know if my ballot is received?

## 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.

# In Person Voting: How Will I Get There?

- ▶ Visit [Find a Ride to the Polls](#) on DVC website
- ▶ Call your local Independent Living Center or Aging and Disability Resource Center at (608) 266-2536 (statewide) for ideas on specific transportation options in your community.
- ▶ Is your schedule flexible? Ask a neighbor, friend or family member to share a ride.

Check out this fact sheet for ideas:

<https://disabilityvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Transportation-2020-acc.pdf>

# What is curbside voting?

- ▶ Required by law for any voter who cannot enter the polling place due to a disability.
- ▶ 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?

- ▶ Each polling place is required to have at least one accessible voting system.
- ▶ The accessible voting system must provide the opportunity for voters to vote privately and independently.
- ▶ Anyone can use the accessible voting system.
- ▶ Elections officials must make sure it's functioning properly in each election, and that election officials are trained to operate them.



# 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.
- ▶ 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](http://www.disabilityvote.org).

# 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 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 notes 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.

# April 1 Spring Primary: Constitutional Amendment

**✗ Question:** “Photographic identification for voting. Shall section 1m of article III of the constitution be created to require that voters present valid photographic identification verifying their identity in order to vote in any election, subject to exceptions which may be established by law?”

**A “yes” vote** - A “yes” vote means that you want to change the state constitution to require valid photo id to vote. This change would also mean that the state legislature will pass laws to determine what qualifies as valid photo identification and what or if there are exceptions to the requirement.

**A “no” vote** - A “no” vote means that you do not want the state constitution to change.

# 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](https://elections.wi.gov/complaints) or call toll free 1-866-VOTE-WIS (866- 868-3947). You can also report your complaint on their website.
- ▶ Contact the *Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline* at 844-DIS-VOTE (844-347-8683) or [info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org). DRW can help with your questions, and help you file a complaint.
- ▶ Wisconsin Election Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE / 866-687-8633. Correct Wisconsin Elections Commission Complaint webpage: [elections.wi.gov/elections/election-security-integrity/concerns-comments-opinions](https://elections.wi.gov/elections/election-security-integrity/concerns-comments-opinions)

# What voting resources can help me?

## ▶ Disability Vote Coalition:

- Website [www.disabilityvote.org](http://www.disabilityvote.org)
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wisconsin disability vote/>
- Email: [info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org)

## ▶ Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline

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

## ▶ WI Voter Information

- [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov)

## ▶ Photo IDs

- [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov)
- Wisconsin DMV Voter ID hotline: 844-588-1069
- Your municipal clerk: [myvote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk](http://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk)