

# Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition

**Absentee and Early In-Person Voting**  
**January 20, 2026**



# About the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition

- ▶ We are a non-partisan effort to help ensure full participation in the entire 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, community agencies, and other partners.

# Did you know?

**If people with disabilities voted at the same rate as people without disabilities – that would be 1.75 million more votes!!**

- ▶ Elected officials make decisions on things that are important to us.
- ▶ It shows elected officials that we care and are paying attention.
- ▶ It may change the way that an elected official votes on an issue.
- ▶ Local elections are as important as national.
- ▶ It's your civic responsibility!

# 2026 Mid-Term Election Dates & Deadlines

## **February 17 – Spring Primary**

No state primary; check if you have a local primary

### **Registration Deadlines:**

- By mail or online: Wed, Jan 28
- In Person: Tues, Feb 17

## **April 7, 2026 – Spring Election**

### **Registration Deadlines:**

- By mail or online: Wed, Mar 18
- In Person: Tues, Apr 7

## **August 11 – Partisan Primary**

### **Registration Deadlines:**

- By mail or online: Wed, July 22
- In Person: Tues, Aug 11

## **November 3 – General Election**

### **Registration Deadlines:**

- By mail or online: Wed, Oct 14
- In Person: Tues, Nov 3

# 2026 Mid-Term Elections: What's on the ballot?

## **April 7, 2026 – Spring Election**

- ▶ WI Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Circuit Courts
- ▶ Local Elections (school boards, county positions, etc.)

## **August 11, 2026 – Partisan Primary**

## **November 3, 2026 – General Election**

- ▶ Governor, Lt. Gov, Attorney General, Sec of State, Treasurer
- ▶ All 8 Congressional Representatives
- ▶ All 99 Representatives
- ▶ 17 State Senators (half)
- ▶ County Sheriffs
- ▶ County Clerks

# How Do I Know What's on My Ballot

Easy! Visit My Vote Wisconsin, enter your address, and you'll see all the races on your ballot:  
[myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot](https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot)

Find your current legislators:  
<https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

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- Senate
- Assembly
- Law and Legislation
- Administrative Rules
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NOTIFICATION SERVICE

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

ADMIN RULES CALENDAR

WHO ARE MY LEGISLATORS?

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Military & Overseas Voters

Search by Name Search by Address

My Voter Info Find My Polling Place What's On My Ballot Update My Name or Address Register To Vote Vote Absentee By Mail Track My Ballot Vote Absentee In Person

WHAT'S ON MY BALLOT

What's On My Ballot

My Ballot

Need Assistance?

Find your municipal clerk by searching for your name or address

Find My Clerk

Next Statewide Election

SEARCH BY ADDRESS

\*\*Required Field

Search for My Ballot

Your ballot and local election information are based on where you live. Enter your street address and city to:

- See what will be on your next ballot
- Find your next local election
- Learn more about voting in person

Search Search Tip

Street Address\*

Unit/Apt Number

City\*

Zip\*

# Requesting an Absentee Ballot

- ▶ You can request an absentee ballot for a single election or the entire calendar year.
- ▶ You can choose the Indefinitely Confined option because of “age, physical illness, or infirmity, or if you are disabled for an indefinite period.”
  - You will receive an absentee ballot until you request it to stop, or you don’t return a ballot.
  - You can reapply if you miss an election.
  - It does not mean that you can never leave your house.

10:01 The Pope's 31 22

myvote.wi.gov/en

## REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

\*=Required Field

I am requesting an absentee ballot for:

All elections for the calendar year ending 12/31/2026

The following upcoming elections:

- Apr 7, 2026 - 2026 Spring Election
- Aug 11, 2026 - 2026 Partisan Primary
- Nov 3, 2026 - 2026 General Election

Continue

# 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.

# Voting Absentee

- ▶ Request **as soon as possible!**
- ▶ Follow directions carefully!
- ▶ You can request assistance
- ▶ You will need a witness
- ▶ Return your ballot as soon as possible!
  - Must be delivered to your clerk, drop box or polling place no later than 8 pm on Election Day.

The image shows a close-up of a Wisconsin absentee ballot envelope. A finger is pointing to the 'Address of Witness - REQUIRED' section. The form includes the following text:

- Signature of Voter**: Today's date: month day year. (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.
- Signature of ONE Witness - an adult, U.S. citizen**: 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ (If witnesses are Special Voting Deputies, both must sign.)
- Address of Witness - REQUIRED**: (street number or first name, last name, street name, city, county, and zip code.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Mail back**: Must be delivered to your clerk, drop box or polling place no later than 8 pm on Election Day.

At the bottom of the envelope, it says: "Mail back 4-5 days for delivery to be sure that your ballot is received by Election Day. After Election Day will NOT be counted." and provides contact information for the Election Commission: "Milwaukee, WI 53202 | 414-286-3491 | www.milwaukee.gov".

# 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. **▲ 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 by \_\_\_\_\_**  
is received by Election Commission \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

09/16 | Election Commission

# 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 a friend, spouse, neighbor, family member, or 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 have trouble finding a witness.

# Important Absentee Voting Deadlines

## **Request Absentee Ballot:**

- **By Feb 12 for February election**
- **By Apr 2 for April election**
- Don't wait that long!

**Return Absentee Ballot:** By 8 pm on Election Day

**Early voting** may begin two weeks prior to the election:

- **Feb 3** for February election
- **March 24** for April election

# The Right to Assistance for Voters with a Disability

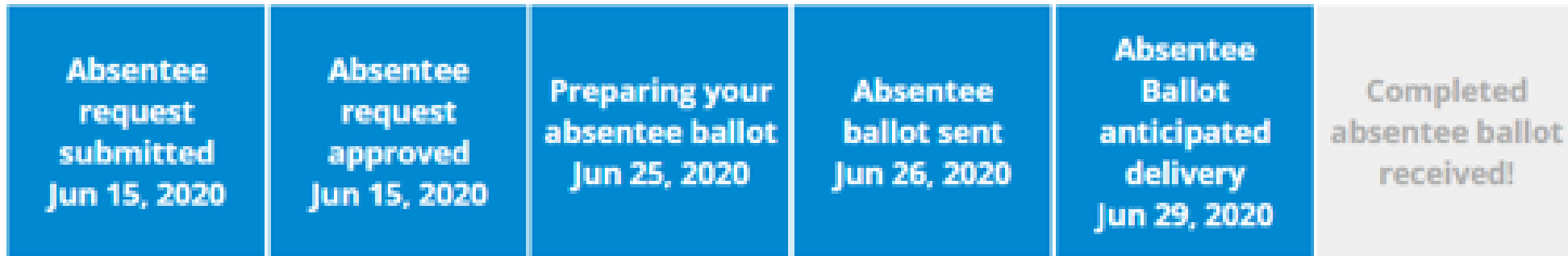
- ▶ Voters with a disability have the right to assistance with any part of the voting process. That right is protected by federal law.
- ▶ A court order clarified that voters with a disability may request assistance with mailing or delivering their ballot from anyone who is not their employer or a representative 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.

# How do I know if my ballot was 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 Absentee Voting (Early Voting)

- ▶ You can vote in-person absentee at your local municipal clerk's office or other designated location.
- ▶ You will vote your ballot immediately and return it to the clerk's staff. You are not allowed to take the ballot out of the clerk's office.
- ▶ You will need to show your photo ID.
- ▶ Each municipality sets the dates and hours of in-person absentee voting for its municipality. Call your municipal clerk for times.
- ▶ In-person absentee voting cannot occur more than two weeks before an election.
- ▶ Curbside voting is not required for early in-person voting. Call ahead to check whether it's available at your location.
- ▶ You can bring someone to assist you or bring a notes sheet.



## 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)

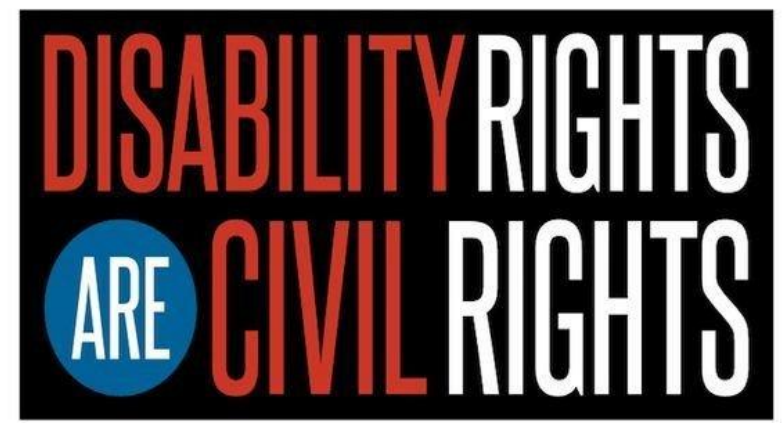
# What is an accessible voting machine?

- ▶ 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.



# More Rights

- ▶ You have the right to **Curbside Voting**, if you can't get into your polling place because 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.**



# Voting Resources [1/3]

## Disability Vote Coalition:

- ▶ **Website:** [www.disabilityvote.org](http://www.disabilityvote.org)
- ▶ **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote](http://www.facebook.com/wisconsindisabilityvote)

## DRW Voter Hotline:

- ▶ **Call** 844-DIS-VOTE (347-8683)
- ▶ **Email** [info@disabilityvote.org](mailto:info@disabilityvote.org)

## Your Municipal Clerk

Find your municipal clerk using the My Municipal Clerk search at [myvote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk](http://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk).

## Rides to the Polls

A list of transportation providers around the state who can help people with disabilities and older adults get to the polls. This is not an all-inclusive list.

# Voting Resources [2/3]

## Wisconsin Elections Commission

- ▶ **Call:** 1-866-VOTE-WIS
- ▶ **E-mail:** [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov)
- ▶ **Visit:** [elections.wi.gov](http://elections.wi.gov)

## My Vote Wisconsin

Visit [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov) for election, polling place, and ballot information, voter registration, requesting absentee, and more.

## Getting a Photo ID

- ▶ Learn more at Bring It to the Ballot: [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov)
- ▶ Wisconsin DMV Voter ID hotline: 844-588-1069
- ▶ Voter ID Helpline: 608-285-2141

# Voting Resources [3/3]

## Learn about the candidates.

Visit these nonpartisan resources:

- ▶ **Vote 411:** [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org)
- ▶ **Ballotpedia:** [Ballotpedia.org](http://Ballotpedia.org)
- ▶ **Wisconsin Vote:** [wisconsinvote.org](http://wisconsinvote.org)