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**Note:** This FAQ is not exhaustive. Situations or inquiries may arise that are not answered below. In those circumstances, contact your hotline captain or command center for assistance. Please make sure to record all of the voter's contact information should follow-up be necessary.

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## REGISTERING TO VOTE

### 1. STATUS: Am I registered to vote?

If eligible, you will automatically be registered to vote when you interact with the DMV.

You can determine whether a voter is registered to vote by checking the Rhode Island Secretary of State's "Voter Information Center" [webpage](#). You will need the voter's name, date of birth, and zip code.

### 2. HOW: How do I register to vote? What if I don't have access to a computer and/or printer?

You can register to vote online or by paper submission on the Rhode Island's Secretary of State's "Voter Information Center" [webpage](#).

### 3. IDENTIFICATION: What ID is required to register to vote?

You will need

- Your Rhode Island DMV issued driver's license or State ID number
- Your name as it appears on your Rhode Island driver's license or State ID card
- Your date of birth

Alternatively, you may complete the form without your driver's license or State ID number for paper submission.

### 4. DEADLINES: When is/was the voter registration deadline? Are there different deadlines whether I register by mail, in-person, online or on Election Day?

Voters must apply to register to vote 30 calendar days before an election they intend to vote in.<sup>i</sup> For the 2020 general election, this deadline is **October 4, 2020**.

### 5. SAME DAY: Does my state have Same Day Registration (i.e. I can register to vote the same day I vote)? If so, what is the process?

Rhode Island allows for same day voter registration for the Presidential Election only. If you miss the voter registration deadline, you can register to vote on Election Day, but you will only be able to vote for President and Vice President.<sup>ii</sup> You will not be able to vote in any state, local, or other federal races. You can only register and vote on Election Day at the location designated by your local board of canvassers:

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Elections/LocalBoards>

### 6. PERMANENT MOVE: I have moved permanently and I didn't update my voter registration, can I vote?

If you moved to your current address **less than 30 days before the election**, you are eligible to vote at your previous assigned polling place associated with your previous address's assigned polling place.

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If you moved **more than 30 days before the election but within the same City/Town** as your previous address, you vote at the polling location associated with your new address.

If you moved **30 days or more , but less than 6 months**, before the election from your previous City/Town of registration, you are eligible to vote a Limited Ballot at the Board of Canvassers of your previous City/Town of registration.

**If you moved more than 6 months** before the election from your previous City/Town of registration, you are only eligible to vote for President/Vice-President, if this is a Presidential election year.

See Chart on Rhode Island Board of Elections Website:

[https://elections.ri.gov/publications/Election\\_Publications/Voter\\_Info/voter\\_affirmation\\_chart\\_11\\_2008.pdf](https://elections.ri.gov/publications/Election_Publications/Voter_Info/voter_affirmation_chart_11_2008.pdf)

**7. TEMPORARY MOVE: I have moved temporarily due to Covid-19 or some other reason. Where can I vote?**

Rhode Island voters who are unable, or prefer not, to go the polls on Election Day can vote by mail.

If you are Registered to vote in another state, but living temporarily in Rhode Island, You can still vote in your state's election with a mail ballot.

For more information, refer to Rhode Island Department of State's "Vote from Home with Mail Ballot" - <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/VotebyMail>

**8. STUDENT: I am a college student. Can I register to vote where I go to school? What if I am taking classes remotely? Where can I vote?**

Yes. If you attend school in Rhode Island, you can establish residency and vote in Rhode Island if you have a present intention to remain at your Rhode Island school address for the time being and to make it your principal home (i.e. you think of your Rhode Island residence as the place to which you intend to return when you are away from that residence).<sup>iii</sup>

Rhode Island has not specifically addressed remote learning.

**9. LIVING ABROAD: I am living abroad and/or am serving in the military. How can I register and/or vote?**

Rhode Island military/overseas voters use a special process to receive and return their mail ballot. [The Federal Voting Assistance Program \(FVAP\)](#) provides step-by-step guidance on how a military/overseas voter can apply for and receive their mail ballot.

**10. CRIMINAL CONVICTION: I have a criminal conviction. Can I vote?**

A resident of Rhode Island who has been convicted of a felony and is currently incarcerated may not vote in Rhode Island elections.<sup>iv</sup> However, voting rights are restored to all Rhode Island residents who have been released from incarceration or who were never incarcerated following felony convictions.<sup>v</sup> Upon release from incarceration, the department of corrections shall notify individuals that their voting rights have been restored, provide them with a voter registration form, offer assistance in filling out the form, and transmit the form to the state board or the local Board where the individual resides.<sup>vi</sup>

**11. INCARCERATED: I am currently in jail. Can I vote?**

No. A resident of Rhode Island who has been convicted of a felony and is currently incarcerated may not vote in Rhode Island elections.<sup>vii</sup>

**12. NOT ON ROLLS AT POLLING PLACE: I am at my polling place and am not on the voter registration roll. Can I vote where I am?**

The volunteer should tell the voter to go to his or her assigned polling place if at all possible.

If a voter's name does not appear on the voting list at the polling place where he or she is, he or she can cast a provisional ballot.<sup>viii</sup> If the registered voter casts a provisional ballot in the correct precinct in the city or town where they are registered, it will be fully counted. If a registered voter casts a provisional ballot in the incorrect precinct but the correct congressional district and city or town, only his or her votes for federal offices (including President and Vice-President) will be counted. However, if he or she votes in the incorrect city or town or the incorrect congressional district, the voter's provisional ballot will be disqualified.<sup>ix</sup>

**13. THOUGHT WAS REGISTERED: My name isn't on the voter registration roll but I thought I was registered. Could it have been removed? What do I do?**

Rhode Island allows for same day voter registration for the Presidential Election only. If you miss the voter registration deadline, you can register to vote on Election Day, but you will only be able to vote for President and Vice President. <sup>x</sup> You will not be able to vote in any state, local, or other federal races. You can only register and vote on Election Day at the location designated by your local board of canvassers: <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Elections/LocalBoards>

First, remember that if a voter's name does not appear on the certified voting list on Election Day at the district where he or she is, the voter can still cast a provisional ballot.<sup>xi</sup> Before Election Day, if a voter's name does not appear on the preliminary list of registered voters for the polling place (an advertisement for a meeting where it will be discussed must be published in local newspapers at least 20 days before Election Day), the voter can appear at a meeting of the local Board and challenge the correctness of the preliminary registration list. The local Board must publish the notice of meeting in one or more newspapers having general circulation in the city or town at least 10 days prior to the meeting.<sup>xii</sup> A voter may also appeal his or her removal from the registration list before Election Day.<sup>xiii</sup>

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In most instances, a voter's name cannot be removed from the list of registered voters unless election officials have reason to think the voter is ineligible, the voter receives a confirmation notice, and the voter does not respond to the notice and then fails to vote in two consecutive federal elections.<sup>xiv</sup>

A voter's name can be removed from the list of registered voters immediately if the local Board receives notice that the voter is deceased.<sup>xv</sup> The local Board may also remove a voter immediately if it receives a challenge to a voter's qualifications and confirms that the voter is ineligible. This can occur only if the local Board gives the challenged voter notice and holds a hearing at which the voter appears, and at which he or she may be questioned about the facts necessary to establish his or her eligibility. If the challenged voter does not appear at the hearing, the local Board will send the voter a confirmation notice, and if the voter does not respond to the notice and then fails to vote in two consecutive federal elections, the voter will be removed.<sup>xvi</sup>

On Election Day, an election official or a "watcher" designated by a political party can challenge a person's right to vote.<sup>xvii</sup> Challenges must be made for good cause.<sup>xviii</sup> Whenever the identity of any person offering to vote is challenged at the polling place, that person can still vote using a provisional ballot.<sup>xix</sup>

Note that you can take steps to help to determine why a voter's name is not popping up on the list of registered voters:

- Check the voter's registration status using the registration lookup tool to make sure he or she is registered to vote and at the right place. (see Question 1).
- Has the voter moved recently? Could he or she be registered at an old address? Check the address in the registration lookup tool. (see Question 1 and Question 6)
- Has the voter changed his or her name recently, or could he or she be registered under a different name? Check that name (and any variations of the voter's name, especially for hyphenated names, which sometimes trip up databases) in the registration lookup tool. (see Question 1).
- When/where did the voter register to vote? Was that before the deadline?

## HOW TO VOTE: EARLY VOTING

### **14. AVAILABILITY: Is there early voting in my state (whether called early voting or in person absentee voting)? When is it?**

In the 20 days leading up to Election Day, you can vote in person at your city or town hall during their regular business hours.

**Early voting period for November 2020 General Election:** October 14 – November 2

Go to your [local board of canvassers](#) located in your city/town hall.

### **15. ELIGIBILITY: Do I have to have a reason to vote early?**

No reason is needed. You can vote early if you are unable to vote at your usual polling place on Election Day or if you have run out of time to request a mail ballot.<sup>xx</sup>

**16. WHEN: When do the polls open/close during early voting?**

You can vote in person at your city or town hall during their regular business hours. Go to your [local board of canvassers](#) located in your city/town hall for more information.

**17. WHERE: Where do I vote during early voting?**

You can vote in person at your city or town hall during their regular business hours. Go to your [local board of canvassers](#) located in your city/town hall for more information.

**18. IDENTIFICATION: What identification is required for early voting? Can I vote without providing identification?**

You will be asked to show a valid photo ID.

IDs must be valid and not have expired more than six (6) months prior to voting, but they do not need to have your current address.

Acceptable Photo IDs include:

- RI driver's license/permit
- U.S. passport
- ID card issued by any federally recognized tribal government
- ID card issued by an educational institution in the U.S.
- U.S. military ID card
- ID card issued by the U.S. government or State of Rhode Island (RIPTA bus pass, etc.)
- Government issued medical card
- RI Voter ID Card<sup>xxi</sup>

No eligible voter will be turned away at the polls. Voters who do not bring ID to the polls can vote using a standard provisional ballot, which will be counted if the signature they give at the polling place matches the signature on their voter registration card.

See Rhode Island Voter ID Information: [https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Content/Pdfs/voter\\_id\\_information.pdf](https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Content/Pdfs/voter_id_information.pdf)

## HOW TO VOTE: ABSENTEE AND/OR VOTE BY MAIL

**19. AUTOMATIC: Do I have to request an absentee ballot or will my state mail me one automatically? How do I request one?**

For 2020, the Rhode Island Secretary of State has encouraged all Rhode Island voters to apply for a mail ballot and vote safely from home.

Once you have registered to vote you must submit a mail ballot application. You must complete a mail ballot application for each individual election you wish to vote in. You can either download the [Mail Ballot Application](#); pick up or have someone pick up an application at your local board of canvassers; or contact [your local board of canvassers](#) to request one.

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See Rhode Island “[a mail ballot guide for Rhode Island Voters](#)”

A voter can vote by mail if he/she:

- Is suffering from a serious illness or disability.
- Is confined to a hospital or nursing home within Rhode Island.
- Will be outside the state in connection with military service, or will be outside the United States on Election Day.
- Might not be able to vote at his or her polling place on Election Day.<sup>xxii</sup>

For more information on how to cast a mail ballot, See Rhode Island “[a mail ballot guide for Rhode Island Voters](#).”

#### **20. APPLICATION DEADLINE: What is the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot?**

The voter’s local Board must receive the completed application by 4 p.m., 21 days before the election.<sup>xxiii</sup>

To receive a mail ballot, you must complete and submit your application to your local board of canvassers by October 13, 2020 at 4:00 p.m for the General Election. The application must be received by October 13, 2020.

Postmarked applications received after the deadline will not be accepted.

#### **21. APPLICATION RETURN: Where and/or how can I return my absentee ballot application? Can someone return it for me?**

You must submit your mail ballot application to [your local board of canvassers](#).

Every mail ballot includes a postage paid return envelope so voters can easily return their mail ballot for free. If you don’t want to mail your ballot, you can hand-deliver it to the Board of Elections, drop it in a secure 24-hour drop box, or you can give it to someone you trust to return for you.

See Rhode Island “[a mail ballot guide for Rhode Island Voters](#)”

#### **22. DIDN’T REQUEST IN TIME: What if I have not requested an absentee ballot by the deadline?**

Emergency Mail Ballot: If circumstances arise within 20 days of an election, you can apply for an emergency mail ballot and vote at your local board of canvassers until 4 P.M on the day before the election.

You can also apply for an emergency mail ballot and have it mailed to you or authorize someone to pick up your emergency mail ballot on your behalf within 20 days of an election. Remember that the State Board of Elections must receive your mail ballot by 8:00 P.M. on Election Day.<sup>xxiv</sup>

For more information, please visit Rhode Island Secretary of State “Vote by Emergency mail Ballot” webpage: <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/EmergencyBallot>

**23. ELIGIBILITY: Do I have to have a specific reason for requesting to vote by absentee ballot?**

If you are unable to vote on Election Day for ANY reason, you can request an absentee ballot. See Rhode Island "[a mail ballot guide for Rhode Island Voters](#)"

**24. STATUS OF APPLICATION AND/OR BALLOT: How can I check the status of my application and/or absentee ballot?**

You can track your mail ballot status by going to Rhode Island's Secretary of State Website and entering your name, date of birth and zip code:

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Home/UpdateVoterRecord?ActiveFlag=3>

**25. APPLICATION AND/OR BALLOT REJECTED: I learned my absentee ballot application and/or ballot was rejected. What can I do to fix any errors or get another one?**

Call your local board of canvassers: <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Elections/LocalBoards>

**26. COMPLETING BALLOT: How do I complete the absentee ballot? Are there any identification requirements?**

Mail ballots will not require Voter ID.

See Rhode Island "[a mail ballot guide for Rhode Island Voters](#)" for a sample ballot. You will fill in: date of the election for which you are applying to vote by mail, home address where you are registered to vote, address where you want to receive your mail ballot, and your signature will be compared to the signature in your voter record.

**27. LOST OR SPOILED: What if I lost my absentee ballot or it is spoiled or I received an incorrect one?**

You can print another application from [vote.ri.gov](http://vote.ri.gov) or call your local board of canvassers to have one mailed to you. <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Elections/LocalBoards>

**28. NON-RECEIPT OF BALLOT: What if I requested an absentee ballot but have not received it? Can I do anything?**

Go to [vote.ri.gov](http://vote.ri.gov) to track the status of your mail ballot. If you have questions regarding the status of your application or mail ballot, please contact your local board of canvassers.

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Elections/LocalBoards>

**29. IN PERSON OPTION: What if I requested an absentee ballot but I want to vote in person on Election Day?**

If you applied for a mail ballot, you should complete the process by mail. Any voter who applies for a mail ballot and attempts to vote in person will be required to vote using a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot will be returned to the local board of canvassers where election officials will determine if you have already cast a mail ballot or if the provisional ballot should be counted.

See Rhode Island "[a mail ballot guide for Rhode Island Voters](#)"

**30. BALLOT DEADLINES: What is the deadline for the ballot to be postmarked and/or received by, including dropping it off in person?**

The ballot must be received by 8 PM on Election Day, November 3, 2020.

Mail ballot voters may hand-deliver their completed mail ballot (in the sealed envelopes) to any local board of canvassers.

All mail ballots must be received by the State Board of Elections at **2000 Plainfield Pike Cranston, RI 02921** by **8:00 P.M.** the night of the election.

**31. BALLOT DROP OFF LOCATIONS: What are the locations for dropping off a completed ballot (instead of mailing it)?**

If you cannot mail the ballot back in time, **utilize a Drop Box at these locations.**

Voters may utilize any drop box in any Rhode Island City/Town Hall. The drop box does not need to be in the City/Town where you reside and are registered. There are **drop boxes in every polling location.** Voters may place the completed oath envelope with the enclosed voted ballot in the drop box of his/her choosing.

**32. ASSISTANCE DROPPING OFF: Can someone drop off my completed ballot for me?**

Yes. Every mail ballot includes a postage paid return envelope so voters can easily return their mail ballot for free. If you don't want to mail your ballot, you can hand-deliver it to the Board of Elections, drop it in a secure 24-hour drop box, or you can give it to someone you trust to return for you. See Rhode Island "[a mail ballot guide for Rhode Island Voters](#)"

**33. IN PERSON ABSENTEE: Where do I vote in-person absentee?**

In the 20 days leading up to Election Day, you can vote in person at your city or town hall during their regular business hours.

**Early voting period for November 2020 General Election:** October 14 – November 2

Go to your [local board of canvassers](#) located in your city/town hall.

## HOW TO VOTE: ELECTION DAY

**34. HOURS: When do the polls open and close on Election Day? What if the polls are closing but I'm in line?**

The polls must be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on Election Day. The only exception is New Shoreham (Block Island), where the polls must be open from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time (except for presidential primaries, when New Shoreham polls must be open from 12:00 p.m.). A voter who is waiting in line by 8:00 p.m. must be allowed to vote. (Please note Burrillville, Charleston, Hopkinton, Jamestown, Richmond and Westerly open at 9:00 am in special elections, and Little Compton opens at 8:00 am for special elections.)<sup>xxv</sup>

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If you are a hotline volunteer and a polling place is not open at 7:00 a.m. (or 9:00 a.m. in New Shoreham), advise voters to stay at the polling location, and contact your hotline captain. The captain will contact the bipartisan pair of local Supervisors (“local Supervisors”) or local Board of Canvassers (“local Board”). If you are a field volunteer, contact the warden or moderator at the polling place. Then contact your command center and they will contact the local Supervisors or local Board.

If you are a hotline volunteer and a polling place prohibits those in line by 8:00 p.m. from voting, advise voters to stay in line, and contact your hotline captain. If you are a field volunteer, you should advise voters to stay in line, and you should speak with a poll worker or the warden or moderator at the polling place. Then contact your command center. The hotline captain or command center will contact the local Supervisors or local Board.

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn that a polling place prohibits those who were in line by the time the polls closed from voting, advise voters to stay at the polling location and contact your hotline captain immediately.

### 35. POLLING LOCATION: Where do I vote on Election Day?

You can find your polling place and your personal Voter Information Center:

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Home/UpdateVoterRecord?ActiveFlag=0>

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, many polling places have been moved or consolidated. Voters should be advised to check the polling place listed on the Voter Notification Card they received from the local election authority a few days before the election.

### 36. IDENTIFICATION: What identification is required to vote on Election Day? Can I vote without providing identification?

You will be asked to show a valid photo ID.

IDs must be valid and not have expired more than six (6) months prior to voting, but they do not need to have your current address.

Acceptable Photo IDs include:

- RI driver’s license/permit
- U.S. passport
- ID card issued by any federally recognized tribal government
- ID card issued by an educational institution in the U.S.
- U.S. military ID card
- ID card issued by the U.S. government or State of Rhode Island (RIPTA bus pass, etc.)
- Government issued medical card
- RI Voter ID card<sup>xxvi</sup>

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No eligible voter will be turned away at the polls. Voters who do not bring ID to the polls can vote using a standard provisional ballot, which will be counted if the signature they give at the polling place matches the signature on their voter registration card. See Rhode Island Voter ID Information: [https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Content/Pdfs/voter\\_id\\_information.pdf](https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Content/Pdfs/voter_id_information.pdf)

## POLLING PLACE ISSUES

### **37. POLLING PLACE NOT OPEN: The polling place is not open. What do I do?**

Call the Rhode Island Board of Elections at 401-222-2345.

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn of a polling place not opening on time or that is closed, notify your hotline captain immediately.

### **38. LONG LINES: There are long lines at the polling place. What do I do? What if the polls are closing while I'm in line?**

See Question 34 for answer, if voter is in line when polls are closing.

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn of long lines, notify your hotline captain immediately.

### **39. EQUIPMENT FAILURE: What should I do if there are equipment problems at my precinct?**

Rhode Island uses optical scan voting machines. Voters should immediately notify the election officers if the voting equipment breaks down while the polls are open. During the time in which an optical scan unit is not accepting ballots, a voter can place his or her voted paper ballots into a special ballot box.<sup>xxvii</sup>

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn of equipment not working properly at a polling place, notify your hotline captain immediately.

### **40. NO PPE/COVID: What if my polling place is not enforcing COVID-19 precautions or has run out of supplies?**

Rhode Island does not currently have any rules in place related to COVID-19 precautions or supplies but we would advise calling the Board of Elections at 401-222-2345.

### **41. EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE: I don't know how to use the voting equipment. Can I get help?**

If a voter needs assistance in casting the vote itself, and requests this assistance, two bipartisan Supervisors will instruct or assist the voter in the voting booth.<sup>xxviii</sup>

**42. PHYSICAL DISABILITY: I have a physical disability and need assistance. Will my polling place be accessible?**

Yes. All polling places in Rhode Island should be accessible to voters with disabilities and have voting equipment to accommodate voters who are blind, visually impaired, or have a disability or condition that makes it difficult to traditionally mark a ballot.<sup>xxix</sup> Every Rhode Island polling place is equipped with an AutoMARK, a machine designed to assist voters with disabilities to independently mark their ballots. Any voter who needs assistance with the AutoMARK should request assistance from the warden or the moderator.<sup>xxx</sup>

If a voter reports that the polling place is not accessible to the handicapped, call the warden or moderator, so they can report the problem immediately to the local Supervisors or local Board. For more information on accessibility and voting assistance, visit the Secretary of State's website at <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/AccessibleVoting>.

**43. READING/LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE: I am blind, have a physical disability, or cannot read English and require assistance in order to vote. Can I get assistance at the polls?**

Yes. Any voter who needs assistance voting is entitled to have some person of his or her choice, other than the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union, mark the voter's choices or assist the voter in marking his or her choices on the ballot. The voter and the person helping him or her will be asked to sign an affidavit stating that the voter requested assistance.<sup>xxxi</sup>

A voter may also request instructions or assistance in voting from a bipartisan pair of Supervisors.<sup>xxxii</sup>

For more information on accessibility and voting assistance, visit the Secretary of State's website at <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/AccessibleVoting>.

**44. CURBSIDE VOTING: When can I request curbside voting?**

Rhode Island does not currently have curbside voting.

**45. CAMPAIGNING: What rules apply to people campaigning or "hanging around" my polling place? Can people approach me?**

No person may display or distribute any campaign literature, political buttons or any other document designed to aid or defeat a candidate, political party or question on the ballot within 50 feet of the entrance(s) to the polling place. In addition, no person may conduct any form of poll or survey of voters within 50 feet of the entrance(s) to the polling place.<sup>xxxiii</sup>

**46. CHALLENGES: Someone is formally challenging my vote. What do I do?**

On Election Day, only an election official or a "watcher" designated by a political party can challenge a person's right to vote. Challenges must be made for good cause. Whenever the identity of any person offering to vote is challenged at the polling place, that person may still vote using a provisional ballot.

<sup>xxxiv</sup>

**47. POLICE/MILITARY PRESENCE: There are police/members of the military at the polling place. Is this okay? What do I do?**

General Laws 17-19-21 provides that police officers and other peace officers shall be present at each polling place as may be requested by the local board. However, voters have the right to vote without anyone intimidating them, trying to influence their vote or interfering with the process. See General Laws 17-19-49.

**\*Note to hotline volunteer:** If you learn of police/members of the military at the polling place, notify your hotline captain immediately.

**48. PROVISIONAL BALLOT: I have been offered a provisional ballot. What should I do?**

Ask why the voter was offered a provisional ballot. A voter should be offered a provisional ballot only when:

- The voter's name is (i) not on the list of eligible voters for the polling place in which he or she is seeking to vote or (ii) is listed in another district of the city/town, and his or her registration cannot be verified while at the polling place;
- An election official or a designated party representative at the polling place asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote based on good cause;
- The voter does not have proper photo identification, as explained in Question 36 above;
- The official list of registered voters indicates the voter has applied for a mail/emergency ballot.<sup>xxxv</sup>

Other than for these reasons, the voter should be able to cast a regular ballot.

If the voter casts a provisional ballot, remind the voter to ask a poll worker if any additional steps will be needed to make sure the ballot is counted. The voter should retain the provisional ballot receipt and receive a notice describing the process to determine if the provisional ballot is qualified.<sup>xxxvi</sup> The voter has the right to present written evidence supporting the right to vote by no later than 4:00 p.m. on the day following the election to the local Board.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

A voter can determine if his or her provisional ballot was counted by searching the status on the provisional ballot website ([http://www.ri.gov/election/provisional\\_ballots/](http://www.ri.gov/election/provisional_ballots/)) 48 hours after the election.<sup>xxxviii</sup> The voter will need to have his or her provisional ballot ID number (printed on provisional ballot receipt) and last name in order to access the information. The voter can also contact the local Board.

Be sure to note that provisional ballots are a last resort as there are many circumstances in which they are not counted. For instance, the ballot will be disqualified if the voter is not registered in the city or town in which the vote is cast, or if the voter is casting a provisional ballot for lack of photo ID and fails to present proper ID to the local Board by 4:00 p.m. on the day following the election.<sup>xxxix</sup>

The voter may then learn the disposition of the ballot by checking here:

[http://www.ri.gov/election/provisional\\_ballots/](http://www.ri.gov/election/provisional_ballots/), or by calling the Board of Elections at 401-222-2345.

## QUESTIONS

### **49. Who should I contact if I have questions about any of the above?**

Please contact the Rhode Island Secretary of State Voter Information Center: <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/> or call the Board of Elections at 401-222-2345.

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- i R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-9.1-3.
  - ii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-1-3; <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/RegisterToVote>.
  - iii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-1-3.1.
  - iv R.I. Const., Art. II, § 1.
  - v R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-9.2-3(a).
  - vi R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-9.2-3(c).
  - vii R.I. Const., Art. II, § 1.
  - viii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-24.1.
  - ix R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-1-3; R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Provisional Voting, 410-RICR-20-00-13, §13.5.2(A).
  - x R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-1-3; <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/RegisterToVote>.
  - xi R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-24.1.
  - xii R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 17-10-5(a), 17-10-6.
  - xiii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-10-11.
  - xiv R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-9.1-26; R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-10-1(b).
  - xv R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-10-1(c).
  - xvi R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-9.1-28; R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-9.1-26.
  - xvii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-22.
  - xviii R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Polling Place Conduct, 410 RICR 020-00-12, §12.6(C).
  - xix R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-27.
  - xx <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/PersonVotingPage>
  - xxi R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-24.2.
  - xxii R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 17-20-1, 17-20-2.
  - xxiii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-20-2.1.
  - xxiv R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-20-2.2.
  - xxv <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Elections/PollingPlaceHours>
  - xxvi R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-24.2.
  - xxvii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-20.
  - xxviii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-26.
  - xxix R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-3.2; <https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/AccessibleVoting>.
  - xxx <https://elections.ri.gov/voting/automark.php> .
  - xxxi R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-26.1.
  - xxxii R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-26.
  - xxxiii R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Polling Place Conduct, 410 RICR 20-00-12, §12.6(A); <https://elections.ri.gov/regulations/current.php>.
  - xxxiv R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-22; R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Polling Place Conduct, 410 RICR 20-00-12, §12.6(D).
  - xxxv R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-19-24.1; R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Provisional Voting, 410-RICR-20-00-13, §13.5.1(A).
  - xxxvi R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Provisional Voting, 410-RICR-20-00-13, §§13.5.2(A), 13.6.1(B).
  - xxxvii R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Provisional Voting, 410-RICR-20-00-13, §13.7(B).
  - xxxviii R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Provisional Voting, 410-RICR-20-00-13, §13.9(A).
  - xxxix R.I. Bd. of Elections, Rules & Regulations for Provisional Voting, 410-RICR-20-00-13, §13.5.2(A).