Frequently Asked Questions

Wisconsin – General Election 2026

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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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VOTER REGISTRATION

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Can I register to vote?

In general, a person is eligible to register to vote if they are:

- a United States citizen;
- 18 years old by Election Day; and
- a Resident of their election district or ward for at least 28 consecutive days prior to the election.[1] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, this deadline is Tuesday, October 6, 2026.

However, a person is *disqualified* from being eligible to register or vote in any of the following circumstances:

- Persons currently in prison on a felony, treason, or bribery conviction or still on parole, probation or on extended supervision for such a conviction ("on paper") may not register or vote unless

[1] Wis. Stat. § 6.02(1).

they have also received a pardon or completed their term of imprisonment or probation for the conviction that resulted in the disqualification.[2] See Question 12.

- Persons declared incompetent to vote by a state court due to being "incapable of understanding the objective of the elective process."[3]
    - However, individuals under guardianship do *not* automatically lose the right to vote.
    - Persons who have lost the right to vote under these voting-specific provisions may petition the court to restore their right to vote.[4]
    - Note: Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition is a non-partisan organization that provides resources to voters with disabilities, including assistance related to Competency, Guardianship, and Voting in Wisconsin.

- Any person who has placed a bet or wager on the election.[5]

2. **PRIMARY ELECTION:** Can I vote in the primary election? Do I need to be registered with a political party? Can I change my party registration to vote in another party's primary election? When I voted, the poll worker asked my party affiliation. Are they allowed to do that?

   In Wisconsin, any registered voter may participate in primary elections. Voters do not have to be registered with a political party to vote in a party's primary election. Wisconsin's voter registration process does not request party affiliation information.

   Polls workers generally should not ask about party affiliation because all voters will be provided with the ballots for each party. For presidential primary elections, each voter may be given a ballot for each party, or a ballot that includes both parties; BUT voters may only vote for one party.[6]

   For other partisan primaries, voters will be given a ballot that groups by partisan party each party's primary candidates. Voters must select which party's list of candidates they are casting votes from. Voters may cast partisan primary votes only for one party.[7] Voters may not vote for primary candidates from more than one party in a partisan primary.

3. **STATUS:** Am I registered to vote? What do I need to do if my name has changed since I registered? I am listed as inactive, what does that mean and what do I need to do?

   Voters can determine whether they are registered to vote by entering their first and last names and date of birth on Wisconsin's My Voter Info lookup tool on the MyVote Wisconsin website.

   Name Change: Voters who have legally changed their name since registration will need to update their voter record by submitting a new voter registration. See Question 4. Once re-registered under the changed name, the voter will need to show a photo ID with the new name to vote. See Question 19.

[2] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.03(1)(b), 304.078(3).
[3] Wis. Stat. § 6.03(1)(a), (3).
[4] Wis. Stat. § 54.64(2)(a).
[5] Wis. Stat. § 6.03(2).
[6] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.80(2)(am), 5.60(8)(am).
[7] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.80(2)(am), 5.62.

In Wisconsin, because it may take some time for a voter to receive proper documentation of their new legal name, a registered voter may continue to vote using their former name until the necessary documentation to re-register is received.[8]

Inactive: If a voter is listed as inactive, they will be required to re-register to vote. See Question 4. A voter can be placed on inactive status if they have not participated in an election for four or more consecutive year and do not respond within 30 days to a postcard sent by the Wisconsin Elections Commission advising the voter of their status.[9]

4. **HOW:** How do I register to vote? Can I register online? Do I need a printer? Can I register to vote in person?

Voters have four options for registration:

- *Online:* Persons eligible to register who have a current and valid Wisconsin driver license or Wisconsin state ID card may register online using the MyVote Wisconsin website voter registration form twenty (20) days or more before the election.[10] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the deadline to register online is 11:59 pm on Wednesday, October 14, 2026. To register online, the voter's name, date of birth, driver license or state ID number, and address must all match the information on file with the Wisconsin DMV. Electronic signatures are allowed.[11]

- *By Mail:* Voters may download and print a registration form from the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) website. Voters can also request that their municipal clerk's office mail them the form. The registration form must be completed, signed, and either mailed or delivered in person to the voter's municipal clerk, along with a "proof of residence" document. Contact information for municipal clerks can be found using the address lookup tool on the MyVote Wisconsin website.

    - *If returning by mail,* the completed and signed voter registration form must be postmarked no later than twenty (20) days before the election.[12] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the postmark deadline is Wednesday, October 14, 2026.
    - *If returned by a person other than the applicant* (e.g., family member, campaign volunteer, voter registration groups), the completed and signed voter registration form must be delivered to the municipal clerk's office no later than twenty (20) days before the election.[13] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the deadline is Wednesday, October 14, 2026.
    - *If returned in person by the voter*, the completed and signed voter registration form must be submitted to the municipal clerk's office by the close of business on the Friday before the election.[14] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the deadline is 5:00 pm or the close of business, whichever is later, on Friday, October 30, 2026.

[8] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 6 Voter Qualifications & Registration (June 2026) at 6-16.
[9] Wis. Stat. § 6.50.
[10] Wis. Stat. § 6.28(1); see WEC's Voter Registration and Proof of Residence information page.
[11] See Wisconsin Elections Commission November 3, 2023 Advisory Opinion.
[12] Wis. Stat. § 6.28(1).
[13] Wis. Stat. § 6.28(1); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 6 Voter Qualifications & Registration (June 2026) at 6-9.
[14] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.28, 6.29(2)(a).

- *In-person at municipal clerk's office or early voting location:* Voters may register in person in their municipal clerk's office or an Early Voting location during open hours until the Friday before the election.[15] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the deadline to register in person prior to Election Day is close of business or early voting on Friday, October 30, 2026. As part of the in-person registration process, voters must provide proof of residence. See Question 5.

- *In person on election day:* Voters may register at the polls on election day (also known as "same day registration").[16] As part of the in-person registration process, voters must provide proof of residence. See Question 5.

  Note: A registrant on Election Day must provide either a Wisconsin Driver's License number or DMV-issued ID Card number, or the last four digits of their Social Security Number.[17] If the registrant does not have either a Wisconsin Driver's License or DMV-issued ID Card and has not been issued a Social Security Number, they may indicate this by checking the box signifying they have none of these documents and, if all other registration requirements are met, must be permitted to vote.[18]

  - This does not require the registrant to show their license or card to the poll worker. The voter may write down or recite the number if they choose. A voter cannot be required to show their Driver's License, ID Card, or Social Security Card as a condition of registration, unless the voter is offering it as acceptable proof of residence.[19]
  - If the registrant is unwilling or unable to provide their unexpired and not cancelled Driver's License or DMV-issued ID Card number, and the lack of that number is the only missing item of information, they may vote provisionally. See Question 22.
  - If the registrant does not have a Wisconsin Driver's License or DMV-issued ID Card that is unexpired and not cancelled, they must provide the last four digits of their Social Security number.[20] Individuals who have an unexpired Wisconsin Driver's License or DMV-Issued ID Card may not use the last four digits of their Social Security number to register.

5. **IDENTIFICATION:** What ID is required to register to vote?

Photo ID is not required to register to vote. *Proof of residence is required to register to vote*.[21]

Documents submitted to provide proof of residence must include the voter's current name and address and must be valid at the time of registration. Examples include:[22]

- A WI Driver License/ID Card, if not expired or canceled; may be used even if driving privileges have been revoked;

[15] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.28, 6.29(2)(a).
[16] Wis. Stat. § 6.55(2).
[17] Wis. Stat. § 6.33(1); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-33. If the registrant has a Wisconsin Driver's License or DMV-Issued ID Card that is unexpired but does not have the number or expiration date readily available, they may call DMV at 608-266-1069, option 1, to look up the information.
[18] Wis. Admin. Code § EL 3.04(3).
[19] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.33(1), 6.34(2), (2m).
[20] Wis. Admin. Code § EL 3.04(3).
[21] Wis. Stat. § 6.34; see also WEC's Voter Registration and Proof of Residence information page.
[22] Wis. Stat. § 6.34(3).

- Any other official identification card or license issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit;
- An employee ID card with a photograph, but not a business card;
- A real property tax bill or receipt for the current year or the year preceding the date of the election;
- A residential lease (may not be used as proof of residence if elector submits form by mail);
- A photo ID from a university, college or technical college coupled with a fee receipt dated no earlier than 9 months before the election or an on-campus housing listing provided by the university, college or technical college;
- A utility (gas, electric, or telephone) bill for the period commencing not earlier than 90 days before the day registration is made;
- A contract/intake document prepared by a residential care facility (nursing home, assisted living) indicating that the occupant resides in the facility (only if registering at the facility);
- A bank/credit card statement;
- A paycheck/paystub;
- A check or other document issued by a unit of government;
- An ID card issued by a federally-recognized Native American tribe in Wisconsin; or
- For homeless voters only, a letter from an organization (on organization letterhead) that provides services to the homeless that identifies the voter and describes the location designated as the person's residence for voting purposes. See below for additional information to assist homeless or unhoused individuals seeking to vote.

Wisconsin Elections Commission's Voter Registration and Proof of Residence information page includes a Proof of Residence vs. Proof of Identification chart that details the requirements for different types of acceptable documentation for Proof of Residence to register to vote.

Note: Proof of *identification is not required to register* but is required to vote.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) website includes an Enabling Qualified Homeless Individuals to Vote information page.

- Unhoused individuals may designate a fixed location for their residence for voting purposes if it is an identifiable location in the state of Wisconsin that could conceivably serve as a temporary residence. This location may be a homeless shelter, a park bench, or other location where an unhoused individual may spend time or return to when absent.
- Post Office Boxes may *not* be used for registration.
- An unhoused individual may claim a shelter as their residence for voting purposes, notwithstanding any restriction in the shelter's rules prohibiting its use as a residence address. "Residence" for voting purposes is distinct from other types of residence.
- To establish that a voter without a traditional residence is qualified, the voter must produce a form of proof of residence with their name and residence for voting purposes. This proof of residence document can include a letter from a shelter or from a private or public-social service organization providing services for unhoused individuals. The letter should identify the individual and describe the location designated as the person's residence for voting purposes. The proof of residence should be on letterhead and signed by a person affiliated with the social services organization. A template for social service agency letters is available on the Wisconsin Elections Commission website.

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

   NOTE: Wisconsin has same day (Election Day) registration. See below and Question 7.

   Voter registration deadlines vary depending on how the registration form is submitted. The following deadlines apply for the Tuesday, November 3, 2026 General Election:[23]

   - Online registration: Must be submitted at least twenty (20) days before the election. For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the deadline is 11:59 pm on Wednesday, October 14, 2026.
   - Mail-in registration: Must be postmarked at least twenty (20) days before the election. For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the postmark deadline is Wednesday, October 14, 2026.
   - In-person registration at the voter's municipal clerk's office or at an early voting location: Must be delivered or completed *in person by the voter* by close of business or early voting on the Friday before the election. For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the deadline is Friday, October 30, 2026. Note: Some municipalities have early voting available on the Saturday and/or Sunday before Election Day; however, voter registration is *not* allowed.
   - Same-day Election Day registration: Available when polls are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

7. **SAME DAY:** Does my state have Same Day Registration? If so, what is the process?

   Yes. Persons eligible to register may do so on Election Day at their assigned polling place.[24] Voters must provide proof of residence to register. See Question 5.

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

   If a voter moved permanently 28 days or more before Election Day (on or before Tuesday, October 6, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election), their residence for purposes of voting in elections in Wisconsin is their new permanent residence. If a voter moved less than 28 days before Election Day, their residence for purposes of voting in elections in Wisconsin is their previous residence.[25]

   For General (November) Elections for president and vice president only, if the voter moved from another state and has been a resident of Wisconsin for less than 28 days before election day, they may vote for president and vice-president, but no other officers, in the Wisconsin polling place that corresponds with their new residence.[26] Voters choosing this option must complete a proscribed affidavit and request a presidential-only ballot from the municipal clerk (if registering in advance) or the polling place (if registering same-day).

   Voters may register at the polls on Election Day in Wisconsin.

   The table below provides some examples of where and how a resident who has recently moved may

[23] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.28(1), 6.29(2)(a)), 6.55; see WEC's Upcoming Events calendar.
[24] Wis. Stat. § 6.55.
[25] Wis. Stat. § 6.10(1), (3).
[26] Wis. Stat. § 6.15.

vote.[27]

Moved within the same ward	**Moved to a different ward or municipality**	**Moved from another state TO Wisconsin**	**Moved FROM Wisconsin to another state**
The voter should re-register to vote at the new address. Same day re-registration is available if the voter missed other voter registration deadlines.	If the voter moved at least 28 days before the election (for the November 3, 2026 General Election, on or before Tuesday, October 6, 2026), the voter should register to vote at their new address. If the voter moved *within Wisconsin* less than 28 days before the election (for the November 3, 2026 General Election, after Tuesday, October 6, 2026), the voter may vote by absentee ballot (either by mail or during early voting) or in-person on election day at the polling place for their *former* address.	If the voter moved to Wisconsin less than 28 days before the election (for the November 3, 2026 General Election, after Tuesday, October 6, 2026), the voter is not eligible to register to vote in Wisconsin. For General Elections for president and vice president ONLY, a voter who moved to Wisconsin less than 28 days before the election may cast a presidential only ballot after completing a proscribed affidavit at the municipal clerk's office or polling location for their new residence. Voters may also wish to check whether they remain eligible to vote in their former state of residence.	If the voter moved from Wisconsin more than 28 days before the election (for the November 3, 2026 General Election, before Tuesday, October 6, 2026), the voter is not eligible to register to vote in Wisconsin. For General Elections for president and vice president ONLY, if a voter was (1) qualified to vote in Wisconsin but (2) moved within 24 months of the election, and (3) is not eligible to vote in their new state of residence, they may complete a proscribed affidavit and request an absentee ballot for the presidential election only from the municipal clerk of their former residence.[28]

9. **TEMPORARY MOVE:** I have moved temporarily. How can I vote?

A temporary move does not affect a voter's residence if they plan to return to their permanent residence.[29] Voters may vote by absentee ballot (either by mail or during early voting) or at the polling place on election day for their permanent residence address. The voter can request the absentee by mail ballot be sent to any other address.[30]

[27] Wis. Stat. § 6.10(3) (elector residence).
[28] Wis. Stat. § 6.18.
[29] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.10(5), 6.10(8).
[30] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(3)(a).

10. **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 a student otherwise meets the requirements to register to vote (including the requirement for residence at least 28 days before an election), they may register in the municipality in which they have resided while attending school.[31] An unmarried student who lives at their parent's residence in Wisconsin for part of the year may choose to register or remain registered at their parent's residence instead.[32] Taking classes remotely has no effect on registration eligibility. Students may vote by absentee ballot or at the polling place for their residence.

    Wisconsin Elections Commission's website includes a Student Residency Guide with Q&A's.

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

    Wisconsin's MyVote Wisconsin website includes detailed information on voting options and FAQs for military and overseas (permanent and temporary) voters. The Wisconsin Elections Commission website includes an information page for military and overseas voters.

    Military Voters:

    A Military Voter must meet one of the following criteria:[33]

    - An *active-duty* member of one of the seven uniformed services;
    - A civilian employee of the United States, or attached to a uniform service, serving outside of the US;
    - An active member of the Merchant Marines;
    - A Peace Corp Volunteer; or
    - A spouse or dependent of someone in an above category, absent from the US due to member's active duty or service.

    If a voter is unsure whether they qualify for military voter status, they should contact their municipal clerk or the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) *before* requesting an absentee ballot as a military voter. WEC can be reached at 608-266-8005 or elections@wi.gov.

    Military Voters have three options available to *request* an absentee ballot. As part of the request process, Military Voters can choose to *receive* the absentee ballot by mail or electronically by email or fax from their municipal clerk's office. Note: Downloading an electronic absentee ballot from the MyVote Wisconsin website is no longer an option as of May 2026.[34]

    - Online through MyVote Wisconsin's absentee by mail request form;
    - By notifying their municipal clerk in writing (by mail, email or fax) that they are a Military Voter and are requesting an absentee ballot; or

[31] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.10(4), 6.10(12).
[32] Wis. Stat. § 6.10(4).
[33] Wis. Stat. § 6.22(1).
[34] The Wisconsin Elections Commission removed that functionality from the MyVote website because that process relied on PDF-based ballots that do not meet web content accessibility guidelines newly required by federal law. WEC is working on making this functionality compliant. Military voters can receive compliant electronic ballots by fax or email. See WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-74.

- By completing a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and mailing, faxing, or emailing it to their municipal clerk. The FPCA and instructions for completing it can be accessed on the Federal Voting Assistance Program website Wisconsin page.

Although Military Voters are exempt from voter registration requirements,[35] they still need to provide information similar to that required for voter registration in order to ensure they receive the correct ballot. Military Voters are exempt from providing proof of identification when voting absentee by mail.[36]

Military Voters may request a regular absentee ballot at any time but a municipal clerk may not transmit a regular absentee ballot if the request is received after 5:00 pm on the Friday before an election (after 5:00 pm central time on Friday, October 30, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[37] *Mailed* requests by Military Voters must be received by the municipal clerk by 5:00 pm on the Friday before an election.[38]

When a general or primary election includes federal offices on the ballot, Military Voters who are requesting an absentee ballot close to or past the regular deadline of the Friday before the election, or who may not have reliable or fast mail systems may opt to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to vote. The FWAB may also be used as backup if a requested regular absentee ballot has not been received in time. The MyVote Wisconsin website includes a FWAB information guide. Military Voters may request a FWAB from their municipal clerk to vote absentee until 5:00 pm on Election Day.[39] The FWAB is available on the Federal Voting Assistance Program website Wisconsin page.

Completed absentee ballots and federal write-in absentee ballots (FWABs) must be *received* by the voter's municipal clerk's office by 8:00 pm on Election Day.[40]

Note: Military voters may choose, at their own expense, to utilize expedited delivery services, including a private mail carrier, to return their completed ballot to the municipal clerk's office.[41]

Wisconsin does *not* allow completed absentee ballots to be returned electronically or by email.[42]

Overseas Voters:

Overseas voters may register to vote by downloading a registration form from the State Elections Commission website and returning it to the municipal clerk's office where they last resided prior to moving overseas,[43] by submitting an electronic application through the MyVote Wisconsin website, or by completing a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and mailing, faxing, or emailing it to their municipal clerk. An FPCA may be used as both a registration form and an absentee ballot request.[44] The FPCA and

[35] Wis. Stat. § 6.22(3).
[36] Wis. Stat. § 6.34(2).
[37] Wis. Stat. § 6.22(4)(b).
[38] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(c).
[39] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.25(1)(a), 6.86(1)(b).
[40] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(6).
[41] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-77, 7-82. Confirmed in July 8, 2026 phone call with Wisconsin Elections Commission voter helpline that any absentee voter may do so. WEC suggests that voters choosing to do so obtain a tracking number.
[42] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.87(3)(d), 6.87(6).
[43] Wis. Stat. § 6.24(3). A person eligible to register in Wisconsin who has never resided in the United States should register to vote using the Wisconsin address where their parent(s) last resided prior to permanently moving overseas.
[44] Wis. Stat. § 6.24(4).

instructions for completing it can be accessed on the Federal Voting Assistance Program website Wisconsin page.

Voters who are *abroad temporarily* must provide proof of residency (or, if registering online, voters may instead provide either their name, date of birth and their Wisconsin driver's license or state ID number).

Permanent overseas voters (who do not intend to return to Wisconsin) do not need to provide proof of residency.[45] Permanent overseas voters are eligible to vote in federal elections only.

Additional information is available on the MyVote Wisconsin website for permanent overseas voters and temporary overseas voters.

The deadline to register by mail or electronically is twenty days before the election.[46] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, the deadline to register online is 11:59 pm central time on Wednesday, October 14, 2026. A mailed registration form, or a FPCA that is being returned by mail, must be postmarked by Wednesday, October 14, 2026.

Overseas voters have three options available to *request* an absentee ballot. As part of the request process, Overseas Voters can choose to *receive* the absentee ballot by mail or electronically by email or fax from their municipal clerk's office. Note: Downloading an electronic absentee ballot from the MyVote Wisconsin website is no longer an option as of May 2026.[47]

- Online through MyVote Wisconsin's absentee by mail request form;
- By notifying their municipal clerk in writing (by mail, email or fax) that they are an overseas voter and are requesting an absentee ballot; or
- By completing a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and mailing, faxing, or emailing it to their municipal clerk. The FPCA and instructions for completing it can be accessed on the Federal Voting Assistance Program website Wisconsin page.

Absentee ballot requests must be received by 5:00 pm central time on the 5th day before an election (Thursday, October 29, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[48] *Permanent* overseas electors are exempt from providing proof of identification when voting absentee by mail.[49]

When a general or primary election includes federal offices on the ballot, overseas voters who are requesting a regular absentee ballot close to the deadline, or who may not have reliable or fast mail systems may opt to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to vote. The FWAB may also be used as backup by overseas voters if a requested regular absentee ballot has not been received in time. The MyVote Wisconsin website includes a FWAB information guide. The FWAB is available on the Federal Voting Assistance Program website Wisconsin page. FWAB requests by overseas voters must be received by 5:00 pm on the 5th day before an election (Thursday, October 29, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).

[45] Wis. Stat. § 6.34.
[46] Wis. Stat. § 6.28(1).
[47] The Wisconsin Elections Commission removed that functionality from the MyVote website because that process relied on PDF-based ballots that do not meet web content accessibility guidelines newly required by federal law. WEC is working on making this functionality compliant. Overseas voters can receive compliant electronic ballots by fax or email. See WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-74.
[48] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(b).
[49] Wis. Stat. § 6.34(2).

Completed absentee ballots and federal write-in absentee ballots must be *received* by the voter's municipal clerk's office by 8:00 pm on Election Day.[50]

Overseas voters may choose, at their own expense, to utilize expedited delivery services, including a private mail carrier, to return their completed ballot to the municipal clerk's office.[51]

Note: Wisconsin does *not* allow completed absentee ballots to be *returned* electronically or by email.[52]

12. **CRIMINAL CONVICTION:** I have a felony criminal conviction. Can I register to vote? Does the type of conviction matter? Are there any restrictions after any misdemeanor convictions? What process (if any) is needed to restore my right to vote if it was impacted?

A person convicted of a felony, treason, or bribery offense who is currently incarcerated or on parole, probation or extended supervision for such a conviction is ***not eligible*** to vote.[53]

A person convicted of a felony becomes ***eligible*** *t*o vote again ***only*** when they complete the terms of their sentence, including any term of probation or extended supervision.

A person convicted of a misdemeanor, not a felony, is eligible to vote (including most people incarcerated at county jails and individuals who were convicted of a felony and a misdemeanor, but have served the entire sentence for the felony, and are still in jail or prison for the misdemeanor).

Wisconsin state case law suggests that out-of-state criminal offenses should be treated the same way as in-state offenses.[54]

No process is needed to restore the right to vote for someone convicted of a felony, treason, or bribery offense. The right to vote is automatically restored to a person convicted of a felony, treason, or bribery offense once they are either pardoned or complete the sentence's term of incarceration, parole, probation, and extended supervision.[55] Wisconsin Elections Commission guidance for ex-felons and incarcerated individuals is available here. Persons should check their registration and register or re-register as needed. See Question 3 and Question 4

Owed restitution alone does not prevent a person from being eligible to vote.[56] However, if restitution is owed, it may be converted into extended supervision, which can disenfranchise a person.[57] Owed

[50] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(6).
[51] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-77, 7-82. Confirmed in July 8, 2026 phone call with Wisconsin Elections Commission voter helpline that any absentee voter may do so. WEC suggests that voters choosing to do so obtain a tracking number.
[52] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.87(3)(d), 6.87(6).
[53] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.03(1)(b), 304.078(3).
[54] See *Willan v. Brereton*, 617 N.W. 2d 907 (Wis. App. 2000) (per curiam) (holding that an out-of-state civil rights restoration order does not provide for a person with a felony conviction to hold public office in Wisconsin because a Wisconsin pardon is required); *Moran v. Wis. Dep't of Just.*, 932 N.W. 2d 430, 443 (Wis. App. 2019) (holding that an out-of-state pardon does not provide for a person with a felony conviction to own a firearm in Wisconsin where a state pardon is required).
[55] Wis. Stat. § 304.078(3).
[56] Wis. Stat. § 973.09(3)(b).
[57] Wis. Stat. §§ 973.09(3)(b), 973.20(1r) ("Restitution order under this section is a condition of probation, extended supervision, or parole served by the defendant for a crime for which the defendant was convicted.").

restitution may also be converted into a civil judgment, which does not disenfranchise a person. Whether owed restitution is turned into extended supervision or a civil judgment depends on a recommendation from the parole officer and requires judicial approval.

Note: In 2025, the Wisconsin Legislature passed AB 87, which would have required voters with felony convictions to pay all outstanding legal fees before their right to vote was restored, but the Governor vetoed the bill[58] and it did *not* become law.

A person may use the terms "on paper" and "off paper" to refer to their criminal justice history. "On paper" generally refers to a person who has not completed their full sentence and has not been fully discharged from the sentence. "Off paper" generally refers to a person who has completed terms of probation, parole, or extended supervision and has been fully discharged from a sentence. These terms are not always used uniformly.

13. **INCARCERATED:** I am currently incarcerated. Can I register to vote? Can I vote from jail?

Eligible incarcerated voters with a criminal history, see Question 12, may register and vote from jail. Persons currently incarcerated for a felony, treason, or bribery offense conviction, or on parole, probation or extended supervision for such a conviction are *ineligible* to vote.

Eligible incarcerated voters may register and vote from jails. Wisconsin Elections Commission Guidance for ex-felons and incarcerated individuals is available here. The WEC advises incarcerated voters to use the address they resided at prior to their incarceration as their voter residence. Voters should not use a jail or prison address as a voter residence. However, voters may use the address of a half-way house.[59] Voters who wish to receive election mail at their facility should list the jail's address as the mailing address. Voters should include their inmate number on the mailing address line to expedite the mailing process.

An incarcerated person may vote with an absentee ballot, but they are not considered "indefinitely confined" to receive absentee ballots permanently.[60] Photo identification is required to request an absentee ballot, so the WEC recommends that incarcerated voters ask staff to make a copy of any identification voters were detained with to include with their ballot request.[61]

14. **REGISTRATION CHALLENGED:** My registration has been challenged, what should I do?

See Question 72.

HOW TO VOTE: ELECTION DAY

[58] See A.B. 85 (2025), https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/proposals/ab85 for the bill that did not become law.
[59] WEC, Ex-Felons and Incarcerated Voters (2019), https://elections.wi.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ex_felons_incarcerated_voters_wi_voter_guide_pdf_42117.pdf.
[60] *Id.*
[61] *Id.*

15. **HOURS:** When do the polls open/close on Election Day?

    Polling places are open on Election Day from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm Central Time.[62]

16. **POLLING LOCATION:** Where do I vote on Election Day?

    Voters can find their polling location by entering their residential address on the find my polling place tool on the State's MyVote Wisconsin website.

    Polling place information is also available through the my voter info tool on that website with the voter's first and last names and date of birth.

17. **TIME OFF WORK:** Is my employer required to give me time off to vote? Is it paid or unpaid?

    Voters are permitted time off to vote while polls are open for up to three successive hours, if the voter gives the employer notice before election day. The employer may designate the time of day for the voter's time off. Voters do not need to be paid for the time taken to vote.[63]

18. **CLOSING:** What if the polls close when I am already in line?

    A voter who is waiting to vote, whether within the booth or in the line outside the booth at the time that the polls officially close, shall be permitted to vote.[64]

19. **IDENTIFICATION:** What identification is required to vote?

    Wisconsin voters must provide proof of photographic identification to vote.[65] The identification must: (1) conform to the voter's name on the voter registration list, and (2) contain a photograph that reasonably resembles the voter. Acceptable IDs include the following:[66]

    - A Wisconsin driver license or identification card that is unexpired, or that expired after the date of the most recent general election (November 5, 2024). Voters may also use a Wisconsin driver license or identification card without a photo issued under a religious exemption.
    - An ID issued by a U.S. uniformed service that is unexpired, or that expired after the date of the most recent general election (November 5, 2024).
    - A U.S. passport that is unexpired, or that expired after the date of the most recent general election (November 5, 2024).
    - A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented (November 3, 2024).
    - An identification card issued by a federally-recognized Native American tribe in Wisconsin (regardless of expiration date).
    - An ID issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college that contains date of issuance, signature of student, and an expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance. If the ID has expired the ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves current enrollment.

[62] Wis. Stat. § 6.78.
[63] Wis. Stat. § 6.76.
[64] Wis. Stat. § 6.78.
[65] Wis. Stat. § 6.79(2)(a). Wis. Const. art. III, § 1m.
[66] Wis. Stat. §§ 5.02(6m); 5.02(16c).

- A veteran's photo ID card issued by the Veterans Health Administration.
- An unexpired Wisconsin driver license or unexpired Wisconsin identification card receipt.
- A Wisconsin temporary identification card receipt issued through the Identification Petition Process (which voters who apply for an ID card at DMV, but do not have documents like birth certificates, receive).

Detailed information about the ID requirement for voting and options to comply with it is available on Wisconsin Elections Commission's Photo ID - Bring It To The Ballot information page. This website page includes info on how to get a free photo ID for voting.[67] Persons who have a sincere religious objection to being photographed may obtain from the Wisconsin DMV a Wisconsin Driver License or State ID Card Without a Photo as Photo ID for Voting.

Resources on the WEC website include a Proof of Residence vs. Proof of Identification chart that details the requirements for different types of acceptable documentation for Proof of Identification to vote.

Note: proof of *residence is not required to vote* but is required to register to vote.

Note: Under state law, as part of the photo ID verification process, voters are required to state their full name and address before receiving their ballot. If a voter is unable to state their name and address, an election official or person of the voter's choosing will state that information out loud after the official verifies the photo identification.[68]

Voters who are registered under a confidential listing are not required to state their information. Instead, they may present their confidential listing identification card issued by their municipal clerk or their name and confidential listing identification number.[69]

20. **NO IDENTIFICATION:** Can I vote without providing identification?

If a voter is unable or unwilling to provide the required proof of identification at the polling place on Election Day, they may vote provisionally.[70] See Question 22.

In all elections except presidential elections, the provisional ballot will not be counted unless the voter can provide proof of identification at the polls, before they close on election night, or at the municipal clerk's office or the board of election commissioners no later than 4:00 pm on the Friday after the election (November 6 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[71] For presidential elections, that deadline is not later than noon on the Friday after Election Day.[72]

[67] Information on acceptable documents that can be used to obtain an ID for voting are available on the Wisconsin DMV website at Acceptable documents for proof of name and date of birth and Acceptable documents for proof of WI residency for DMV issued ID cards.
[68] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.79(2)(a), 6.79(8), Wis. Const. art. III, § 1m; see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-65 to 14-66.
[69] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.79(2)(a), 6.79(6), 6.47 (2), (3); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-66, 14-85 to 14-86.
[70] Wis. Stat. § 6.97.
[71] Wis. Stat. § 6.97.
[72] 2025 Wisconsin Act 214 amending Wis. Stat. § 6.97 (3) (b); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin: Part 15 Post-Election Activities (June 2026) at 15-5.

21. **NOT ON ROLLS AT MY POLLING PLACE:** I am at my polling place but am not showing up on the voter registration roll. Can I vote where I am?

    Voters may vote only at their assigned polling place (or the polling place assigned to their residential address).[73] However, a person who is at the correct polling place for their residential address may submit same-day voter registration and vote even if they are not on the rolls, provided they meet registration requirements.

    A provisional ballot may *not* be used when a voter is at the wrong polling place. Instead, the voter should be directed to the correct polling place.

22. **GIVEN PROVISIONAL BALLOT:** I am being told I have to vote provisionally, what does that mean?

    In Wisconsin, provisional ballots are used in *only* two situations:[74]

    - If an individual who attempts to register to vote at the polling place on Election Day (see Question 4) has been issued a Wisconsin Driver's License or Wisconsin DMV Issued Identification Card that is not expired or canceled, even if driving privileges have been revoked or suspended, but is unwilling or unable to provide the license or state identification card number, and the lack of that number is the only missing item of information, the individual may vote provisionally.

    - If an elector is required to provide proof of identification and is unable or unwilling to provide the required proof of identification at the polling place on election day, they may vote provisionally.

    As part of the provisional ballot process, the voter will be required to affirm in a statement on the envelope for the provisional ballot that they are a qualified voter for that precinct and are eligible to vote in the election. Once the voter has completed the ballot, it will be placed in the marked envelope and then into a separate carrier envelope. The polling place officials are required to provide the voter with written information on what the voter needs to provide to have their vote counted.[75]

    In all elections except presidential elections, the provisional ballot will not be counted unless the voter can provide the required information at the polls, before they close on election night, or at the municipal clerk's office or the board of election commissioners no later than 4:00 pm on the Friday after the election (November 6 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[76] For presidential elections, that deadline is not later than noon on the Friday after Election Day.[77]

23. **REQUESTING PROVISIONAL BALLOT:** I am being told I can't vote, can I vote provisionally?

    In Wisconsin, provisional ballots are used in *only* two situations. See Question 22.

[73] Wis. Stat. § 6.77.
[74] Wis. Stat. § 6.97; see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-95 to 14-96.
[75] Wis. Stat. § 6.97; see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-96 to 14-98.
[76] Wis. Stat. § 6.97; see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-98 to 14-99, Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin: Part 15 Post-Election Activities (June 2026) at 15-5.
[77] 2025 Wisconsin Act 214 amending Wis. Stat. § 6.97 (3) (b); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin: Part 15 Post-Election Activities (June 2026) at 15-5.

Voters may vote only at their assigned polling place (or the polling place assigned to their residential address).[78] However, a person who is at the correct polling place for their residential address may submit same-day voter registration and vote even if they are not on the rolls, provided they meet registration requirements.

A provisional ballot may *not* be used when a voter is at the wrong polling place. Instead, the voter should be directed to the correct polling place.[79]

24. **PROVISIONAL BALLOT NEXT STEPS:** I voted a provisional ballot, what now?

Polling place officials are required to provide a voter that completes a provision ballot with written information on what the voter needs to provide to have their vote counted.[80]

In all elections except presidential elections, voters that completed a provisional ballot must provide the missing documentation or information at the polls, before they close on election night, or at the municipal clerk's office or the board of election commissioners no later than 4:00 pm on the Friday after the election (November 6 for the November 3, 2026 General Election) for their ballot to be counted.[81] For presidential elections, that deadline is not later than noon on the Friday after Election Day.[82]

HOW TO VOTE: IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING

(in this state defined as: in-person absentee voting)

25. **AVAILABILITY:** Is there early voting in my state (whether called early voting or in person absentee voting)?

Wisconsin allows early voting (also known as in-person absentee voting).

Each city, village, and town in Wisconsin is responsible for setting the dates for in-person absentee voting in their municipality within the allowed early in-person voting period. Early in-person voting may begin no earlier than 14 days before an election and must end no later than the Sunday before the election (Tuesday, October 20 to Sunday, November 1 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[83]

[78] Wis. Stat. § 6.77.
[79] Wis. Stat. § 6.55(3)(a); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-96.
[80] Wis. Stat. § 6.97; see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-98, item 9.
[81] Wis. Stat. § 6.97; see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-98 to 14-99, Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin: Part 15 Post-Election Activities (June 2026) at 15-5.
[82] 2025 Wisconsin Act 214 amending Wis. Stat. § 6.97 (3) (b); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin: Part 15 Post-Election Activities (June 2026) at 15-5.
[83] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.86(1)(b).

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

    No. A voter does not need a reason to vote early.

27. **WHEN:** When does early voting begin/end?

    Each municipality determines its hours for early voting within the allowed in-person absentee (early) voting period. In-person absentee voting may begin no earlier than 14 days before an election and must end no later than the Sunday before the election (Tuesday, October 20 to Sunday, November 1 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[84]

    Voters can find information on where and when they can in-person absentee (early) vote on the MyVote Wisconsin website Vote Absentee in Person page and/or by contacting their municipal clerk.

    Note: Persons needing to register may do so at an in-person absentee (early) voting location through the Friday before the election.[85] For the November 3, 2026 General Election, this date is Friday, October 30, 2026. Some municipalities have in-person absentee (early) voting available on the Saturday and/or Sunday before Election Day; however, voter registration is *not* allowed. Registration is available on Election Day. See Question 6.

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

    Voters can find information on where and when they can in-person absentee (early) on the MyVote Wisconsin website Vote Absentee in Person page and/or by contacting their municipal clerk.

29. **IDENTIFICATION:** What identification is required for early voting? What if I don't have an ID?

    Wisconsin voters must provide proof of photographic identification to vote.[86] See Question 19.

30. **ASSISTANCE:** What if I need assistance voting early in person?

    See the Accessibility/Assistance section beginning at Question 76. See also the Wisconsin Elections Commission information page on Accessible Voting and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

    Voters may wish to contact their municipal clerk's office in advance if they need accommodations such as curbside voting to vote early in person absentee to confirm that the office will have sufficient staffing to do so when the voter arrives.

HOW TO VOTE: VOTE BY MAIL

(in this state defined as: vote by absentee ballot by mail)

[84] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(b).
[85] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.28(1), 6.29(2)(a)).
[86] Wis. Stat. § 6.79(2)(a).

31. **AUTOMATIC MAIL BALLOT:** Will I automatically be sent a ballot in the mail?

Generally, Wisconsin voters must request an absentee ballot. Any registered voter may request an absentee by mail ballot. Voters should request their absentee ballots as soon as possible.

Within a calendar year, voters may make a single request that they automatically be provided with an absentee ballot for all elections during that single calendar year.[87]

Voters who are indefinitely confined due to age, physical illness, infirmity, or disability may request that they be sent an absentee ballot automatically for each election during their indefinite confinement.[88]

- Designation of indefinitely confined status is for each individual voter to make based upon the voter's current circumstance. It does not require permanent or total inability to travel outside of the residence. The designation is appropriate for electors who are indefinitely confined because of age, physical illness or infirmity or are disabled for an indefinite period. For additional details, see Wisconsin Elections Commission's Indefinitely Confined Voters information page.[89]
- Indefinitely confined voters will receive absentee ballots automatically for all elections until they fail to return a ballot or they notify their municipal clerk that they are no longer indefinitely confined.[90]

32. **ELIGIBILITY:** Do I need a specific reason to vote by mail?

No. Anyone qualified to vote in Wisconsin may vote absentee ballot by mail.[91]

Special Voting Deputies for Certain Residential Care Facilities and Retirement Homes

Wisconsin municipalities have the option to conduct absentee voting in person at certain residential care and retirement home facilities for voters who are occupants of the facility.[92] If the municipality opts to conduct in-person absentee voting at a facility, *residents who are registered to vote using the facility's address and have applied for absentee ballots online, by email, mail, or fax*, will be delivered ballots by a pair of Special Voting Deputies (SVDs) appointed for this purpose. These residents will be able to vote and then return their ballots to the SVDs who will bring the completed ballots to the municipal clerk.[93] Each municipality that provides this service is required to provide public notice, including on their website, as well as notice to residents of the facility. This notice will include information about the date and time of visits by SVDs to the facility.[94] Alternatively, voters at facilities scheduled for SVD visits can choose to vote in person at their assigned polling location on election day or at an in-person absentee location during their municipality's early voting period. If the voter maintains a residence outside the facility, they may apply for and cast an absentee by mail ballot at that residence.[95] Voters residing in facilities visited by Special Voting Deputies or certain care facilities may qualify for an exception to the

[87] Wis. Stat. § 6.85, 6.86(2m).
[88] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(2)(a). Note: Incarcerated individuals are not considered indefinitely confined for absentee ballot purposes. If they are eligible to vote (i.e., not serving time for a felony, treason, or bribery), they must apply for a regular absentee mail-in ballot.
[89] https://elections.wi.gov/indefinitely-confined-voters
[90] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(2)(a), (b).
[91] Wis. Stat. § 6.20.
[92] Wis. Stat. § 6.875(2).
[93] Wis. Stat. § 6.875(4)(at).
[94] Wis. Stat. § 6.875(6)(a).
[95] Wis. Stat. § 6.875(4)(ar).

photo ID requirement when voting by absentee ballot. For more information, see Wisconsin Elections Commission's What Voters in Residential Care Facilities Need to Know information page.[96]

Further details, including whether a particular care facility will be scheduled for SVD visits can be obtained by contacting the voter's municipal clerk's office. SVD visits to care facilities can begin the 4th Monday before the election and must be completed by the 6th working day before the election (October 12, 2026 and October 26, 2026, respectively, for the November 3, 2026, General Election). The municipal clerk must post prior notice of absentee voting at a care facility at least 5 working days before a visit.

33. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** What is the deadline for requesting a mail-in ballot?

Voters should request their absentee ballots as soon as possible. Completed, returned absentee ballots must be received by the municipal clerk's office by 8:00 pm on Election Day.

Receipt deadlines for absentee ballot requests are as follows:

- Requests from regular voters must be received by 5:00 pm on the fifth day before the election (**Thursday, October 29, 2026** for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[97]
    - Voters should be strongly urged to not wait that long.
    - While that is the technical legal deadline, there is a strong possibility that requests submitted that late will not be able to be processed in time for the voter to receive the ballot and return it by Election Day.
- The receipt deadline for Qualified Military Voters (including their spouse and dependents) submitting requests *by mail* for absentee ballots is 5:00 pm on the Friday before the election (Friday, October 30, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[98] See Question 11.
- Qualified Military Voters (including their spouse and dependents) have until 5:00 pm on Election Day to request an absentee ballot (by methods other than mail) if general or primary election includes federal offices on the ballot *and* the voter opts to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to vote.[99] See Question 11.
- The deadline for indefinitely confined voters to request an absentee ballot by mail is 5:00 pm on the Friday before the election (Friday, October 30, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[100]
- Hospitalized and sequestered juror electors have until 5:00 pm on Election Day to make a request for an absentee ballot.[101] See Question 52.

34. **APPLICATION ASSISTANCE:** Can someone assist me with filling out the application?

Yes. Individuals who cannot read or write, or who have difficulty reading, writing or understanding English, or who are physically disabled, may choose to be assisted by anyone of their choosing (except the voter's employer, agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor organization representing the voter).[102]

[96] https://elections.wi.gov/what-voters-residential-care-facilities-need-know
[97] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(b).
[98] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(c).
[99] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(b).
[100] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(2)(a).
[101] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.86(1)(b), 6.86(3)(c).
[102] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(5).

However, persons other than the voter cannot deliver to the Clerk's office in-person an absentee ballot application for another individual, see Question 35, unless that voter qualifies for an Emergency absentee ballot, see Question 52. Instead, such regular requests for an absentee ballot must be submitted online or by mail, email, or facsimile. See Question 35.

NOTE: Current Wisconsin law prohibits use of email to send absentee ballots to voters, except for military and overseas voters.[103]

35. **APPLICATION RETURN:** How do I submit my mail-in ballot application? Can someone return it for me? Does it have to be postmarked by a specific date?

Voters should request their absentee ballots as soon as possible. Voters may request a by-mail absentee ballot in one of the following ways:

- Online using the Vote by Absentee by Mail tool on the MyVote Wisconsin website.
- Requesting that their municipal clerk's office send them an absentee ballot request form, and completing and mailing, e-mailing, or faxing it to the clerk's office.[104]
- Downloading and completing an absentee ballot request form (available in English, Spanish, and Hmong) and mailing, e-mailing, or faxing it to their municipal clerk.
- Mailing, e-mailing or faxing a request to their municipal clerk. The request should include (1) the voter's full name, (2) Wisconsin voting address, (3) the specific election (e.g., November 3, 2026 General Election) or current calendar year for which the voter wishes absentee ballot(s); and (4) mailing address; and (5) proof of identification.
    - Note: An absentee ballot request submitted by a voter via fax or email does not have to contain the signature of the voter to be valid. The voter's signature on the absentee certificate envelope satisfies the signature.[105]

- In-person by the voter themselves at their municipal clerk's office.
    - *However,* completed applications for absentee ballots will not be accepted in-person from a voter until 14 days before an election (Tuesday, October 20 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[106]
    - Prior to this 14 day period, persons can request a paper application for an absentee ballot at their clerk's office. But the clerk's office cannot accept a completed application in person at that time. Instead, they will advise the voter that the completed application can be mailed to the clerk's office or an application can be completed online via the MyVoteWI website.[107]
    - A clerk's office can accept *in-person* a completed absentee ballot request from a voter *only* during the in-person absentee voting period that starts no earlier than 14 days before an election (Tuesday, October 20 for the November 3, 2026, General Election). This is the only time period in which a clerk may accept an absentee ballot request from

[103] Note: On August 4, 2026, a Wisconsin Circuit Court ruled that Wisconsin's absentee ballot program, which requires voters to complete and return a ballot on paper, denies disabled people the equal opportunity to vote absentee privately and independently. However, the judge declined to order elections officials to offer electronic ballots to qualified disabled voters, saying the parties still disputed whether that was a reasonable remedy. Trial is scheduled for 2027. Disability Rights Wisconsin v. Wisconsin Elections Commission, Dane County Cir. Ct. 2024CV001141.
[104] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(b).
[105] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(ac).
[106] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(a)2, (ar), (b).
[107] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-4 to 7-5.

the voter in person, and all voters participating *must complete the application in person*.[108]

- NOTE: *Persons other than the voter may not deliver a completed absentee ballot application for another individual to the clerk's office in person*, unless that voter qualifies for an Emergency absentee ballot, see Question 52. Instead, such regular requests for an absentee ballot must be submitted online or by mail, email, or facsimile.[109]

The *deadlines for receipt* of absentee ballot requests by the municipal clerk's office are listed below. Absentee ballots should be requested as soon as possible. Completed, returned absentee ballots must be received by the municipal clerk's office by 8:00 pm on Election Day.

- Requests from regular voters must be received by 5:00 pm on the fifth day before the election (Thursday, October 29, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election)
  - Voters should be strongly urged to not wait that long.
  - While that is the technical legal deadline, there is a strong possibility that requests submitted that late will not be able to be processed in time for the voter to receive the ballot and have it returned to the municipal clerk's office by Election Day.
- The receipt deadline for Qualified Military Voters (including their spouse and dependents) submitting requests *by mail* for absentee ballots is 5:00 pm on the Friday before the election (Friday, October 30, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[110] See Question 11.
- Qualified Military Voters (including their spouse and dependents) have until 5:00 pm on Election Day to request an absentee ballot (by methods other than mail) if general or primary election includes federal offices on the ballot *and* the voter opts to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) to vote.[111] See Question 11.
- The deadline for Indefinitely Confined voters to request an absentee ballot by mail is 5:00 pm on the Friday before the election (Friday, October 30, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election).[112] See Question 31
- Hospitalized and sequestered juror electors have until 5:00 pm on Election Day to make a request for an absentee ballot.[113] See Question 52.
  - A voter who is hospitalized may register to vote and apply for and obtain a mail-in ballot using an agent.[114] See Question 52.

36. **IDENTIFICATION:** Are there identification requirements when I return my mail-in ballot application and/or ballot?

Wisconsin has identification requirements when *requesting* an absentee ballot.

But Wisconsin does not have identification requirements when *returning* the absentee ballot.[115]

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[108] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(a), (ar), (b); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-110, and Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual, Release Notes (June 9, 2026), pdf page 4.

[109] *Id*

[110] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(c).

[111] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(b).

[112] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(2)(a).

[113] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.86(1)(b), 6.86(3)(c).

[114] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(3).

[115] Confirmed in February 17, 2026 phone call with Wisconsin Elections Commission voter helpline that photo ID is not required when dropping off a completed absentee ballot. See also Question 45 (assistance returning absentee ballot).

Except as noted below, voters must include proof of identification with their *request* for an absentee ballot.[116] See Question 19 for information on acceptable proof of identification.

Voters who have previously voted by absentee and provided proof of identification when requesting that ballot do not need to include a copy of identification with their current absentee ballot application *provided that* they have not changed their name or address.[117]

Military Voters and Permanent Overseas Voters are exempt from providing proof of identification when voting absentee by mail. See Question 11 for further information on requirements.

Voters receiving absentee ballots as indefinitely confined voters may choose to provide a copy of their photo ID with their absentee ballot application but are not required to. See WEC's Exceptions to the Photo ID law information page.

Voters residing in facilities visited by Special Voting Deputies (SVD) and vote during a SVD visit to their facility, see Question 32, or residing in certain other care facilities may qualify for an exception to the photo ID requirement, see Wisconsin Elections Commission What Voters in Residential Care Facilities Need to Know information page and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

37. **RECEIVING MAIL BALLOT:** Does the ballot have to be sent to my home, or can I have it sent somewhere else? What if I don't have a home address or my address is a PO Box?

    A voter may have the mail-in absentee ballot mailed to an address other than their registered (residential) address.[118]

    Military and overseas voters may have their ballots sent by email or facsimile as well, and have the option to download and print their ballot.[119] See Question 11.

38. **MISSED THE APPLICATION DEADLINE:** What if I have not requested a mail-in ballot by the deadline?

    A voter who misses the deadline to request a by mail absentee ballot may vote in person on Election Day. They may also vote in person during their municipality's in person absentee (early) voting. Most municipalities conduct in person absentee voting on the Friday before an election, and some municipalities continue in person absentee voting on the Saturday and/or Sunday before an election.

39. **STATUS OF APPLICATION AND/OR BALLOT:** How can I check the status of my application and/or mail-in ballot?

    Voters can check the status of their by mail absentee ballot request and their returned ballot by using the absentee ballot tracker on MyVote Wisconsin.

[116] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(1).
[117] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(4)(b)3.
[118] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(3)(a).
[119] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(3)(d).

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

Voters should contact their municipal clerk's office if their absentee ballot application and/or ballot is rejected.

Municipal clerks may, but are not required to, return the absentee ballot to the voter for correction whenever time permits the voter to correct the defect, but no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day which is the deadline to return an absentee ballot to the municipal clerk.[120]

The Wisconsin Elections Commission advises voters that they may correct their absentee ballots on Election Day but that all voted absentee ballots must be returned to the municipal clerk by 8:00 pm on Election Day.[121]

If the application and/or absentee ballot is missing a voter's signature or witness signature, the voter can correct the ballot on Election Day. The WEC advises that the voter may correct for a missing witness signature on Election Day if the voter goes with the original witness to the polling place (or absentee ballot location) to correct the certificate envelope.[122]

In response to state circuit court litigation and issued permanent injunctions relating to what witness address information must be included on an absentee ballot certificate, the WEC issued WEC Clerk Communications Relating to Absentee Ballot Certificate Witness Addresses in February 2024.[123]

- Under the injunctions, see Rise v. WEC February 9, 2024 WEC Memorandum, election officials have an obligation not to reject, return for cure, or refuse to count any absentee ballot based on a witness's address if the face of the certificate contains sufficient information to allow a reasonable person in the community to identify a location where the witness may be communicated with. Under the injunctions, see League of Women Voters v WEC February 9, 2024 WEC Memorandum, an absentee ballot may *not* be rejected if:
    - The witness's street number, street name, and municipality are present, but there is neither a state name nor a ZIP code provided;
    - The witness's street number, street name, and ZIP code are present, but there is neither a municipality nor a state name provided;
    - The witness's street number and street name are present and match the street number and street name of the voter, but no other address information is provided; or
    - The witness certification indicates that the witness address is the same as the voter's address with any or any combination of the following words: "same," "same address," "same as voter," "same as above," "see above," "ditto," or by using quotation marks and/or an arrow or line pointing to or from the voter address.
- An absentee ballot cannot be rejected or returned to a voter for correction under state law as long as the face of the certificate contains sufficient information to allow a reasonable person in the community to identify a location where the witness may be communicated with. This does not prevent returning an absentee ballot to a voter or rejecting an absentee ballot after 8:00 pm on Election Day if this standard cannot be met or if there is a separate issue, such as a missing witness signature or missing voter signature. See WEC February 9, 2024 Q&A.

[120] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.87(9), (6).
[121] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 17-162 to 17-163.
[122] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 17-163 to 17-164.
[123] See WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-134 to 7-135.

41. **COMPLETING BALLOT:** How do I complete the mail-in ballot?

Voters are provided with written instructions by their clerk's office when they are sent a by-mail absentee ballot. The Wisconsin Elections Commission has issued uniform absentee ballot instructions.

Absentee ballots must be completed in the presence of an adult witness. The witness must be (1) at least 18 years old *and* (2) a U.S. citizen (except that a witness for a military or overseas voter need not be a U.S. citizen).[124] The witness cannot be a candidate on the ballot in the election.

The voter should comply with all of the following requirements when completing the absentee ballot:

- Show the witness the unmarked ballot;
- Mark the ballot in the presence of the witness and no other person. The voter does not need to show the witness the voter's choices;
- Refold the voted ballot and place it inside the return envelope;
- Insert the proof of residence into the envelope, if required; and
- Seal the envelope in the presence of the witness.

The voter must also fill out all of the required information included on the envelope, including:

- *Voter information* (usually already filled out by the municipal clerk). This section requires *all* of the following information:
    - Date of election;
    - County;
    - Municipality;
    - Voter's name (Last, First, Middle as listed in voter's registration);
    - Street address (or rural route number and box number, if the voter has a rural address without a house number and street name);
    - City; and
    - Zip code.
- *Sign and date the Certification of Voter.* Military and overseas voters must also provide their birth date.
- *Certification of Witness*. The witness must (1) sign the envelope and (2) provide their full address, including house number, street name, city, state and zip code.
- *Certification of Assistant (if applicable)*. If the voter requires assistance in marking their ballot or signing their name due to physical disability, the assistant must certify that they signed the voter's name at the direction and request of the voter. See Question 42.

See Question 40 if the absentee ballot is rejected. Municipal clerks may, but are not required to, return the absentee ballot to the voter for correction whenever time permits the voter to correct the defect.[125]

[124] Wis. Stat. § 6.87.
[125] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.87(9), (6).

The voter may return the completed absentee ballot in one of the following ways:

- By mail. Note: The Wisconsin Elections Commission recommends that voters mail their absentee ballots back as soon as possible but no later than 10 business days before Election Day.[126]
    - Voters may choose, at their expense, to use an expedited delivery service, including a private mail carrier, to return their completed absentee ballot to their clerk's office.[127]

- By dropping it off in person at the municipal clerk's office **before Election Day** or at an in-person absentee (early) voting location in the voter's municipality.
    - Voters should contact their municipal clerk's office to confirm location and open hours.
    - Note: During the in-person absentee (early) voting period, some municipalities with multiple early voting locations accept in person returns of completed absentee ballots only at the early voting locations and not at the clerk's office.
- *If* made available by the voter's municipal clerk, by placing it in a secure ballot drop box in the voter's municipality. See WEC Ballot Drop Boxes - New Rules for 2024.[128]
    - Wisconsin municipal clerks have the discretion to choose to use secure drop boxes but are not required to do so.
    - Voters should contact their municipal clerk's office to determine whether unstaffed, secure drop boxes are available and, if so, where and when absentee ballots may be returned via drop box.
    - Note: Some municipalities with secure drop boxes keep them open for completed absentee ballots on Election Day. However, a municipality may choose to lock their drop boxes before polls close and, as a result, voters needing to return their absentee ballot after that time will need to go to another location as specified by their municipality to return their absentee ballot by 8:00 pm on Election Day.

- By dropping it off **on Election Day**.
    - Voters should *contact their municipal clerk's office to confirm* where and when absentee ballots may be returned on Election Day. Options vary by municipality.
    - Some municipalities direct voters on Election Day to return completed absentee ballots to their assigned **Polling Place** until polls close.
    - Certain municipalities, including the City of Milwaukee, process their absentee ballots at a designated **Central Count** location and direct voters to bring their completed absentee ballots to that Central Count location on Election Day until polls close, and will not accept them at polling places.
    - Some municipalities with **Secure Drop Boxes** keep them open for completed absentee ballots on Election Day. However, a municipality may choose to lock their drop boxes before polls close and, as a result, voters needing to return their absentee ballot after that time will need to go to another location as specified by their municipality to return their absentee ballot by 8:00 pm on Election Day.
    - Some municipalities will accept completed absentee ballots in person at the **Municipal**

[126] According to the WEC, this ensures the greatest likelihood that the ballot will be returned to the municipal clerk by 8:00 pm on Election Day. WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-117.

[127] Confirmed in July 8, 2026 phone call with Wisconsin Elections Commission voter helpline. WEC suggests that voters choosing to do so obtain a tracking number.

[128] The 2024 WEC Memo content is also included in WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-119 to 7-124.

Clerk's Office on Election Day. Some of these clerks offices accept absentee ballots in person at the Clerk's Office only during regular business hours on Election Day.

- ***However*** municipal clerks are ***not*** allowed to set a cut off time before 8:00 pm on Election Day after which they will not accept absentee ballots at the clerk's office and refuse to accept completed absentee in-person anywhere else.[129]
- Municipal clerks cannot lead voters to believe that they must return their voted absentee ballots to the clerk's office by a certain time before 8:00 pm on Election Day or it will not be counted.[130]
- If a municipal clerk is unable to accept the return of voted absentee ballots in person at the clerk's office past a certain point, they must inform voters where voted absentee ballots can be returned by 8:00 pm on Election Day and that if the voter chooses, they can instead vote in person at their polling place.[131]

Wisconsin law requires that voters return their own ballots. ***However***, any voter who requires assistance with mailing or delivering their absentee ballot to the Clerk's office because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write must be permitted to receive such assistance by a person of the voter's choice, other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or officer or agent of the voter's union. This includes having a third-party return their absentee ballot to the clerk, in-person or through the mail, or by placing it in a secure drop box, or by delivering it in-person on Election Day to the return location specified by the municipality. See Question 45.

42. **ASSISTANCE COMPLETING BALLOT:** Can someone assist me in filling out my ballot?

Yes. A voter who needs assistance with their ballot or absentee return envelope may ask for assistance from anyone other than their employer, an agent of that employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. The assistant may read the ballot to the voter or fill out the ballot at the voter's direction. The assistant may not tell the voter how to vote. If qualified, the same person can act as both assistant and certifying witness. See Question 41.

If the assistant helps the voter mark the ballot and/or signs the absentee return envelope on behalf of the voter, the assistant is required to sign their name in the Certification of Assistant section on the absentee ballot return envelope in which the ballot is placed.[132]

Explaining to a voter the logistics of filling out an absentee ballot or the return envelope or reading the ballot to the voter, is not "assistance" that requires the helper to sign the Certification of Assistant Section. See Wisconsin Elections Commission Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

NOTE: Current Wisconsin law prohibits use of email to send absentee ballots to voters, except for military and overseas voters.[133]

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[129] Wisconsin Elections Commission Final Decision Letter in EL 23-47, Peters v. Goergen (May 27, 2025); WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-118 to 7-119, citing Wis. Stat. § 6.87(4)(b)1, 6.87(6).

[130] *Id*.

[131] *Id.*

[132] Wis. Stat. § 6.87(5).

[133] Note: On August 4, 2026, a Wisconsin Circuit Court ruled that Wisconsin's absentee ballot program, which requires voters to complete and return a ballot on paper, denies disabled people the equal opportunity to vote absentee privately and independently. However, the judge declined to order elections officials to offer electronic ballots to qualified disabled voters, saying the parties still disputed whether that was a reasonable remedy. Trial is scheduled for 2027. Disability Rights Wisconsin v. Wisconsin Elections Commission, Dane County Cir. Ct. 2024CV001141.

43. **DEADLINE TO RETURN BALLOT:** What is the deadline for the ballot to be received? Does it have to be postmarked by a specific date? Can I drop it off in person?

    Completed Absentee ballots must be received by 8:00 pm Central Time on Election Day. Postmark is not relevant. Yes, the voter can return their completed absentee ballot in person. See Question 44.

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

    The voter may drop off their completed absentee ballot (rather than return it by mail) in one of the ways listed below.

    - By dropping it off in person at the municipal clerk's office **before Election Day** or at an in-person absentee (early) voting location in the voter's municipality.
        - Voters should contact their municipal clerk's office to confirm location and open hours.
        - Note: During the in-person absentee (early) voting period, some municipalities with multiple early voting locations accept in person returns of completed absentee ballots only at the early voting locations and not at the clerk's office.
    - *If* made available by the voter's municipal clerk, by placing it in a secure ballot drop box in the voter's municipality. See WEC Ballot Drop Boxes - New Rules for 2024.[134]
        - Wisconsin municipal clerks have the discretion to choose to use secure drop boxes but are not required to do so.
        - Voters should contact their municipal clerk's office to determine whether unstaffed, secure drop boxes are available and, if so, where and when absentee ballots may be returned via drop box.
        - Note: Some municipalities with secure drop boxes keep them open for completed absentee ballots on Election Day. However, a municipality may choose to lock their drop boxes before polls close and, as a result, voters needing to return their absentee ballot after that time will need to go to another location as specified by their municipality to return their absentee ballot by 8:00 pm on Election Day.
    - By dropping it off **on Election Day**.
        - Voters should *contact their municipal clerk's office to confirm* where and when absentee ballots may be returned on Election Day. Options vary by municipality.
        - Some municipalities direct voters on Election Day to return completed absentee ballots to their assigned **Polling Place** until polls close.
        - Certain municipalities, including the City of Milwaukee, process their absentee ballots at a designated **Central Count** location and direct voters to bring their completed absentee ballots to that Central Count location on Election Day until polls close, and will not accept them at polling places.
        - Some municipalities with **Secure Drop Boxes** keep them open for completed absentee ballots on Election Day. However, a municipality may choose to lock their drop boxes before polls close and, as a result, voters needing to return their absentee ballot after that time will need to go to another location as specified by their municipality to return their absentee ballot by 8:00 pm on Election Day.
        - Some municipalities will accept completed absentee ballots in person at the **Municipal Clerk's Office** on Election Day. Some of these clerks offices accept absentee ballots in person at the Clerk's Office only during regular business hours on Election Day.

[134] The 2024 WEC Memo content is also included in WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-117 to 7-124.

- ***However*** municipal clerks are ***not*** allowed to set a cut off time before 8:00 pm on Election Day after which they will not accept absentee ballots at the clerk's office and refuse to accept completed absentee in-person anywhere else.[135]
- Municipal clerks cannot lead voters to believe that they must return their voted absentee ballots to the clerk's office by a certain time before 8:00 pm on Election Day or it will not be counted.[136]
- If a municipal clerk is unable to accept the return of voted absentee ballots in person at the clerk's office past a certain point, they must inform voters where voted absentee ballots can be returned by 8:00 pm on Election Day and that if the voter chooses, they can instead vote in person at their polling place.[137]

Wisconsin law requires that voters return their own ballots. *However*, any voter who requires assistance with mailing or delivering their absentee ballot to the Clerk's office because of a disability must be permitted to receive such assistance by a person of the voter's choice, other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or officer or agent of the voter's union. See Question 45.

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

Only the voter can return their completed absentee ballot, either by mail or in person, to their municipal clerk's office, *with two exceptions*:[138]

- The voter requires assistance due to a disability, See below; OR
- The voter is hospitalized *and* voting according to special procedures, See Question 52.

Under the Voting Rights Act, any Wisconsin voter who requires assistance with mailing or delivering their absentee ballot to the municipal clerk because of a disability must be permitted to receive such assistance by a person of the voter's choice, other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or officer or agent of the voter's union.[139]

When an election official is presented with an absentee ballot delivered in-person, the official may ask the following questions:[140]

- "Are you the voter?" If not, then:
- "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:
- "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.

[135] Wisconsin Elections Commission Final Decision Letter in EL 23-47, Peters v. Goergen (May 27, 2025); WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-118 to 7-119, citing Wis. Stat. § 6.87(4)(b)1, 6.87(6).
[136] *Id*.
[137] *Id*.
[138] See WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-116, citing Wis. Stat. § 6.87(4)(b)(1).
[139] See WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-116, citing Carey v. Wis. Elections Comm'n, 624 F. Supp. 3d 1020 (W.D. WI August 30, 2022).
[140] See WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-116.

In 2022, the Wisconsin Elections Commission issued Guidance on Absentee Ballot Return Options Under the Federal Voting Rights Act. The WEC reiterated the continued validity of this 2022 Guidance in its June 2026 Election Law Manual.[141] Excerpts from this 2022 WEC Guidance:

- *Do I need to confirm a person's disability if they are being provided voting assistance, and if so, how?* No. Municipal clerks do not need to confirm that a voter utilizing ballot return assistance is a voter who requires ballot return assistance due to a disability. A Wisconsin voter may self-identify as requiring ballot return assistance due to a disability.
- *When a clerk is presented with an absentee ballot delivered in-person to the clerk's office, the Commission believes that the clerk may ask the following questions:*
    - Are you the voter? If not, then:
    - 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:
    - 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.
- *Do I need to confirm the disabled voter or agent's identity, or otherwise request additional information?* No. If the agent answers the above bullet-point questions correctly, the ballot should be accepted.
- *Who can provide a disabled voter with absentee ballot return assistance?* Under the Voting Rights Act, a voter requiring ballot return assistance due to a disability may select any person to serve as their agent providing ballot return assistance, provided that the person is not the voter's employer, an agent of their employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union.
- *Can a single agent provide assistance to more than one disabled absentee voter?* Yes.
- *What constitutes a permissible absentee ballot "mailing"?*
    - A lawful agent places the absentee ballot in the voter's residential mailbox.
    - A lawful agent places the absentee ballot in a United States Postal Service or similar parcel carrier's mailbox or delivers it to a designated drop facility for such parcel carriers.
    - A lawful agent turns over custody of the absentee ballot directly to a postal or parcel carrier's employee/agent.
    - A lawful agent places the absentee ballot into a reasonable, legitimate, and legally compliant stream of mail delivery services (e.g. care facilities, jails and correctional institutions, military installations, and other similar institutions and organizations often have a designated clerk or courier service responsible for collecting or otherwise delivering mail to postal officials or mail carriers).

46. **LOST OR SPOILED BALLOT:** What if I lost my mail-in ballot, made a mistake on it (spoiled it), or I received an incorrect ballot?

The voter may return a spoiled or damaged mail-in absentee ballot to the municipal clerk and request a new ballot.[142] Spoiled or damaged absentee ballots must be returned, and new ballots must be requested before 5:00 pm on the 5th day before the election for most voters, or by 5:00 pm on the Friday before the election for military and indefinitely confined voters (Thursday, October 29 and Friday, October 30, respectively, for the November 3, 2026 General Election).

A voter who loses their by mail absentee ballot should contact their municipal clerk's office to see if they can obtain a replacement.

[141] See WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-116, referencing https://elections.wi.gov/memo/guidance-absentee-ballot-return-options-under-federal-voting-rights-act.
[142] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(5).

Alternatively, *a voter who has not returned their absentee ballot* can go to their assigned polling location Election Day and vote in person there, or go to in person absentee (early) voting in their municipality to cast a ballot. See Question 48.

As long as the voter has not returned their completed absentee ballot to the municipal clerk, a voter may receive up to two (2) replacement absentee ballots for a total of three (3), which includes the original. See Wisconsin Elections Commission Updated Ballot Spoiling Guidance (July 10, 2026).

Once an absentee ballot has been returned to the municipal clerk (i.e., by placing it in the mail or dropping it off), it cannot be spoiled and reissued for any reason. If a voter has returned their voted absentee ballot and later changes their mind about who they would like to vote for or because the candidate they originally voted for has dropped out of the race, the ballot CANNOT be spoiled and reissued for any reason. See WEC Updated Ballot Spoiling Guidance (July 10, 2026).

47. **NON-RECEIPT OF BALLOT:** What if I requested a mail-in ballot but have not received it? What are my options for voting?

    A voter who has requested but has not yet received a by mail absentee ballot should contact their municipal clerk's office to see if they can obtain a replacement.

    Any voter who has not returned their absentee ballot can go to their assigned polling location on Election Day and vote in person there, or go to in person absentee (early) voting in their municipality to cast a ballot. See Question 48.

48. **IN PERSON OPTION:** What if I requested or received a mail-in ballot but I want to vote in person on Election Day?

    Any voter who has not returned their absentee ballot can go to their assigned polling location on Election Day and vote in person there. Voters need to bring a photo ID to vote it in-person. To speed check-in at the polling location, it is recommended (but not required) that the voter bring the absentee ballot for voiding. Curbside voting should be available.

HOW TO VOTE: ABSENTEE

(in this state defined as: vote by absentee ballot)

49. **ELIGIBILITY:** Am I eligible to request an absentee ballot?

    See Question 32.

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

    See Question 33.

51. **IDENTIFICATION:** Are there any identification requirements?

See Question 36.

52. **EMERGENCY:** Is there an emergency absentee ballot? If so, am I eligible?

Yes. Wisconsin has emergency absentee ballot application processes for certain situations involving hospitalized persons and sequestered jurors.

Emergency application for a hospitalized voter:[143]

Not more than seven days before the election and not after 5:00 pm on Election Day (From Tuesday, October 27, 2026 to Tuesday November 3, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election, any person eligible to vote in Wisconsin who is hospitalized may designate an agent to apply for and obtain an absentee ballot from the voter's municipal clerk's office.[144]

If the hospitalized voter is unregistered, the agent may also register the hospitalized voter at the same time.[145] The hospitalized voter must complete a voter registration application and provide proof of residence.

- If the hospitalized voter is unable to sign the registration due to physical disability, they may authorize an assistant to sign on their behalf.
- The assistant must also sign their name as the assistant and provide their address.
- The assistant need not be the agent who is applying for and obtaining the absentee ballot on behalf of the voter.

For the absentee ballot request, the hospitalized voter must complete an application for an absentee ballot and provide proof of identification.

- The agent must provide their name, signature, and address on the absentee application.
- If the hospitalized elector is unable to sign the application due to physical disability, they may have an assistant sign the application.
    - The assistant must also sign their name as the assistant.
    - The assistant need not be the agent.

The agent for the hospitalized voter will deliver a completed absentee ballot application or the written equivalent to the municipal clerk for the hospitalized elector's municipality of residence.

- The agent must provide their own proof of identification.

The municipal clerk will issue an absentee ballot, absentee certificate envelope and uniform instructions in an absentee carrier envelope to the agent for the hospitalized voter.

The agent transports the absentee ballot to the hospitalized elector.

- The hospitalized voter votes the ballot in the presence of a witness.
    - The agent or another designee of the elector may assist in filling out the ballot and should sign the ballot as the assistant.
- The hospitalized voter places the voted ballot in the absentee certificate envelope, seals and signs the envelope.
- The witness signs the envelope and provides their address.

[143] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-12 to 7-15.
[144] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(3)(a)1.
[145] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(3)(a)2.

- The agent may serve as the witness.

The agent must deliver or mail the absentee certificate envelope so that it is received by the municipal clerk by 8:00 pm on Election Day. See Question 43.

Emergency application for a sequestered juror:[146]

An emergency application for a sequestered juror may be received by their municipal clerk's office up to 5:00 pm on Election Day. The request must be accompanied by proof of identification.

If the application is received on or before 5:00 pm on the Friday before an election (Friday, October 30, 2026 for the November 3, 2026 General Election the clerk may mail the absentee ballot to the sequestered juror.

If the application is received after 5:00 pm on the Friday before an election:

- The clerk or the clerk's agent shall immediately take the ballot to the court in which the elector is serving as a juror and deliver the ballot to the judge.
- The judge shall recess court, as soon as convenient, and give the elector the ballot.
- The judge shall then serve as witness for the sequestered juror and return the voted ballot to the clerk or clerk's agent.[147]

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

    See Question 35.

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

    See Question 39.

55. **APPLICATION OR BALLOT REJECTED:** I learned my absentee ballot application and/or ballot was rejected. How can I confirm this and what can I do to fix any errors or get another one?

    See Question 40.

56. **COMPLETING BALLOT:** How do I complete the absentee ballot?

    See Question 41.

57. **ASSISTANCE COMPLETING BALLOT:** Can someone assist me filling out the ballot?

    See Question 42.

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

[146] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 7 Absentee Voting (June 2026) at 7-15 to 7-16.
[147] Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(b).

See Question 43.

59. **BALLOT DROP OFF LOCATIONS:** Where can I drop off a ballot (instead of mailing it)?

    See Question 44.

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

    See Question 45.

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

    See Question 46.

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

    See Question 47.

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

    See Question 48.

64. **IN PERSON ABSENTEE:** Where do I vote in-person absentee? When can I do this?

    See Section on In-Person Absentee (Early) Voting, starting at Question 25.

POLLING PLACE ISSUES

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

    Polls must be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day.[148] If a polling place is not open on time or closes prematurely, stay at the polling place.

    Check the MyVote polling place lookup to confirm that the location is the assigned polling location for the current election.

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

    If a voter encounters a long line, they should wait. Polls must be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day. Any voter in line at the time the polls officially close must be permitted to vote.[149]

[148] Wis. Stat. § 6.78.
[149] Wis. Stat. § 6.78.

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

Voters should immediately notify the election officials at the polling site if the voting equipment breaks down. Voters should be advised that sometimes the optical scan machines do break down but if ballots are stored in the secure compartment on the side of the machine until the machine is fixed, that is acceptable. If the problem cannot be fixed in a timely manner, a voter should ask if a substitute paper ballot is available.[150]

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

"Electioneering" under Wisconsin law means any activity intended to influence voting at an election.[151]

Wisconsin's laws refer to "an election" not "the day's election," meaning any type of election or campaigning is prohibited in the polling place, not just things that are directly related to that day's ballot. For example, partisan campaign attire would be equally prohibited at the nonpartisan election, as would attire for former candidates who are not currently on the ballot.[152]

No person may engage in electioneering at a polling place on election day, or on any public property within 100 feet of the entrance to a building containing a polling place, or an in-person absentee (early) voting location or municipal clerk's office, or facility at which special voting deputies are present while voting activities are scheduled.[153]

For example, if the polling place is in a school gym, there can be no electioneering within 100 feet of any entrance to the school building, or inside the building along the direct walking path and designated accessible route from the building entrance to the polling place inside the school's gym. [154]

Vehicles near polling place: bumper stickers or similar materials on a bumper of a vehicle near a polling place is permitted.[155] A "bumper sticker" is limited to a decal or other affixture applied to the bumper of a car. If a car contains a large sign on the top, on the hood, on the side, or anywhere other than the bumper, it is not a bumper sticker and does not qualify for the exception. If complaints are made, or if the primary purpose of the bumper sticker on the vehicle is to influence voting, an employee of the building may be asked to, but cannot be required to, move their vehicle.[156]

69. **VOTER CONDUCT:** What am I prohibited from wearing or doing in a polling place? Can I take photos inside?

In the polling place, voters may use their cell phones, and photograph or videotape themselves or their ballots if it is not disruptive. Voters should not take photos or videos of other voters without their consent.[157]

Wisconsin law prohibits anyone from showing their marked ballot to another person, which can include

[150] Wis. Stat. § 7.15(6).
[151] Wis. Stat. § 12.03(4). Wis. Stat. § 12.03(2)(d).
[152] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-108.
[153] Wis. Stat. § 12.03.
[154] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-109.
[155] Wis. Stat. §§ 12.03(2)(d), 12.035(4).
[156] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-109 to 14-110.
[157] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-103 to 14-104.

photographs of marked ballots.[158] Taking a photo of a market ballot for personal use is not prohibited. But posting that photo on social media, sharing it with someone else, or livestreaming voting choices is prohibited by state law.[159]

If a voter is wearing a campaign item that expressly advocates voting for a specific candidate or referendum question, poll workers may ask that voter to remove or cover the campaign attire or return to the polling place without it. Poll workers have the discretion to determine that it would be less disruptive to voting to just allow a voter wearing campaign attire to vote and leave the polling place.[160]

Observers: Observers may not use photography, audio recording devices, and video cameras. Observers are also prohibited from using a device inside an observer area to make an audio or video communication, such as making a phone call or livestreaming the event. Observers may not engage in electioneering or distribute election related material. Observers cannot display the name or likeness of, or text related to, a candidate, party, or referendum position appearing on the ballot.[161]

Media: At the discretion of election officials at a polling place, members of the media are permitted to take video and still photography outside the voting area.[162] The "voting area" is that area at an observable location where voters receive, prepare, or deposit their ballots, or where voters cast their votes on a voting machine.[163]

Accessibility Reviewers: Accessibility auditors from the Wisconsin Elections Commission may take photos at polling places as part of their accessibility assessments. They are trained to not take photos of voters or ballots.[164]

70. **POLL WORKER CONDUCT:** What is a poll worker prohibited from wearing or doing in a polling place?

Poll workers should not engage in activity which is intended to influence voting at an election.[165]

Observers may not engage in electioneering or distribute election related material. Observers cannot display the name or likeness of, or text related to, a candidate, party, or referendum position appearing on the ballot.[166]

71. **INTIMIDATION:** Are there any other specific restrictions on conduct outside of a polling place? What should I do if I feel unsafe or uncomfortable outside the polling place?

No person may engage in electioneering at a polling place on election day, or on any public property within 100 feet of the entrance to a building containing a polling place, or an in-person absentee (early) voting location or municipal clerk's office, or facility at which special voting deputies are present while voting activities are scheduled.[167] For example, if the polling place is in a school gym, there can be no

[158] Wis. Stat. § 12.13(3)(q). Wis. Stat. § 12.13(1)(f).
[159] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-103.
[160] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-111.
[161] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-20 to 14-21.
[162] Wis. Admin. Code § EL 4.07(1); see WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-22, 14-106 to 14-107.
[163] Wis. Admin. Code § EL 4.02(18).
[164] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 11 Accessibility (June 2026) at 11-35.
[165] Wis. Stat. § 12.03(4).
[166] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-20 to 14-21.
[167] Wis. Stat. § 12.03.

electioneering within 100 feet of any entrance to the school building, or inside the building along the direct walking path and designated accessible route from the building entrance to the polling place inside the school's gym.[168]

Voters who feel unsafe or uncomfortable may alert an election official and/or call local law enforcement immediately. Voters being threatened with violence should call 911.[169] Voters may also file a formal complaint for election law violations.[170] See WEC's Filing A Sworn Complaint information page.

72. **CHALLENGE:** Someone is formally challenging my vote. What should I do?

Under very limited circumstances, a voter's right to vote may be formally challenged. These challenges must follow strict guidelines and must not be used for intimidating or to discourage voting. See Wisconsin Elections Commission's Elector Challenges guidance page.[171]

If a voter believes they have the right to vote and the procedures are followed, the voter should be allowed to vote.

A voter's right to cast their ballot may be challenged for cause by (1) an election inspector or (2) another voter who *knows or suspects* that the voter being challenged is not qualified to vote.[172] *A challenge must be based on personal knowledge*.

Cause for challenge includes the following:[173]

- The voter is not a U.S. citizen;
- The voter is not 18 or older;
- The voter has not resided in the election district for at least 28 days;
- The voter has a felony conviction and has not been restored their civil rights;
- The voter has been adjudged incompetent;
- The voter has bet or wagered on the election; or
- The voter has previously voted in the same election.

If the challenge is made by another voter instead of an inspector, the challenging voter must be administered an oath and asked questions to determine why they believe the challenged voter is not qualified to vote.[174] No voter may be disqualified unless the challenger demonstrates beyond a reasonable doubt that the person does not qualify as a voter or is not properly registered.[175]

A voter who is challenged will be administered the following oath: "You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will fully and truly answer all questions put to you regarding your place of residence and

[168] WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-109.
[169] See Wisconsin Department of Justice Press Release: How to Recognize and Report Voter Intimidation in Wisconsin (October 29, 2020).
[170] Wis. Stat. §§ 5.05(2m)(c), 5.06.
[171] See also WEC Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 14 Election Day (June 2026) at 14-43 to 14-60.
[172] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.92, 6.925.
[173] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.94, 6.935; Wis. Admin. Code EL 9.01. Note: Although Wisconsin law now imposes a 28-day residency requirement, see Wis. Stat. § 6.02(1), the administrative code still refers to the prior 10-day requirement.
[174] Wis. Stat. § 6.925; Wis. Admin. Code EL 9.02.
[175] Wis. Stat. § 6.325.

qualifications as an elector of this election."[176] A voter may only be asked the following questions, as appropriate based on the nature of the challenge:[177]

- Are you a United States Citizen?
- Are you at least 18 years of age?
- For at least the 28 days before this election, have you resided in, or been a resident of, the ward or election district from which you seek to vote?
- Are you currently disqualified from voting for any of the following reasons:
    - A felony conviction for which you are still serving probation or are on parole or extended supervision?
    - A judge's ruling that you are incapable of voting?
    - Having made a bet or wager on this election?
    - Having voted previously in this election?

No other questions may be asked of the voter. If the voter refuses to take the oath or to answer the questions, they will not be issued a ballot.[178]

The challenger may withdraw their challenge. If the challenger does not withdraw the challenge, an inspector must administer the following additional oath to the challenged voter: "You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that: you are 18 years of age; you are a citizen of the United States; you are now and for 28 consecutive days have been a resident of this ward except under s. 6.02(2); you have not voted at this election; you have not made any bet or wager or become directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager depending upon the result of this election; you are not on any other ground disqualified to vote at this election."[179]

If the challenged voter (1) fully answers all relevant questions, (2) provides answers indicating they meet the voting qualification requirements, (3) takes the oath or affirmation, and (4) fulfills the applicable registration requirements, they must be allowed to vote.

Challenges are documented by poll workers.[180] Challenges may be reviewed by the municipality's Board of Canvassers during vote counting, by county boards of canvass, and/or during a recount period.

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

No person may personally, or through an agent, make use of or threaten to make use of force, violence, or restraint in order to induce or compel any person to vote or refrain from voting.[181]

Under Wisconsin law, the City of Milwaukee – which is the only municipality with a *municipal* board of election commissioners (other municipalities have county election commissioners) – may designate polling places at which the chief of police may dispatch police officers. However, it is unclear whether

[176] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.92, 6.925; Wis. Admin. Code EL 9.01.
[177] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.92, 6.925; Wis. Admin. Code EL 9.01.
[178] Wis. Stat. § 6.94.
[179] Wis. Stat. § 6.94.
[180] Wis. Stat. § 6.95; Wis. Admin. Code EL 9.05.
[181] Wis. Stat. § 12.09.

this provision *requires* a police officer at every polling place in Milwaukee or only the polling places requested by the City of Milwaukee Election Commission.[182]

74. **THOUGHT WAS REGISTERED:** My name isn't on the voter registration roll but I thought I was registered. What should I do?

Common reasons a voter's name may not be on the registration list:

- Voter is at the incorrect polling place
- Voter is on the confidential electors list and their name does not appear on the public poll book
    - Voters affected by domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking may register confidentially. Confidential voter names and addresses are not part of the alphabetical listing of voters on the poll book. These voters have unique identifying numbers in the back of the poll book, on a page that is not open to public inspection. When voting in person, confidential voters do not announce their name and address. Instead, they show poll workers a confidential voter card from the Clerk's Office. Confidential voters are exempt from showing voter ID.
- Voter is on the ineligible to vote list
    - This is a separate list of voters with disqualifying felonies who cannot vote.
- Voter has been removed from the list for other reasons
    - If a voter is not on the rolls at the polling place assigned to their residential address, they may have been removed from the rolls. A voter may be removed from the list of registered voters if they registered in another state, territory or possession.[183]
    - A voter may also be removed from the rolls if, they have not voted during a four year period in which they were eligible to vote, and they failed to respond within 30 days to a mailing from the Wisconsin Electoral Commission confirming that they still reside at the address at which they are currently registered and wish to remain registered.[184]

Voters should be reminded that any voter may register (or re-register) to vote on election day at their polling place if they have resided in the ward for 28 days or more and can provide Proof of Residence.

Voters should ensure that they are at the correct polling place. A vote cast at the wrong polling place, including a provisional ballot, will not be counted.

Steps to help determine why a voter's name is not on the rolls include:

- Check the MyVote Wisconsin voter registration lookup to make sure the person is registered to vote and is at the correct polling location.
- If the voter moved recently, they may be registered at their old address. Check the voter registration lookup. If the voter moved less than 28 days before the election (for the November 3, 2026 General Election, after Tuesday, October 6, 2026), they will need to vote at the polling place for their prior address.[185]
- If the voter has changed their name recently, the voter may be registered under a prior name. Check that name (and any variations of the voter's name, especially for hyphenated names, which sometimes trip up databases) in the voter registration lookup.

[182] Wis. Stat. § 7.22(5).
[183] Wis. Stat. § 6.36(1)(d).
[184] Wis. Stat. § 6.50(2).
[185] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.10(3), 6.85(2).

- The name of a voter who registered within 20 days prior to the election name may not appear on the voter registration roll and the voter may need to complete a same day registration.

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

See Question 22 in the How to Vote: Election Day section.

ACCESSIBILITY/ASSISTANCE

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

Yes. Any voter may request assistance on how to vote (*except* from their employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union) or may request a paper ballot, if the municipality is using a voting machine.[186] For additional information, see Wisconsin Elections Commission's information page on Accessible Voting and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

If the voter needs help marking their ballot, the person assisting the voter must then sign the ballot in the space provided. Also, the election workers will write the name of the voter's assistant on the voting list. The voter's assistant does not need to be qualified to vote.[187]

77. **PHYSICAL DISABILITY:** I have a physical disability and need assistance. Is my polling place ADA compliant? Does my voting location have an accessible voting system?

Each polling place must be accessible to all individuals with disabilities and voting systems must permit all individuals to vote without the need for assistance and with the same degree of privacy accorded to nondisabled voters.[188] Individuals who are disabled may also choose to be assisted in voting by anyone of their choosing (except the voter's employer, agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor organization representing the voter). A disabled voter that is unable to use a voting machine may request to use a paper ballot and voting booth instead.[189]

Curbside voting is available for voters who cannot enter the polling place due to disability.[190] The polling place may have signs outside with a phone number, specific parking spots for curbside voting, or a greeter stationed outside to initiate curbside voting. A voter who wishes to utilize curbside voting may wish to inform their municipal clerk's office in advance of arriving at the polling place.

A voter may also request other reasonable accommodations with the municipal clerk or the chief inspector of the polling place. For additional information, see Wisconsin Elections Commission's Accessible Voting information page and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

[186] Wis. Stat. § 6.82; 52 U.S.C.A. § 10508.
[187] Wis. Stat. § 6.82(2).
[188] Wis. Stat. C 5.25(4)(a).
[189] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.82(1)(a), (2)(a), (3).
[190] Wis. Stat. § 6.82(1).

78. **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. Individuals who cannot read or write, or who have difficulty reading, writing or understanding English, or who are physically disabled, may choose to be assisted by anyone of their choosing (except the voter's employer, agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor organization representing the voter).[191] For additional information, see Wisconsin Elections Commission's information page on Accessible Voting and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

    If the voter needs help marking their ballot, the person assisting the voter must then sign the ballot in the space provided. Also, the election workers will write the name of the voter's assistant on the voting list. The voter's assistant does not need to be qualified to vote.[192]

79. **LANGUAGE ACCESS:** I am not an English speaker. What language resources are available? Can I bring someone in the booth to help me understand the ballot?

    Individuals who cannot read or write, or who have difficulty reading, writing, or understanding English, or who are physically disabled, may choose to be assisted by anyone of their choosing (except the voter's employer, agent of the voter's employer, or an officer or agent of a labor organization representing the voter).[193] For additional information, see Wisconsin Elections Commission's information page on Accessible Voting and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

    Under federal law (Voting Rights Act V § 203), certain local jurisdictions must provide voting information and ballot access in different languages. For a list of impacted Wisconsin local jurisdictions and language minority group(s), see Federal Register Notice (Dec. 8, 2021), pages 69617-69618. For Wisconsin Elections Commission's guidance on these requirements for municipal clerks in impacted local jurisdictions, see Election Law & Administration in Wisconsin Manual: Part 22 Specialty Topics (June 2026).

80. **CURBSIDE VOTING:** Is curbside voting available? How do I request it?

    Curbside voting is available for voters who cannot enter the polling place due to disability.[194] The polling place may have signs outside with a phone number, specific parking spots for curbside voting, or a greeter stationed outside to initiate curbside voting. A voter who wishes to utilize curbside voting may wish to inform their municipal clerk's office in advance of arriving at the polling place. For additional information on curbside voting, see Wisconsin Elections Commission's information page on Accessible Voting and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities.

81. **VOTER GUIDE:** Can I bring a voting guide or reference notes with me into the voting booth?

    Wisconsin law does not prohibit voters from bringing a voter guide or reference notes into the voting booth.

[191] Wis. Stat. § 6.82(2)(a).
[192] Wis. Stat. § 6.82(2).
[193] Wis. Stat. §§ 6.82(1)(a), 6.82(2)(a).
[194] Wis. Stat. § 6.82(1).

STATE SPECIFIC SUPPLEMENT

82. **QUESTIONS:** Who should I contact if I have questions about any of the above?

Wisconsin elections are run at the municipal level (i.e., city, town, village) by over 1,800 separate municipal clerk's offices.[195]

Note: City of Milwaukee elections are run by the City of Milwaukee Election Commission.

- Voters can use the MyVote Wisconsin website to find their municipal election office contact information by their residential address[196] or voter name and date of birth.[197]
- Using a lookup tool helps ensure the voter has the correct contact information for the municipality they are in for voting purposes. For example, the Village of Cottage Grove runs elections separately from the Town of Cottage Grove.
- The Wisconsin Elections Commission's Municipal Clerks Directory[198] includes contact information for municipal election offices, including some website addresses. In some smaller municipalities, the municipal clerk/election clerk is a part time position.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission is Wisconsin's bipartisan regulatory agency for administering and enforcing the State's election laws.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) provides voter assistance by phone at 608-266-8005 or 1-866-VOTE-WIS (1-866-868-3947) and by email at elections@wi.gov.

For guidance on how to submit complaints, concerns, and comments, see WEC's Election Complaints, Concerns, Comments[199] information page. Election-related comments and accessibility concerns can be submitted through the online forms available on this website page.

Online WEC informational resources include:

- Voter Information Center[200]
- MyVote Wisconsin[201] online tools to assist voters, including My Voter Info[202] and What's On My Ballot[203] lookup tools

[195] The county role in elections is generally limited to administrative matters such as preparing ballots and providing the printed ballots to municipal election offices, and compiling and posting election results received from municipalities.
[196] https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/My-Municipal-Clerk
[197] https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/My-Voter-Info
[198] https://elections.wi.gov/clerks/directory
[199] https://elections.wi.gov/elections/election-security-integrity/election-complaints-concerns
[200] https://elections.wi.gov/voters
[201] https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/
[202] https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/My-Voter-Info
[203] https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot

- Upcoming Events[204] listing of key election-related deadlines and dates for voters
- Regularly updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for Voters[205]
- Accessible Voting[206] information page and Guide for Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities[207]

The Wisconsin Secretary of State has no role in elections.

[204] https://elections.wi.gov/news-events/events?audience=316
[205] https://elections.wi.gov/faq
[206] https://elections.wi.gov/voters/accessible-voting
[207] https://elections.wi.gov/resources/brochures/elderly-voters-and-voters-disabilities-guide-voting-wisconsin