



Voting Guide

Your Guide to Voting in Wisconsin

Voting is one of the most important ways the LGBTQ+ community can raise their voices in the democratic process. **By 2040 LGBTQ+ voters will make up almost 20% of those voting.** Yet transgender, nonbinary, and gender non-conforming friends and family members may face unique barriers to voting on election day, from inappropriate questions from poll workers to outright challenges to their ability to cast a ballot.

WHATS INSIDE

HOW TO REGISTER

Learn how to register to vote and how to check your registration status

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

How to request and return an Absentee Ballot

VOTING IN PERSON

How to find your polling place, What you need to bring with you Voter IDs and more

Register to Vote by Mail

If you don't have a Wisconsin DMV-issued license, or ID, no worries! You can register by mail.

If you have a printer at home, print and fill out [this form](#). If you don't have a printer, call your [municipal clerk](#) and ask them to send you one—they will send it to you with a postage-paid return envelope.

Once you've filled out the application, make sure to include a copy of your **proof of residence**. There are lots of things that qualify as proof of residence that you probably have hanging around, like a gas, electric, or cell phone bill; a bank or credit card statement; a paycheck or paystub; a check or document issued by a unit of local, state, or federal government (like a stimulus check, Social Security check, Medicare or BadgerCare correspondence, vehicle registration); and more. Check out the next section if you have questions!



Register Online

If you have an unexpired Wisconsin DMV-issued license or ID card that shows your current address, you can register online at myvote.wi.gov.

Just click on "Register to Vote" and follow the steps on the website.

If you need help, call the Voter Assistance Hotline at (866)-687-8683

Register In Person

You can go to your [municipal clerk's](#) office to register in person during their normal business hours (except during the three days right before an election).

Once early voting starts, you can also register at most early voting location in your municipality and then vote in person right away.

And, Wisconsin has same-day registration, so if you want to vote in person on election day, you can register at your assigned [polling location](#) and then cast your ballot!

Are you Eligible?

Every voter in Wisconsin is eligible to vote by mail—no excuse needed. If you have never voted absentee before, you will need to be able to take a picture of your photo ID and upload it to MyVote or make a copy of it to send by mail.

Important note: If you have previously requested an absentee ballot (like the over 2 million Wisconsinites who successfully requested their ballots for the 2020 General Election!) you **do not need to submit your ID again unless you've moved**.

Absentee Ballot Requests – Online

- Go to myvote.wi.gov and click “Vote Absentee”
- Put in your first name, last name, and birthday
- Verify that your name and address are correct and click “Request Absentee Ballot”
- If this is your first time requesting an absentee ballot, or you’ve moved or changed your name since you submitted your photo ID, you’ll have to add a picture of your photo ID. Click the green “Upload Photo ID” button, choose “take photo,” snap a picture of your photo ID, and click “use photo”
- **Note:** make sure you take a photo of the photo ID you would use to vote in person
- Once your photo is there, click “continue”, and choose which elections you want to receive a ballot for this year
- Finally, you’ll review your request, certify that your information is correct, and click “Request Ballot”

You’re all set! And if you have any trouble call the Voter Assistance Hotline at 866-687-8683.

Absentee Ballot Request – by Mail



If you have a printer at home, print and fill out [this form](#). If you don’t have a printer, call your [municipal clerk](#) and ask them to send you an application.

You’ll also need to make a copy of your photo ID if this is your first time voting by mail or if you’ve moved or changed your name since you last submitted your ID. If you don’t have a way to do that at home, we recommend visiting your local library or municipal clerk to see if they can help. You can also call the Voter Assistance Hotline at 866-687-8683 to help you figure out a solution.

A Note on Dropboxes

The Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that absentee ballot dropboxes are illegal under Wisconsin law, and voters who are not disabled who return their ballots in person to the clerk’s office or an early vote site must do it themselves. Please see below for details on returning your absentee ballot.

How to Complete an Absentee Ballot

- Find a witness who is a US Citizen and over the age of 18—it can be a family member, friend, neighbor, or total stranger.
- Show your blank ballot to your witness. They should watch you complete your ballot, but from a distance so they don't see who you're actually voting for.
- When you're done, fold your ballot & seal it in the certificate envelope.
- Complete the certification on the envelope and make sure that any pre-filled fields are correct.
- Then, give the envelope to your witness and make sure they completely fill out the "Certification of Witness" section. They have to sign and write their **complete address**, including **street address**, **municipality, state, and zip code**.

Filling out an Absentee Ballot

You are the only one who is allowed to fill out your absentee ballot - Unless you are disabled.

Voter who are disabled and need assistance filling out their absentee ballot due to their disability have the right to assistance under the Voting Rights Act.

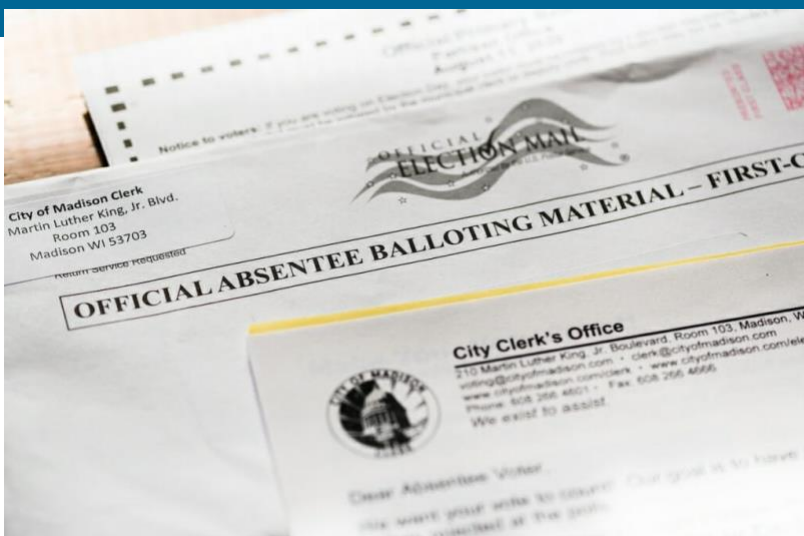
!REMINDER!

Double check your envelope before you put it in the mail or drop it off! If your envelope does not have your signature, your witness's signature, and your witness's complete address, it won't be counted!

Who Should I Vote For?

To find non-partisan information regarding the candidates on your ballot visit Vote411.org.

The Fair Wisconsin Political Action Committee endorses champions for the LGBTQ+ community. You can find a list of these candidates at fairwisconsin.com/vote



Returning an Absentee Ballot

- Return your absentee ballot as soon as possible! Ballots must be **received by 8pm** on election day in order to be counted.
 - If you are going to mail it back, do it as soon as possible after you receive it! USPS advises to put it in the mail at least one week before election day to allow sufficient time for it to be delivered.
 - Return your ballot in person to an early vote site or, in most municipalities, to your election day polling place.
- **Voters who are not disabled who return their ballots in person to the clerk's office or an early vote site must do it themselves.**
 - If voters are returning their ballot in person directly to the clerk's office or a polling place, **they must do so themselves.**
 - The Wisconsin Supreme Court declined to rule on whether voters are permitted to ask a third party to put their ballot in a mailbox, but for non-disabled voters, the best thing to do is to personally mail their own ballot.
- **Voters who are disabled and require assistance with mailing or delivering their absentee ballot due to their disability have the right to assistance under the Voting Rights Act.**
 - A federal court ruled on August 31, 2022, that voters who require assistance mailing or returning their absentee ballot in person have the right to that assistance.
 - Disabled voters may choose anyone to be their assistant other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or an officer or agent of the voter's union.
 - An assistant can place the disabled voter's ballot in the mail for them or bring it directly to the clerk's office or a polling place on their behalf.
 - The Wisconsin Elections Commission has **advised** that municipal clerks do not need to confirm a voter's disability.
 - WEC has further advised that clerks do not need to verify or record an assistant's identity.

Absentee ballot dropboxes are illegal under Wisconsin law.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that **ballot dropboxes are illegal** under Wisconsin state statute. Instead, ballots must be returned in person to the clerk's office or an approved alternate early vote site or sent through the U.S. mail.

SPECIAL IN PERSON VOTING OPTIONS

If you are elderly, mobility impaired, immunocompromised, or otherwise unable to enter a polling place, you have the right to vote curbside on Election Day instead of voting inside.

To vote curbside:

Be sure to have your valid photo ID ready.

Contact the poll workers from outside at your car. There should be a sign with a number to call or a doorbell to ring.

If there is no signage or the bell does not work, please report this to the Voter Assistance Hotline at 866-687-8683. Their team will work with you to resolve the issue.

Two poll workers will come to your vehicle and assist you in voting without having to go inside.

On Election Day, polls are open 7am – 8pm.

- Find your polling place at myvote.wi.gov.
- You need to show an acceptable form of ID to vote.
- If you are in line when polls close, stay in line. **Anyone in line when the polls close at 8pm must be allowed to vote.**
- **Call the Voter Assistance Hotline at 866-687-8683** if you have questions or issues voting on election day.

NOTE: Polling places often change from election to election—always check where yours is before you go vote to make sure you head to the right place!



In Person Early Voting

All municipalities allow you to early vote. Locations, dates, and times vary based on your municipality. By law early in person voting can only happen in the two weeks leading to election day. **To find your early voting sites visits your municipal clerk's website.**

Voter ID's

Wisconsin Voters must show an acceptable form of ID when voting in person or to request an absentee ballot. (There are of course a few **exceptions**.) Chances are, you probably have at least one of these acceptable forms of ID already! Your photo ID **does not** need to show your current address.

Some kinds of ID are valid even if they have expired, so long as they expired after the last general election

A Wisconsin DMV-issued driver's license (even if your driving privileges are suspended or revoked)

- A Wisconsin DMV-issued photo ID
- A United States passport



These kinds of ID need to be unexpired (but don't need to show your current address):

Veteran's photo ID issued by U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Certificate of naturalization issued less than 2 years before the date of the election in which you are voting

Driving receipt or ID card receipt issued by the WI DMV (valid for 45 days)

Wisconsin DMV ID petition process photo receipt (valid for 60 days)

These kinds of ID can be expired at any time

Tribal ID card from a federally recognized tribe in Wisconsin

Student ID card from a Wisconsin-accredited university or college, if it is accompanied by proof of current enrollment

A Special Note on Student ID's

A photo ID card from a Wisconsin-accredited university, college, or technical college, is a valid voting ID **only if it contains: your name, photo, signature, the date the card was issued, an expiration date that shows that the card expires no later than two years after the card was issued.** If your card is expired, you must also provide proof of enrollment (e.g., an enrollment verification letter, tuition fee receipt, or class schedule)

If you have trouble obtaining a photo ID from your college or university, call the Voter Assistance Hotline at 866-687-8683, and we will help you figure it out!