

# State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

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## Status of Voter Photo ID Law – August 5, 2014 Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is the Voter Photo ID Requirement in Effect for the August 12, 2014 Partisan Primary?

No. The photo ID requirement remains enjoined by a federal court decision issued on April 29, 2014. The federal court injunction prohibits all Wisconsin election officials, including local election officials, “from conditioning a person’s access to the ballot, either in-person or absentee, on that person’s presenting a form of photo identification.” Until further notice, any election official who requests that a voter present a photo ID as a condition of receiving a ballot would violate the federal court order.

2. Didn’t the Wisconsin Supreme Court uphold the photo ID requirement?

On July 31, 2014, the Wisconsin Supreme Court issued decisions in two separate cases finding that the photo ID requirement in Act 23 does not violate the Wisconsin Constitution. But the federal court order remains in effect unless and until it is changed by a future court order. The federal court decision has been appealed to the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals.

3. Will the photo ID requirement be in effect for the November 4, 2014 General Election or any subsequent election?

Attorney General Van Hollen has indicated publicly that his office will attempt to obtain approval from the federal Court of Appeals to reinstate the photo ID requirement in time for the November 4, 2014 General Election. Unless and until a federal court rules otherwise, Wisconsin voters are not required to present a photo ID in order to obtain a ballot.

4. How will I know whether a photo ID is required for future elections?

In the event that the federal court injunction is lifted, the Government Accountability Board and local election officials will immediately publicize that requirement to voters and provide guidance about how to comply with the requirement.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the G.A.B. Help Desk at [GABHelpDesk@wi.gov](mailto:GABHelpDesk@wi.gov) or (608) 261-2028.