

# PHOTO ID & VOTING GUIDE



# Photo ID & Voting Guide



Find your polling place and more  
[myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)



## **WISCONSIN ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

Toll free phone line: 1-866-VOTE-WIS

WEC photo ID website: [elections.wi.gov/photoid](http://elections.wi.gov/photoid)

WEC Helpdesk: 608-266-8005

WEC Helpdesk e-mail: [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov)

Mailing: P.O. Box 7984, Madison, WI 53707-7984

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# Voter eligibility

## Wisconsin Voter Requirements

**You must be 18 years of age to vote.** All voters in Wisconsin must be at least 18 years of age on the day of the election to be eligible to vote. Persons who are otherwise eligible to vote may register to vote at 17 years of age if they will be 18 by the next election.

**You must be a U.S. Citizen in order to vote.** Citizenship is documented through a U.S. Birth certificate or a certificate of naturalization, but proof of citizenship is not required to vote. Green card or visa status does not qualify a person to vote in Wisconsin elections.

**You must reside at your current address for at least 28 days prior to the election.** (You may register to vote as long as you will meet the 28-day requirement by the day of the election.)

- If you have moved to a new address within Wisconsin within 28 days of an election, you may be qualified to vote from your former address until you meet the 28-day requirement at your new address.
- If you have moved to Wisconsin from another state less than 28 days before an election, you are only eligible to vote for president and vice-president in Wisconsin until you achieve the 28 days.



*Any U.S. citizen over the age of 18 that has lived in Wisconsin for 28 days or more may vote in Wisconsin Elections, unless disqualified. Photo by Daniel Betts*

## **Conditions of ineligibility**

**You cannot vote if you are serving a felony sentence.** If you are currently serving any portion of a felony sentence, including probation or supervision, you are not eligible to vote in Wisconsin. Once your felony sentence is complete and your rights have been restored your right to vote is also reinstated, but you will need to re-register.

**You cannot vote if you've been adjudicated incompetent.** If a judge has specifically determined you to be incompetent to vote, you are not eligible to vote in Wisconsin. If you have been adjudicated incompetent, but not specifically incompetent to vote, then you are still eligible to vote.

**You are not eligible to vote if you have placed a bet or a wager on the outcome of an election.**

**You can only vote once.** Each voter is eligible to vote only once in any given election. You are not eligible to vote if you have already cast a ballot (regular or absentee) in that election.

# Voter registration

## Registration methods & windows

**By mail.** Up to 20 days before the election. Registration forms should be mailed to your municipal clerk. You can start your voter registration form online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov). Your form must be printed, signed, and mailed or delivered, to your municipal clerk. You must always provide a proof of residence document when registering. If you are registering by mail, you can use any of the forms of proof of residence except a residential lease.

**Online.** Up to 20 days before the election. Voters who have a valid State of Wisconsin driver license or State of Wisconsin ID card issued by the Wisconsin department of motor vehicles (DMV) can register to vote online on [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov). To register online, the voter must enter a name, date of birth, driver license, or ID number, and an address that matches what is on file with the Wisconsin DMV. If all of the fields match, the voter will be able to register to vote completely online without needing to print, sign, or mail the form and without needing to send a proof of residence document. Voters who are not able to match their information with the information in the DMV database will be given the option to register by mail (see instructions above).

**In the municipal clerk's office.** You may register in-person in your municipal clerk's office up until the Friday before the election at 5:00 p.m. Or close of business, whichever is later.

**At the polling place on Election Day.** You may register at the polls on Election Day.

**You must always provide a proof of residence document when registering to vote.**

# Registration facts

Photo ID is never required when registering to vote. However, a proof of residence document is always needed when registering to vote in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin law no longer allows a “corroborating witness” to provide proof of residence. See [“Proof of residence” on page 8](#) for a list of proof of residence documents.

You cannot register the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday before an election, but you can register at the polling place on Election Day.

## Required documents

If you have been issued a State of Wisconsin driver license or ID card that is current and valid, you must provide the number and expiration date. If your Wisconsin DMV-issued driver license or DMV-issued ID is canceled or expired, provide the number and the last 4 digits of your social security number. If you have not been issued a driver license or ID by the Wisconsin DMV, you must provide the last 4 digits of your social security number. If you have none of these documents, you will be able to indicate that fact.

# Proof of residence



## Proving residency for voter registration

Proof of residence (POR) and photo ID are two separate processes. A proof of residence document is a document that proves where you live in Wisconsin and is only used when registering to vote.

Photo ID is separate, you only show photo ID to prove who you are when you request an absentee ballot or a ballot at your polling place.

## Providing POR

All voters\* must provide a POR document when registering. If you register to vote by mail, in-person, or at your polling place on Election Day, you need to provide a proof of residence document. If you register online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov), your valid State of Wisconsin driver license or State of Wisconsin ID card issued by the Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) qualifies as valid proof.



\* If you are an active military voter, or a permanent overseas voter (with no intent to return to the U.S.) You do not need to prove residence.



# Example documents

**All proof of residence documents must include the voter's name and current residential address.**

- A current and valid State of Wisconsin driver license or state ID card.
- Any other official identification card, license, or correspondence issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit.
- Any identification card issued by an employer in the normal course of business and bearing a photo of the card holder, but not including a business card.
- A real estate tax bill or receipt for the current year or the year preceding the date of the election.
- A university, college, or technical college identification card (must include photo) only if the voter provides a fee receipt dated within the last 9 months or the institution provides a certified housing list to the municipal clerk.
- A gas, electric, or telephone service statement (utility bill) for the period commencing no earlier than 90 days before Election Day.
- Bank or credit card statement.
- Paycheck or paystub.
- A check or other document issued by a unit of government.
- A letter on public or private social service agency letterhead identifying a homeless voter and describing the individual's residence for voting purposes.
- Residential lease that is effective on date of registration. (Not valid if registering by mail)
- An intake document from a residential care facility such as a nursing home or assisted living facility.

*This is not a comprehensive list, but categories of the most common types used by voters.*



*Dairyland Town Hall, Wisconsin Photo by Tony Webster*

## **Government agencies & POR**

Government agencies can include local, state, or federal units of government.

**Local units of government include:** public school district, city, town or village clerk or treasurer's office, your county clerk or treasurer, and many others

**State units of government include:** Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV Or Dot), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Workforce Development (DWD), Department of Human Services (DHS), and many others

**Federal units of government include:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Medicare (not second party vendors), Social Security, and many others

*This is not a comprehensive list. These are only examples of units of government.*

## Example government POR documents

- Fishing and hunting licenses
- Vehicle registrations
- Food Stamps, SNAP, Wisconsin Works, Wisconsin Shares, and BadgerCare notices and correspondence
- Medicare notices and Medicare explanation of benefits (not from 2nd party providers or other health insurance providers)
- Social Security and SSI notices and benefits statements
- Public high school, technical college, and public university correspondence and documents, including: admissions correspondence, financial aid notices, report cards, and schedules
- Federal student loan correspondence and notices
- Billing statements and collection notices from a governmental entity
- Correspondence from a federally recognized Native American tribe living in Wisconsin

If you are unsure if your document will qualify as acceptable proof of residence, please contact:

**Your municipal clerk:** contact information can be found at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)

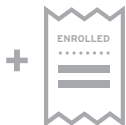
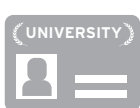
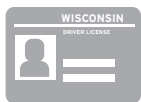
**The Wisconsin Elections Commission:** 1-866-VOTE-WIS or [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov)

*This is not a comprehensive list. These are only examples of proof of residence documents.*

# BEFORE YOU PICK A CANDIDATE, PICK A CARD.

You need to show an acceptable photo ID—like a Wisconsin driver license, military ID, or free Wisconsin state ID card—before casting a ballot in the next election.

There are other forms of ID you can use. Pick your ID and remember to bring it when you vote.







# WISCONSIN

## DRIVER LICENSE

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### **SPEAK UP. BUT FIRST, SAY CHEESE.**

Most people already have the photo ID they need to vote in the next election. If you don't, get a Wisconsin state ID card for free at your nearby Division of Motor Vehicles. You just need a few papers, like a certified birth certificate, Social Security card and a utility bill. There are several different documents you can use. So get your free ID today and remember to bring it when you vote.

# Absentee voting

Any eligible, registered, Wisconsin elector can vote by absentee ballot. **You do not need a reason to vote absentee.** Whether you have a hard time getting to the polls due to a disability or if it is just more convenient for you to vote by mail, all qualified Wisconsin electors are eligible to vote by absentee ballot.

## Photo ID when voting absentee

A copy of a valid photo ID must be provided when voting by absentee ballot unless you are a type of voter that is either exempt by statute or may have an alternative process to verify your identity.

In-person voters in the clerk's office must show their original photo ID to the clerk or staff. The staff member will record on the absentee certificate envelope that the voter provided photo ID.

Regular absentee voters requesting a ballot must provide a copy of their photo ID with their first or initial absentee ballot request. Once photo ID is provided, the voter no longer has to provide photo ID with subsequent absentee ballot requests, until they re-register (their name or address changes).

Electors that have moved within Wisconsin less than 28 days before the election must vote from their previous address. They may vote at the polling place for their previous address, or by absentee ballot in the municipality of their previous address.

Presidential-only electors, hospitalized electors, and sequestered jurors have special absentee voting requirements. They will need to show a photo ID, but should also contact their municipal clerk for assistance.

# Exceptions to photo ID laws

## Voters who are exempt from providing photo ID:

**Military voters:** Active members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, the Commissioned Corps of the Federal Public Health Service or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration, member of the Merchant Marine, Peace Corps volunteers, civilian employees of the U.S. serving outside the U.S., and their spouses and dependents.

**Permanent overseas voters:** Overseas voters are persons who resided in a municipality and have left the United States permanently with no intent to return. This may include dependents over the age of 18 whose parents' last residence was in Wisconsin. Note that if you are temporarily overseas and you have intent to return, you are not considered an overseas voter, and you must provide photo ID with your absentee application or ballot.

**Confidential electors:** Confidential electors have presented a court order, a letter from law enforcement, a letter from the staff of a domestic abuse shelter, or a letter from the staff of an agency assisting victims of domestic abuse, to their municipal clerk.

## Voters who may have their witness verify their identity rather than provide a copy of their photo ID:

**Indefinitely confined voters** may provide a copy of their photo ID, but may also choose to have their absentee ballot witness verify their identity by signing the absentee ballot certificate envelope. These electors must indicate on their application form that they are indefinitely confined because of age, illness, infirmity, or disability.

**Voters residing in care facilities visited by special voting deputies** (usually nursing homes) may provide a copy of their photo ID, but may also have the special voting deputies verify their identity by signing as witnesses on the voter's absentee ballot certificate envelope.

**Voters residing in other care facilities** that are eligible for special voting deputy procedures, but are not visited by special voting deputies, may provide a copy of their photo ID or ask an authorized representative of the facility to verify their identity by signing the absentee ballot certificate envelope. If the voter is indefinitely confined, the signature of an authorized representative is not required, but a witness must still sign the certificate envelope.

**Voters who do not have a photo ID on file with their municipal clerk will only be sent a ballot if they include a copy of a valid photo ID.**

The image shows a sample absentee ballot envelope form. It is divided into three main sections:

- Voter Information (Required):** This section includes fields for Voter Name (with checkboxes for 'At Large' and 'Ballot by Mail'), Home Name, Home (Last, First, Middle), Street Address, County, State, Zip, City, Home (Last, First, Middle), and Alt. Dist. (Last, First, Middle).
- Voter must complete this section:** This section contains instructions for voters, including a list of reasons for being eligible for absentee voting (e.g., being an absentee voter, being a resident of the state, being a member of the armed forces, etc.). It also includes a section for the voter's signature and a section for the voter to indicate if they are requesting a ballot by mail.
- Witness must complete this section:** This section is for a witness to sign and provide their name and address. It includes a section for the witness's signature and a section for the witness to indicate if they are requesting a ballot by mail.

At the bottom right, there is a section for the **Official Use Only**, which includes a field for the Clerk's Initial Here and a field for the Clerk's Name (Last, First, Middle).

Sample absentee ballot envelope

## Request an absentee ballot

Absentee ballots are available by mail 47 days before the partisan primary, presidential preference, and general elections and 21 days before state, local, and other elections.

You can request an absentee ballot from your municipal clerk by making the request in writing by mail, e-mail, fax or online at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov).

In most cases\*, absentee ballot requests must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. the Thursday before an election to receive a ballot for that election.

\* There are some exceptions for military voters, electors with extenuating circumstances (i.e. hospitalized voters, sequestered jurors, etc.), and others. Contact your clerk for more details.



## In-person absentee voting

When absentee voting in-person in your municipal clerk's office, you will complete your ballot and then insert the ballot into an absentee ballot certificate envelope. You will need to complete all the required fields and sign the certification on the envelope in order for your ballot to be counted.

**You must show an original photo ID  
when absentee voting in-person.**

Contact your municipal clerk to find out what times in-person absentee voting is available in your municipality.

## Request ballots for multiple elections

On your absentee ballot application, you can select to receive your ballots for one specific election, or for all elections in a calendar year.

If you are indefinitely confined (meaning it is difficult for you to get to the polls) due to age, illness, infirmity, or disability you may request that an absentee ballot be sent to you automatically for every future election.

When you choose this option, an absentee ballot will be sent to you for every future election and will only discontinue if you fail to return a ballot.

# Military & permanently overseas voters

Some deadlines are different for military and permanent overseas voters. Visit [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) and click on the “military voter” or “permanent overseas voter” icon for more information.

## Military Voting

See [Military voters \(defined on page 15\)](#)

As a member of the military, you do not need to register to vote. However, to vote absentee using MyVote, you will need to complete a form on the site prior to voting. As a member of U.S. Military or a spouse or dependent of a member you are eligible to receive an absentee ballot online, by email, by fax or mailed until 5 p.m. on Election Day.\*

If you are an active-duty military voter away from home and need to request an absentee ballot after 5 p.m. on the Friday before an election please contact your municipal clerk.

## Permanent Overseas Voters

U.S. citizens who last resided in Wisconsin before moving to a foreign country with no intent to return to the U.S.

### *First Time Voters*

Before you can vote, you must first register to vote. You will not be required to provide proof of residence with your registration. U.S. citizens who last resided in Wisconsin before moving to a foreign country with no intent to return to the U.S.

### *Returning Voters*

If you already registered to vote in Wisconsin, you can request to receive an absentee ballot online, by email, by fax or mailed to your overseas address.

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\* Federal elections only



*Mailboxes in Winnebago County Photo by Lynn Friedman*

## Returning absentee ballots

You must return your absentee ballot in the completed absentee ballot certificate envelope that was provided to you with your ballot by your municipal clerk. **If your absentee ballot certificate envelope is not complete, your ballot will not be counted.**

You may return your ballot either by mail or in-person\*\* to your municipal clerk's office or the location where absentee ballots are being counted on Election Day.

Regardless of how you return your absentee ballot to your municipal clerk's office, it **must be received no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.**

In most cases, a voter who has voted and returned an absentee ballot is prohibited from voting at the polling place on Election Day. Ask your municipal clerk if you are unsure.

Visit the Wisconsin Election Commission's website: [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) to find your municipal clerk's contact information.

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\*\* Absentee ballots requests may only be returned in-person during the in-person absentee period that starts two weeks before an election

# Election Day voting



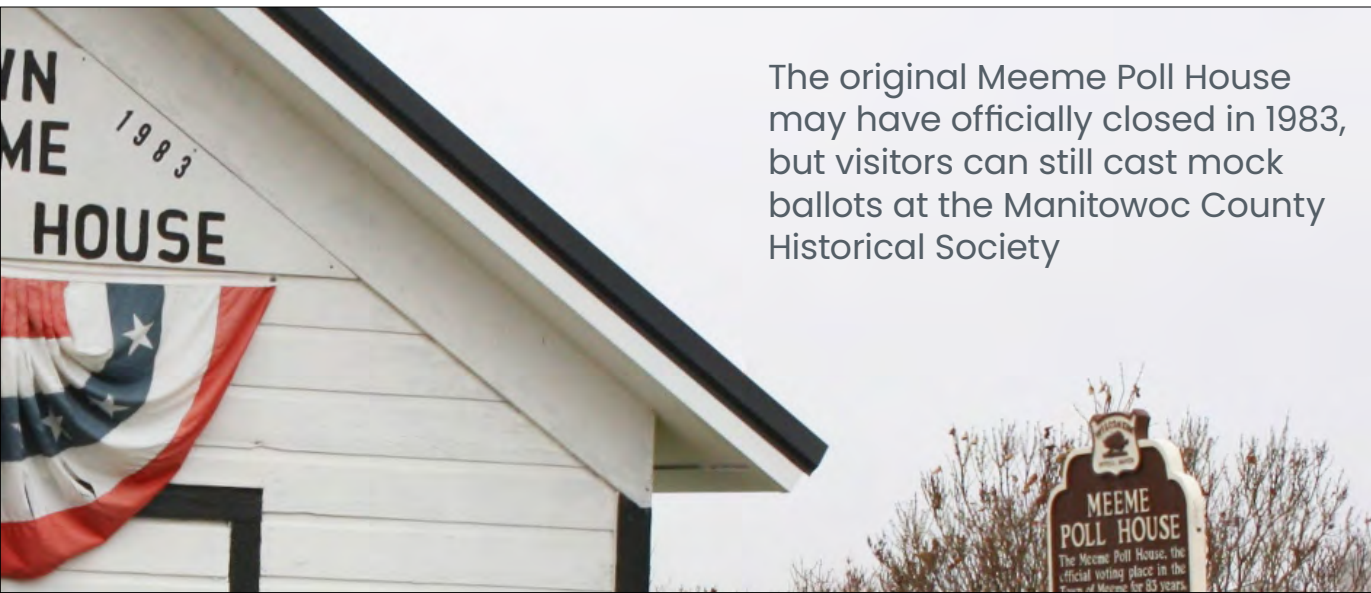
Photo by Royallbroil / Wikimedia Commons

## What to expect at the polls on Election Day

**Ballots received after Election Day will not be counted.**

1. Bring an acceptable [Photo ID](#) to the polling place. You should also bring along [Proof of residence](#), if you need to register at the polls.
2. Have their photo ID ready when you enter the polling place.
3. Check in with the greeter, if your polling place has one. Greeters will usually be able to verify if you are already registered or need to fill out a new registration form. If the polling place covers multiple wards, the greeter will be able to direct you to the correct line.
4. Fill out a new [registration form](#) if you are a new Wisconsin voter or if you have changed your name or address since you last voted. You will have to provide proof of residence when registering. You do not have to show your photo ID when registering, but you will have to show photo ID before being issued a ballot.
5. Poll workers will ask you to state your name and address. This has always been a requirement.
6. Poll workers will ask you to show your photo ID.





The original Meeme Poll House may have officially closed in 1983, but visitors can still cast mock ballots at the Manitowoc County Historical Society

7. Poll workers will ask you to sign the poll list. If you are unable to sign because of a physical disability, you are exempt from this requirement. You should inform a poll worker that you are unable to sign.
  - An exact match on the poll list is not necessary. For example, Bob conforms to Robert, Sue conforms to Susan, and Smith-Jones conforms to Smith if the voter has recently been married.
8. Poll workers write the Election Day voter number in the poll list, and issue you a ballot.
9. If you do not have a photo ID, you are allowed to vote by provisional ballot. You can bring your photo ID to the polling place by 8:00 p.m. You may also present your photo ID to the municipal clerk in person by 4:00 p.m. The Friday after the election. *If you provide photo ID by the deadline, the ballot will count. If you do not provide photo ID by the deadline, your ballot will not count.*

**Please be understanding and kind to the poll workers!**

# ACCEPTABLE

## WI Driver License



## US Uniformed Services



## WI State ID



## Veteran



## University / College Tech College\*



Some ID variations are not shown.

\*Enroll  
Verify  
Need  
If Exp



# E PHOTO IDS

US Passport Book or Card



WI Driver, State ID, or IDPP Receipt



Certificate of Naturalization



VA Affairs ID Card



Tribal ID



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# Photo ID

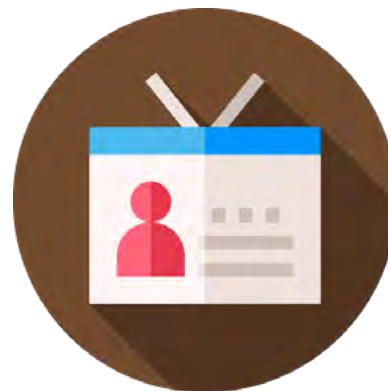
The voter's photo ID must be one of the acceptable documents specified by law.

- The voter's photo ID must be current. For State of Wisconsin driver license or state ID cards, military IDs, and passports, they can be expired, if they expired since the last general election.
- The voter's photo ID must reasonably resemble the voter.
- The voter's photo ID must have the voter's name on it.
- The voter's photo ID must be an original copy.
- The name on the photo ID must conform to the voter's name

## Photo ID Basics

### Do I need a special voter ID card?

Wisconsin does not issue voter ID or registration cards except to voters requiring confidentiality. There are many forms of photo ID – which you may already have – that can be used.



To vote. Anyone voting in person must show the original copy of their photo ID.

Anyone with a valid Wisconsin driver license or Wisconsin state ID card, or any of the documents listed below, already has the photo ID they need for voting purposes.





*Spc. Andrew Kuhnert of the 173rd Brigade Support Battalion assists with checking voter rolls in Rib Mountain. Photo by Wisconsin National Guard*

## Examples of acceptable photo IDs

The following photo IDs are acceptable for voting purposes, and can be unexpired or expired after the date of the last general election:

- A Wisconsin DMV-issued driver license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended. It does not need to be a “Real ID”.
- A Wisconsin DMV-issued identification card. It does not need to be a “Real ID”.
- Military ID card issued by the U.S. Uniformed Services
- A U.S. Passport book or card

**The following photo IDs are also acceptable for voting purposes:**

- A certificate of naturalization (that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of the election)
- An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin
- A driver license receipt issued by Wisconsin DMV (valid for 45 days from date issued)
- An identification card receipt issued by Wisconsin DMV (valid for 45 days from date issued)
- A Wisconsin DMV ID petition process photo receipt (valid for 60 days from date issued)
- A Veteran Affairs ID card (must be unexpired or have no expiration date)
- A photo identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college, or technical college that contains the following:
  - Date the card was issued
  - Signature of student
  - Expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance, can still be used if expired
  - If the student ID is expired, the university or college ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves current enrollment, such as a tuition fee receipt, enrollment verification letter, or class schedule



*A sea plane flies over Green Bay near Egg Harbor. Photo by Elvis Kennedy*

## What poll workers look for on photo IDs

An acceptable photo ID for voting does not have to include a current address.

**Elector's photograph:** The photograph must reasonably resemble the elector

**An expiration:** If the ID has an expiration date, it must meet the expiration requirements listed above

**Elector's name:** The elector's name must conform to the name on their voter registration; conform does not mean that the name must be identical to the name on the voter registration

## Ineligible photo IDs

The following photo IDs are not acceptable for voting purposes:

- A state or federal government employee ID
- An out-of-state driver license or identification card
- An employment ID
- A membership or organization ID
- A Certificate of Citizenship

# IDs without photos

The following documents, which do not contain a photo, can be used for voting purposes:

- A citation or notice of intent to revoke or suspend a driver license, which is dated within 60 days of the date of the election. If your driver license has been taken away by law enforcement or a court, you may present written documentation of that fact in order to vote without your photo ID
- A State of Wisconsin, DMV-issued, identification card without a photo, issued to those electors with a religious objection to being photographed

*State of Wisconsin ID card without photo*



The Wisconsin DMV will issue State of Wisconsin ID cards without a photo in them to Wisconsin residents who have a sincere religious objection to being photographed.

- A State of Wisconsin ID card without a photo can be used to vote in Wisconsin. It must be a State of Wisconsin ID card. ID cards from other states may not be used for voting in Wisconsin. You must show the original copy of your ID if you are voting in-person.
- You must provide the same documentation to the DMV as any other person requesting a State of Wisconsin ID card. This includes proof of identity, legal presence, name and date of birth, and residency.

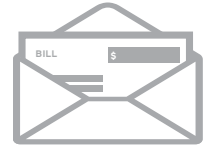


# VOTING WOULD LOOK GOOD ON YOU.

Most people already have the photo ID they need to vote in the next election. If you don't, get a Wisconsin state ID card for free at your nearby Division of Motor Vehicles. You just need a few papers, like a certified birth certificate, Social Security card and a utility bill. There are several different documents you can use. So get your free ID today and remember to bring it when you vote.



PROOF OF NAME  
& DATE OF BIRTH



PROOF OF WISCONSIN  
RESIDENCY



PROOF OF IDENTITY



PROOF OF LEGAL  
PRESENCE

- You must also file an affidavit which certifies that you object to being photographed due to a sincerely-held religious conviction. This affidavit is available at any DMV service center and should be requested from DMV staff.
- A State of Wisconsin ID without a photo can be issued for free if it is going to be used for voting purposes. Just check the appropriate box on the application and your State of Wisconsin ID card without a photo will be issued for free.
- If you do not have all of the required documents for a State of Wisconsin ID card, the DMV has a petition process available to help you verify some of your records.

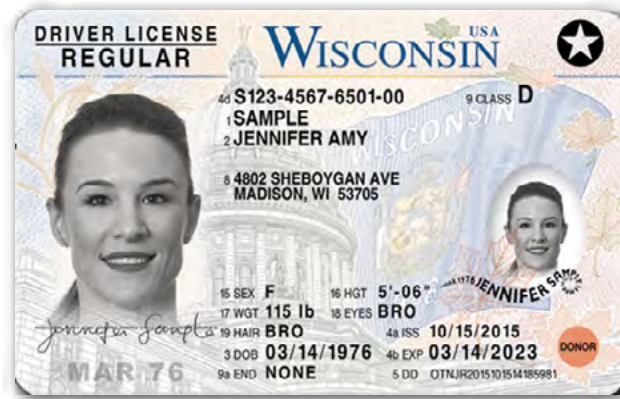
## Exemptions to photo ID requirements

**The following electors do not need to provide a photo ID:**

- Confidential electors are always exempt from photo ID requirements. Confidential electors have applied for this status with their municipal clerk, and have presented a court order, a letter from law enforcement, a letter from the staff of a domestic abuse shelter, or the staff of an agency assisting victims of domestic abuse
- Active military and permanent overseas voters are not required to provide a photo ID when they vote by absentee ballot, but if they vote in person, they must present photo ID
- Indefinitely confined voters and voters in special care facilities can provide a witness signature on their absentee ballot certificate envelope in substitute for showing photo ID; if they vote in-person, they must present a photo ID

# Wisconsin Issued IDs

## Wisconsin driver license or ID Card



*Wisconsin Driver License*

You must show the original copy of your ID if you are voting in-person.

### Obtaining an ID or Driver License

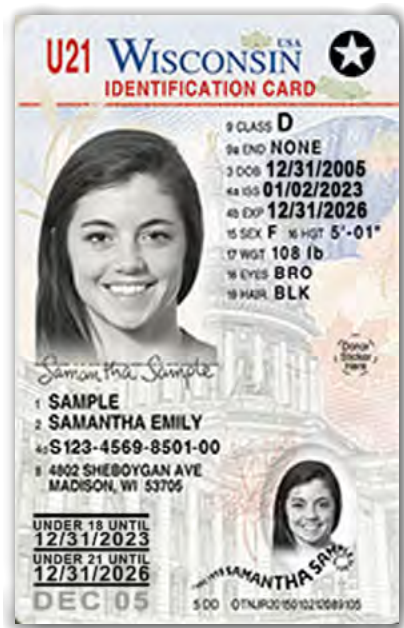
Visit your local DMV. Find your nearest Wisconsin DMV location by calling (608) 264-7447 or visiting [wisconsin.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/find-dmv](http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/find-dmv) Once there, you will be asked to provide identifying documentation.

Any Wisconsin resident can get a State of Wisconsin ID card. You cannot have both a driver license and a state ID, you may only have one. Valid out-of-state driver licenses or ID cards must be surrendered when obtaining a State of Wisconsin ID card.

Your Wisconsin driver license or ID does not need to be Real ID compliant to be used for voting purposes. You can use a Wisconsin driver license or with either a star or the phrase “not for federal purposes” in the top right corner as photo ID.

The DMV may punch a hole over the expiration date to void a State of Wisconsin ID card or Driver License. **Hole-punched cards are invalid; therefore, not an acceptable ID for voting purposes if the expiration date, or other information, cannot be read.**

## Wisconsin driver license



For further questions visit: [wisconsin.gov](https://www.wisconsin.gov) search: "application for a driver license." Once your application and documentation are accepted, you will be issued a Wisconsin driver license photo receipt that can be used for voting purposes for 45 days. You will receive your Wisconsin driver license in the mail about 10 days after you apply.

- You can renew your Wisconsin driver license online at [wisconsin.gov](https://www.wisconsin.gov)
- You may use a regular, probationary, or occupational Wisconsin driver license to vote.

## Wisconsin ID card



For further questions visit: [wisconsin.gov](https://www.wisconsin.gov) search: "obtaining an identification (ID) card"



### *Petition Process for ID*

A document petition process is available at the Wisconsin DMV if you apply for a State of Wisconsin ID card and your documents to prove U.S. Citizenship, name and date of birth, and/or legal name change are unavailable. If you do not have the documents mentioned above, DMV staff will work with you to verify your records through other means. You can still get a free State of Wisconsin ID card on the day you visit the DMV even if you are unable to provide the documents listed above.

You can renew your State of Wisconsin ID card online at [wisconsin.gov](http://wisconsin.gov).

State of Wisconsin ID cards are available for free, just check the “free ID for voting purposes” box on the application form.

To find more information concerning Wisconsin DMV ID petition process photo receipt call the voter ID hotline: (844) 588-1069 or visit [wisconsin.gov](http://wisconsin.gov) search: “petition process”

**Voter ID Hotline: (844) 588-1069**

### **Wisconsin DMV ID or Driver License Photo Receipt**

This receipt is mailed to the voter after one visit to the DMV. The receipt is printed on a security paper that will display “void” when it is photocopied. The voter may submit a photocopy when requesting an absentee ballot.

You cannot use your receipt to vote if it is expired. It may be used for voting for 60 days from the date it was issued.



# Federally Issued IDs

## U.S. Uniformed service ID card

An ID issued by Veteran Affairs (VA) can be used for voting in Wisconsin. In addition, if you have a retired U.S. Uniformed service ID card issued by the U.S. Department of defense that is unexpired or has no expiration date, you may use it for voting purposes.



The Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs  
Attn: WING-GI-ID  
2400 Wright street  
Po box 8111  
Madison, WI 53708-0587  
Phone: (608) 242-3420

### Other considerations for military voters

If you are an active member of the U.S. Armed forces and you are currently away from your home in Wisconsin, you do not need to provide a photo ID when requesting an absentee ballot. If, however, you choose to vote at the polls you will need to provide an acceptable form of photo ID to receive a ballot.

**Military voters** (*defined on page 15*) can request, in writing, that an absentee ballot be sent to them either by mail, email, fax, or online. Military voters can request and receive their absentee ballots online at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov).



- Military voters and their dependents are also exempt from the voter registration requirement. Even if they are not registered to vote, they may still request an absentee ballot be sent to them. Click “vote absentee” on [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) to request an absentee ballot.
- When using a U.S. Uniformed Service ID card to vote, a separate Wisconsin state ID card is not required.
- Some U.S. Uniformed Service ID cards do not have an expiration date on them. If there is no expiration date on the card, it is considered unexpired and can be used for voting. However, please be sure that the photograph on the card still reasonably resembles you.

## Veteran affairs (VA) ID cards



(VHIC - earliest expiration date: 2023)



(VIC - no expiration date)

The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs/Veterans Health Administration issues IDs to veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Care System.

There are currently two versions: the Veteran Health ID Card (VHIC) and the older Veteran ID card (VIC).

Some VIC cards do not expire and are therefore valid for voting indefinitely. The newer VHIC card will first begin to expire in 2023.

# U.S. Passport

U.S. Passport books and cards are documents issued by the U.S. Department of State to citizens of the United States of America. This document is used for international travel and identification.

## How Do I Get a US Passport?

U.S. Citizens can apply for a first time U.S. Passport at an acceptance facility or passport agency. You apply by submitting the application for a U.S. Passport found at [travel.state.gov/passport](https://travel.state.gov/passport).

You will need to go in-person to your nearest U.S. Regional passport agency or service center. To locate the nearest agency or service center call 1-877-487-2778 or visit [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) and search: "passport agencies."





# U.S. Certificate of Naturalization

The look of a U.S. Certificate of Naturalization can vary depending on when it was issued.

## What is a U.S. Certificate of Naturalization

A U.S. Certificate of Naturalization is issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to U.S. Citizens who have completed the U.S. Naturalization process. In Wisconsin, only U.S. Citizens are eligible to vote. You may not vote until the U.S. Citizenship process is complete.



One of the more common certificates

## Eligibility

In certain cases, a person who was born outside of the United States to U.S. Citizen parents is already a citizen of the U.S. And does not need to apply for naturalization. To find out more information about this type of citizenship and whether you should file form N-600, application for Certificate of Citizenship, read “Guide to Naturalization” at [uscis.gov](https://uscis.gov).

Other permanent residents under 18 years of age may be eligible for U.S. Citizenship if their U.S. Citizen parent or parents file a form N-600 application on their behalf. For more information see “Frequently Asked Questions” at [uscis.gov](https://uscis.gov).

## Contact info

To locate the nearest U.S. Citizenship and immigration services (USCIS) field office, contact the USCIS national customer services center at 1-800-375-5283 or visit [uscis.gov](https://uscis.gov).

## Other IDs

### Federally-recognized Wisconsin tribal ID

The look of a tribal ID card issued by a federally recognized Native American tribe residing in Wisconsin can vary depending on which tribe issued the card.



*Example Tribal ID*

Any Native American tribe that is recognized by the U.S. Federal government and who resides in the State of Wisconsin can issue an ID card to their full members that is acceptable for voting in Wisconsin. While this is not a complete list, the following tribes are currently federally recognized and have a tribal governance located in Wisconsin (this list is subject to change):

- Bad River Band of The Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Forest County Potawatomi Community
- Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Ojibwe
- Lac Du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Menominee Indian Tribe
- Oneida Tribe of Indians
- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Sokaogon Chippewa Community
- Stockbridge Munsee Community
- St. Croix Chippewa Indians

Tribal ID cards can be issued to full members of the tribe only. A full member of the tribe must first be enrolled in order to be considered for full membership. A birth certificate is required for enrollment. The enrollment process can vary between two months to one year depending on each tribe's process. It is recommended that you contact the specific tribe you are applying to for the most current information on their enrollment process.

**For more information on tribal ID cards you may contact your local tribe or:**

**Great Lakes Agency Bureau of Indian Affairs**

916 West Lake Shore Drive  
Ashland, WI 54806-1357  
Phone: (715) 682-4527  
Fax: (715) 682-8897

**Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council**

2932 Highway 47 N  
P.O. Box 9  
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538  
Phone: (715) 588-3324  
Fax: (715) 588-7900  
Email: [glitc@glitc.org](mailto:glitc@glitc.org)

# Wisconsin student ID



A student ID can be used to vote in Wisconsin. However, there is specific information that must be included with your ID in order for it to be acceptable for voting. Your student ID card must include: your name, your signature, your photo, the date the card was issued, and the date the card expires. The issued date cannot be more than two years from the expiration date. The card may still be used to vote even if it is expired. If your student ID is expired, you must also provide a document that shows you are enrolled in the school at the time of the election. This can be a document such as an enrollment verification letter, class schedule, tuition fee receipt, or certified campus housing list. You must show your original student ID if you are voting in-person but may show your proof of enrollment document electronically.

A student ID card is a card issued by an accredited Wisconsin college, university, or technical college. This includes all 2 and 4 year colleges, universities and technical colleges in the State of Wisconsin system. It also includes all accredited, private 2 and 4 year colleges, universities and technical colleges.

You may show your proof of residence document electronically using a smartphone, tablet, or computer.





**WISCONSIN**

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**DRIVER LICENSE**

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**THERE ARE  
COUNTLESS  
WAYS TO BE  
COUNTED.**

You need to show an acceptable photo ID—like a Wisconsin driver license, passport, or free Wisconsin state ID card—before casting a ballot.

There are other forms of ID you can use. Pick yours, and remember to bring it when you vote.

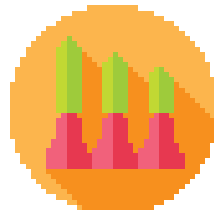


# THE LIFE OF A BALLOT



1

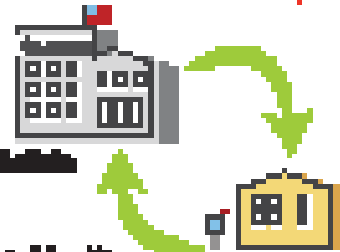
## GETTING ON THE BALLOT



Candidates qualify through the nomination and primary processes.

## 5 ABSENTEE VOTING

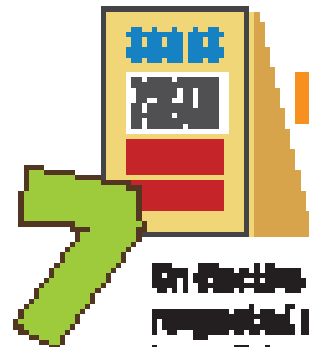
Municipal clerks send absentee ballots to voters via regular mail. Voters vote them and mail or otherwise return them to the clerk's office.



6

## NO-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING

Up to 11 days before the election, voters may go to the municipal clerk's office to request, vote, and submit their absentee ballots.



## ELECTION DAY!

On Election Day, ballots are requested and voted in person by registered voters. Clerks begin to count absentee ballots.

## CHECKING THE BALLOT



County clerks submit their ballot templates to the Commission for review.



## A BALLOT IS BORN



Approved ballots go to print.



## BALLOTS GO LOCAL

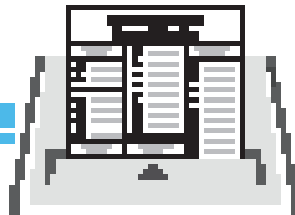
Ballots are delivered to counties who distribute them to the municipalities.

## ELECTIONS



# 8

## BALLOTS ARE COUNTED



All ballots received by 5pm on election day are counted. This may take a while in large municipalities, so unofficial results based on ballots count the large election may not be posted until the following day.

## SECURED & VERIFIED

Once counted, voted ballots are secured by the municipal clerk's office and submitted to the county for another round of verification before storing them for the amount of time required by state statute.



# PHOTO ID & VOTING GUIDE

