

# Government Accountability Board

## State of Wisconsin

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### **Wednesday Last Day for Voter Registration Drives**

MADISON, WI – Wednesday is the last day for voter registration drives and mail-in registration in Wisconsin, but voters can continue to register in their municipal clerk’s office, as well as at the polling place on Election Day.

“Open registration closes this year on October 15, so registration forms need to be postmarked or hand-delivered to the municipal clerk’s office by then,” said Kevin J. Kennedy, Wisconsin’s chief election official. “But there are many more opportunities for voters to get registered.”

The state of Wisconsin had 3,385,151 registered voters on October 1, 2014, compared to 3,467,021 registered voters in October 2012. The state’s current voting-age population is 4,416,501. The G.A.B. has not yet projected voter turnout for this election, but turnout for past two regular gubernatorial elections in Wisconsin was approximately 50 percent of eligible voters (the voting age population).

Kennedy encouraged voters who need to register or update their registration to go to [MyVote.WI.gov](http://MyVote.WI.gov), the state’s voter information website. On the website, they can start the registration process online by filling out a registration form. Voters can print the form, sign it and deliver it to the clerk’s office by Friday, October 31. They can also bring it with them to the polls on Election Day.

[MyVoteWI.gov](http://MyVoteWI.gov) is the only website where voters can enter their own information directly into the state’s voter registration list, Kennedy noted. “When you register using MyVote, your municipal clerk can approve your voter application without the hassle of retyping your information or the risk of a data entry error,” Kennedy said. All voters must now show a proof of residence document to complete their registration, regardless of when they register, Kennedy said.

That can include a valid driver license or state ID card with a current address. Anyone who does not have a driver license or state ID card can use a number of other documents that include the person’s name and current address. Acceptable documents include a residential lease, a utility bill (including telephone or cell phone), property tax bill, bank statement (not a credit card bill), paycheck, or other government-issued check or document. A full list is available at <http://gab.wi.gov/publications/voter-guides/proof-of-residence>. When registering in person at the clerk’s office or the polling place, the proof of residence document can be displayed on a computer screen, including laptops, tablets and smart phones.

Kennedy noted that proof of residence is different than voter photo ID, which the U.S. Supreme Court halted for the November election on October 9. “You may use a valid driver license or state ID card for proof of residence when you register to vote,” Kennedy said. “But you are not required to show a photo ID to get your ballot.”

Elections Division Administrator Michael Haas reminded voters that “early voting” starts next week. Voters will be able to cast in-person absentee ballots in the clerks’ office starting Monday, October 20 through Friday, October 31. There is no early voting on weekends. Voters should check with their municipal clerk’s office for office hours. Some clerks in smaller towns may not have regular office hours, but can arrange in-person absentee voting by appointment.

Voters can find their local clerk’s contact information at [MyVote.WI.gov](https://www.myvote.wi.gov).

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The Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) is responsible for administration and enforcement of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying laws in Wisconsin. The G.A.B. is made up of six non-partisan, former judges and is supported by an agency of non-partisan staff members.