

-VOTING FOR THE VOLUNTARILY AND INVOLUNTARILY COMMITTED-

Information Provided by the Wisconsin Elections Commission

DO I NEED A PHOTO ID TO VOTE?

A valid photo ID, or acceptable substitute, must be provided when voting by absentee ballot, unless you are part of a group exempted by statute.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

- **Voters that have been adjudicated incompetent to vote by a court are ineligible to vote.**
- **All other voters are presumed competent to vote**, including voters in nursing homes and mental health facilities. People who are detained, committed, or institutionalized, but have not been adjudicated incompetent are still eligible to vote.
- Voters who are voluntarily or involuntarily committed, but are still eligible to vote must either already be registered to vote or must register to vote prior to requesting an absentee ballot.

WHAT ADDRESS SHOULD I USE FOR VOTING PURPOSES?

- Voters involuntarily committed under Wis. Stat. §§ 51.20 (commitment for treatment), 971.14 (competency determinations), 971.17 (commitment of persons found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect), or Chapter 980 (for sexually violent offenses), must register and vote at the address where they lived immediately prior to their commitment.
- **Voters committed voluntarily** may register and vote at the address of the facility where they currently reside. They may also choose to register and vote at the address they resided at before they were committed, if they have intent to return to that address.

HOW CAN I VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT?

- **Indefinitely confined electors** must request an absentee ballot no later than the Friday before the election. Your request remains valid until you fail to return a ballot or re-register (change your name or address). You may provide a copy of your photo ID with your absentee request, but the witness certification on the absentee envelope will qualify as a substitute for photo ID. These electors must indicate on their application form that they are indefinitely confined because of age, physical illness, infirmity, or disability.
- **Voters residing in care facilities visited by Special Voting Deputies** will be able to vote when the Special Voting Deputies conduct voting at the facility. They may provide a copy of their photo ID, but the witness certification, if signed by both Special Voting Deputies, qualifies as a substitute for photo ID.
- **Voters residing in other care facilities** that are eligible for Special Voting Deputy procedures, but are **not visited by Special Voting Deputies**, can request an absentee ballot by mail, fax, or email. You may provide a copy of your photo ID with your absentee ballot request, but a certification statement signed by an authorized representative of the facility and the absentee ballot witness will qualify as substitute for photo ID. If you are indefinitely confined, only the witness certification on the absentee envelope is needed to qualify as a substitute for photo ID.

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HOW CAN I VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT? (CONTINUED)

Regular absentee voters requesting a ballot by mail must provide a copy of their photo ID with their absentee ballot request. Once photo ID is provided, you no longer have to provide photo ID with any subsequent absentee requests, until you re-register (your name or address changes).

HOW CAN I VOTE IN PERSON?

- If you are able to go to your **municipal clerk's office**, in your municipal clerk's office, hours vary, contact your clerk for date and time. You must always show your photo ID to the clerk or staff before voting in-person. Contact your local municipal clerk for their specific municipal voting hours.
- If you are able to go to the **polling place**, you may vote there on Election Day between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. You must show your photo ID to an election worker before voting.

WHAT IF I WANT OR NEED SOMEONE TO ASSIST ME?

- **If a voter needs help registering to vote**, any person may assist them to fill out the registration form and mail it in to their municipal clerk. The assisting person must sign the voter registration form in the space provided.
- **If a voter needs help requesting an absentee ballot**, any person may assist them to fill out a form and mail it in to their municipal clerk. The assisting person must sign the absentee ballot request form.
- **If a voter needs help marking the ballot**, he or she may have a person assist them. You may not receive assistance from an employer, a candidate on the ballot, or a representative of your labor organization. Any other person, including a special voting deputy or a poll worker, may assist you to mark the ballot. If voting at the polling place, poll workers must record the fact that you received assistance, and the full name and address of the assisting person, on the poll list.
- **No one may mark or cast a ballot without the voter's knowledge or contrary to the voter's wishes**, even if they have power of attorney or other guardianship status.

For detailed information about the Voter Photo ID law, visit bringit.wi.gov.
For other information on the Wisconsin Elections Commission, visit <http://elections.wi.gov>
or call the Elections Help Desk at 608-266-8005