



[www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov)



Safe. Secure. Simple.

# Voting FAQs

Register to vote.  
Request an absentee ballot.

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**Who is eligible to vote in Wisconsin?** An eligible elector is a U.S. Citizen, 18 years or older, not currently serving a felony conviction and has been a resident at their current address for at least **28 days**.

**How can I register to vote?** An eligible voter may register to [vote online](#), by mail, or in person at their local municipal clerk's office or at their polling location on Election Day. Proof of residence is required regardless of the method a voter uses to register.

**How do I register online?** To register online you must have a current Wisconsin Driver License or Wisconsin State Identification Card. To register online go to [Myvote.wi.gov](http://Myvote.wi.gov).

**What do I do if I don't want to register online?** If you are unable or unwilling to complete your registration online, you can print off the application from [MyVote.wi.gov](http://MyVote.wi.gov) and mail or hand deliver it to your local municipal clerk.

**What are acceptable ways to prove residency?** Ways in which you can prove residency are the following (but not limited to): current and valid Wisconsin DL or State ID card, current utility bill, bank statement, current residential lease or property tax statement, and paystub or paycheck. Your name must appear on these documents.

**Who can request an absentee ballot?** Any registered voter who is unable or unwilling to appear in person at the polling place on election day may request an absentee ballot.

**Do I need to provide photo ID to receive an absentee ballot?** Yes, photo ID is required to receive an absentee ballot. There are special exceptions for individuals who are indefinitely confined to their home due to age, illness, or disability.

**Do I need a witness to complete my absentee ballot?** Yes, you must have a witness. The witness must be an adult U.S. citizen. The witness should be present when you complete your ballot but should not view your choices. After the voter seals the ballot in the certificate envelope and signs, the witness should sign on the witness line and provide their complete address.

**I made a mistake on my absentee ballot, what do I do?** If you made a mistake on your absentee ballot you may request a new ballot. You are eligible up to two additional [replacement](#) ballots. Contact your municipal clerk to let them know you made a mistake and need to "spoil" your ballot. Tear your ballot up and discard. The municipal clerk will cancel your current ballot and issue you a new one. This may be done up to the Thursday before Election Day.

**I made a mistake on my in-person ballot, what do I do?** If you spoil your ballot and are voting in person at the municipal clerk's office or at the polling place on Election Day notify the municipal clerk or election inspector and they will issue you a new ballot. Tear your spoiled ballot in half and provide it to the municipal clerk or election inspector. The spoiled ballot and 2<sup>nd</sup> ballot issuance will be documented.

**I requested an absentee ballot, but I want to vote at the polls instead. What can I do?** If you requested an absentee ballot, but changed your mind and wish to vote at the polls on election day you can do so IF you have not made an attempt to return your ballot. You **MUST** tear your absentee ballot up and discard. Go to your polling place on election day. Notify the election inspectors that you received an absentee ballot, but you did not vote or make an attempt to return your ballot. You can then be issued a ballot at the polls.

If you received an absentee ballot, voted the ballot, and placed it in the mail for delivery but are concerned that your ballot will not make it to the clerk on time to be counted you **cannot** go to the polls on election day and vote, even if your ballot has not yet been received.

**I am worried that my ballot won't make it to the clerk in time to be counted.** Be sure you request your ballot early and return your ballot as soon as possible. Your ballot must be received by 8:00 p.m. on election day to be counted.

**What is the difference between by-mail absentee voting and early in-person absentee voting?** If you provide your municipal clerk with a written request to receive an absentee ballot your municipal clerk will mail you a ballot to your home address or to a specified mailing address, if different. Early in-person absentee voting is held in the municipal clerk's office two weeks prior to each election. All of these ballots are kept unopened in a secure area until Election Day when all ballots are counted.

**How do I find my polling location? My municipal clerk?** [MyVote.wi.gov](http://MyVote.wi.gov) offers a variety of tools to help voters access information they need to vote. On [MyVote](http://MyVote) you can register to vote, request an absentee ballot, find your polling location, find your municipal clerk information, view a sample ballot, view your elected officials, and check your voting participation record.

**What happens to my absentee ballot after I complete it and return it to the clerk? When is my absentee ballot counted?** The municipal clerk will verify that your certificate envelope is complete and has all of these: voter's signature, witness signature & witness address. If any of these are missing the clerk will return it or contact the voter to come in to make the corrections. The ballot will not be counted if any of these items are missing.

Once the clerk determines that the certificate envelope is complete, the clerk will mark the ballot as returned. It is stored in a secure area until Election Day. On Election Day all absentee ballots are securely transported to the polling location for counting. Election inspectors use a set of procedures for processing and documenting the absentee ballots. Absentee ballots are electronically tabulated or are placed in the ballot box for counting with the Election Day ballots at the close of polls.