

Provisional Voting

If you are given a provisional ballot, you must provide your municipal clerk's office with required documentation no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Friday after the election **or your vote will not be counted**. Contact the municipal clerk or the Wisconsin Elections Commission if you have questions.

Primary Elections

Primary elections are held to nominate candidates to be voted on in the general or spring elections.

Spring Primary - Third Tuesday in February.

Presidential Preference Primary - Held with the Spring Election in a presidential election year to indicate preferences for president within each political party.

Fall Primary - Second Tuesday in August.

General Elections

Spring Election - First Tuesday in April to elect judicial and non-partisan municipal, county and education officials.

Fall Election - Even-numbered years on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November to elect U.S. senators and representatives, U.S. president, and state and county partisan offices.

Special Elections

Special elections may be held to fill vacancies or for other purposes.

Referendum

A referendum is a popular vote on a specific issue of government and may occur in an election.

Keep in Touch with Your Elected Officials

You can follow what your officials are doing on the Internet, through newspapers, TV and radio, and by attending meetings of your local city council, town or village board, school board, and county board.

Visit myvote.wi.gov to get the names and contact information of your elected officials. You can also contact them through the websites and phone numbers below:

Wisconsin Legislature - legis.wisconsin.gov

Click on "Who Represents Me?" and enter your home address to access the web pages of your state representative and state senator.

Wisconsin Legislative Hotline - 1-800-362-9472

This toll-free number connects you with your state representative or state senator.

Wisconsin Governor - www.wisgov.state.wi.us

President of the United States - whitehouse.gov

U.S. Congress - senate.gov and house.gov

Click "Find Your Senators" at senate.gov and "Find Your Representative" at house.gov.

City of Milwaukee Officials

city.milwaukee.gov/election

This very informative website is for Milwaukee residents. Click "Where Do I Vote? Who Are My Representatives" for a full list of local, state and federal representatives based on your address.

A grant from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Florence Hart Greene Fund helped support production of this brochure.

The League of Women Voters of Milwaukee County has prepared this pamphlet to help you get started in citizen activity. It is important to vote in every election.

The League is a 501(c)(3) non-partisan, non-profit organization. Our members are women and men who take an active role in making our democracy work. We do not support or oppose candidates or political parties. We study specific local, state and national issues in order to educate voters and to advocate for certain legislation.

This material is based on Wisconsin election laws and is believed to be correct and accurate as of revision date. For the most current information, refer to the Wisconsin Elections Commission (website gab.wi.gov).

lwvmilwaukee.org

league@lwvmilwaukee.org

1845 N. Farwell Ave., Suite 102
Milwaukee, WI 53202



For the latest information:

www.lwvmilwaukee.org



Resources

myvote.wi.gov

Official Wisconsin website for voting information.

bringit.wi.gov

Official Wisconsin website for voting information.

gab.wi.gov 1-866-VOTE-WIS

Wisconsin Elections Commission

How to Register and VOTE in Wisconsin



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

Revised August 2016

Who Can Vote in Wisconsin?

To vote in the state of Wisconsin, you must be:

- ~ A citizen of the United States
- ~ 18 years of age or older
- ~ A resident of Wisconsin
- ~ Registered to vote

You cannot vote if you have been:

- ~ Convicted of a felony, until after the sentence has been served in full, including probation, parole or extended supervision.
- ~ Declared incompetent to vote by a court

Photo Identification Required

Photo IDs are required to vote in Wisconsin elections at this time. For updates on court actions that have upheld a state law requiring photo IDs in order to vote, check with your village, town or city clerk or the Milwaukee Election Commission or the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

Registering to Vote

To register to vote you must have lived in your district at least 10 days before the election.

You do not need proof that you have lived at your current address for 10 days prior to an election; however, you must sign the application stating that you meet the requirement. **If you have moved within the state during the 10 days prior to the election**, you may register and vote only in your former district, either in person or by absentee ballot.

You can be registered to vote in only one place at a time. You must provide the last address where you were previously registered. Your signature on the application testifies to its truth; you may not falsify under penalty of law.

A Wisconsin driver license number or Wisconsin state ID number is required only if one has been issued. If you've never had a Wisconsin driver license or state ID OR if your driver license is revoked, suspended, or expired, then provide just the last four digits of your SSN.

You can still register to vote if you have none of the above; however, if you do have any driver license, ID or SSN documentation you **MUST** provide it.

To register during "open registration"

20 or more days prior to the election:

Register in person with a Special Registration Deputy designated by the municipality in which you reside, or at sites chosen by the municipality such as a high school or library, or at the city, town, or village clerk's office. **Proof of residence is required.**

Register by mail by downloading the voter registration form (EL 131) available online from myvote.wi.gov or gab.wi.gov. You can also call or write your municipal clerk and ask that the form be sent to you by mail. Complete the online form, print it out and sign it, or complete and sign the form you get in the mail, and mail it to your city, town or village clerk. **Your completed form must include proof of residence** (but not a lease)

and must be postmarked by the 20th day before the election.

To register less than 20 days prior to an election or on Election Day:

You may register at your municipal clerk's office by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before an election or at your polling place on Election Day. **You must provide acceptable proof of residence that includes full name and current street address.**

If you change your name or address you are required to update your voter registration information. To check the status of your registration, go to myvote.wi.gov.

Proof of Residence

Proof of residence that includes your full name and current street address is required with all registrations. Any one of the following is acceptable proof of residence:

§ A current and valid Wisconsin driver license or Wisconsin state ID

§ Any other official ID card or license issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit

§ An employee ID card with a photo, but not a business card

§ A university, college or technical institute identification card (must include photo), only if the bearer provides a fee receipt dated within the last nine months or the institution provides a certified housing list to the municipal clerk

§ Public high school document

§ A property tax bill or receipt for the current year or the year preceding the date of election

§ A residential lease if registering in person

§ A utility bill for the period that begins not earlier than 90 days before the day registration is made.

§ A bank statement

§ A pay stub

§ A check or other document issued by a unit of government.

Electronic statements are acceptable displayed on your smartphone, tablet or computer, but an internet connection is not required to be provided.

Voting Hours, Sample Ballots, Polling Places

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Find your polling place at myvote.wi.gov or call your municipal clerk's office. Sample ballots are available at your clerk's office, at your polling place and at myvote.wi.gov. By law, polling places must be accessible to all. Also, you have a right to have help with voting. A poll worker or a person other than your employer or labor union agent can assist you. Unless disabled, you must sign the poll list in order to vote.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

If you are a registered voter, you may vote by absentee ballot. For early in-person absentee voting, contact your municipal clerk for dates, locations and hours.

Contact your municipal clerk or the Wisconsin Elections Commission, gab.wi.gov, for deadlines and procedures for mail-in requests or in-person absentee voting. To be counted, your mail-in ballot must be received by Election Day. It must be signed and witnessed or your ballot will not be counted.

New Resident Voting for President Only

If you have lived in Wisconsin less than 10 days, you may still vote for president only. Ask for the Application for Presidential Ballot (EL-141) instead of the Voter Registration Application. You must provide proof of residence. You will be given a form that will cancel your previous voter registration.