

-ABSENTEE VOTING IN WISCONSIN-

Information provided by the Wisconsin Elections Commission – August 2020

CAN I VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL?

Any eligible, registered, Wisconsin elector can vote by absentee ballot. You do not need a reason. 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.

WHEN CAN I VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL?

Absentee ballots are available by mail 47 days before the August 11, 2020 Partisan Primary. Most voters must request their ballot by August 6, 2020, but we suggest getting your request in well ahead of the deadline.

HOW DO I GET AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL?

- Absentee ballot requests must be made in writing. You can request an absentee ballot online, by mail, by fax, or by e-mail. Do not forget to include a copy of your photo ID with the request, if required.
- **Online** requests can be made at <https://MyVote.wi.gov> until August 6, 2020.
- **E-mail, mail, or fax** requests must be sent to your municipal clerk directly. You should include
 - Your full name
 - Your Wisconsin voting address
 - The specific election for which you would like a ballot or if you are requesting for the calendar year
 - Mailing address (*if different than your voting address*) or if you prefer to receive the ballot via e-mail (*emailed ballot must be printed and returned via mail at the voter's expense*)
- Absentee ballot requests must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 6, 2020 to receive a ballot for the Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary.

HOW DO I FIND MY MUNICIPAL CLERK'S CONTACT INFORMATION?

Visit the Wisconsin Election Commission's MyVote Wisconsin website: <https://MyVote.wi.gov/en-us/MyMunicipalClerk>

I LIVE IN A CARE FACILITY OR A NURSING HOME – HOW CAN I VOTE ABSENTEE?

Voters who live in a care facility or nursing home will have their absentee ballots mailed to them. Voters will still need to be registered to vote and submit an absentee ballot application.

Voters that reside in a care facility or nursing home may submit a copy of a valid photo identification or may complete the EL-122sp certificate that includes the signature of facility administrator certifying that the voter resides in the facility.

Find more information on the Photo ID law at www.BringIt.wi.gov
Register to vote or check your registration status at: www.MyVote.wi.gov
Contact the Wisconsin Elections Commission at 1-866-Vote-Wis or at elections@wi.gov

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I HAVE A HARD TIME GETTING TO THE POLLS – HOW CAN I VOTE ABSENTEE?

Voters who have a hard time getting to their polling place due to age, illness, infirmity, or disability can self-certify on the absentee ballot application that they are an indefinitely confined voter. They are not required to submit a copy of a photo ID with their absentee request.

Indefinitely confined voters will have the ballot sent to them automatically for all future elections.

HOW DO I RETURN MY ABSENTEE BALLOT?

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 by personal delivery to your municipal clerk's office.

- If you are returning your absentee ballot to your municipal clerk by mail or delivering your completed absentee ballot to your municipal clerk's office, it must be received no later than 8:00 p.m. on August 11, 2020.

DO I NEED TO PROVIDE PHOTO ID WHEN VOTING ABSENTEE?

The following types of voters MUST provide photo ID with their absentee ballot applications:

- **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 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).
- **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.

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WHO DOES NOT HAVE TO SHOW PHOTO ID WHEN VOTING ABSENTEE?

Voters who are exempt from providing photo ID:

- **Military voters.** This includes any member 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 your 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.

WHO MAY HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE TO PROVIDING A COPY OF THEIR PHOTO ID?

Types of 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** that have requested an absentee ballot and are not indefinitely confined electors may submit a copy of a valid photo ID or may complete the EL-122sp certificate that includes the signature of facility staff certifying that the voter resides in the facility. The absentee ballot will then be mailed to you.

HOW CAN I SUBMIT MY PHOTO ID WITH MY ABSENTEE APPLICATION?

Voters who are required to provide photo ID should attach a copy of their photo ID to the absentee request. The attachment can be a picture or scanned copy of the front of the photo ID. A “selfie” of yourself is not considered acceptable photo ID.

Voters who are voting an in-person absentee ballot will be required to show their original photo ID.