



Voter Information 2023

The LWV works to
Preserve, Protect & Promote
Voting Rights
& Civic Engagement



Vote411.org Online Nonpartisan Voter's Guide

VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY by ABSENTEE BALLOT

- **No reason needed.** Request (by phone, letter, etc.) an application from your local clerk or download one at www.michigan.gov/vote and mail/deliver to your local clerk. You can track your application and ballot at www.michigan.gov/vote.
- **IN PERSON** - Request the absentee ballot at your local clerk's office, vote it and submit in person OR take the ballot home, mark the ballot and return it to the city or township clerk's office.

It is possible for a person, with appropriate proof of residency, to register, get an absentee ballot and vote all in the same day at your local clerk's office. Those who are registering within 14 days of Election Day must provide proof of residency.

- **BY MAIL / FROM HOME** – Vote the absentee ballot and use the provided envelope to mail (postage is prepaid) to your city/township clerk's office. In most cases, your ballot must be **received** by 8 pm on Election Day. However, if you are serving in the military or living overseas, your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day and received within six days of the election. We recommend putting your ballot in the mail at least two weeks before Election Day. You can also return your ballot in a drop box within your city/township.

Be sure to follow all instructions and don't forget to sign the return envelope!

- Voters can sign up to be placed on the permanent mail voter list to receive an absentee ballot for all future elections.
- Your signature **must** match your signature on file. If your signature has changed, contact your local clerk to have a new signature put on file.

Do I need a photo ID to vote?

No. But if you have it, bring it with you and provide it to the poll worker. You will be asked for photo ID when you go vote. If you do not have photo ID or do not have it with you, you can sign an affidavit and vote.

Accessibility

- Any voter may vote by Absentee Ballot.
- Every polling location **MUST** have a Voter Assist Terminal (VAT) that has many options to help you vote. You have a right to assistance from the election officials.
- If you have a concern about accessibility on Election Day, you should contact your clerk's office prior to that day.
- You may bring someone with you to help with language or accessibility who is not your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer/agent of your union.

How do I register?

Prior to the 14th day before an election, you can register:

In person at any Secretary of State office or your city/township or county clerk's office. To find your clerk, go to www.michigan.gov/vote

By mail: complete a voter registration application and mail to your local clerk.

Online at www.michigan.gov/vote

When applying for services at state agencies that provide public assistance

At a voter registration drive

Am I already registered? You can check at michigan.gov/vote

You can register to vote if:

- You are a U.S. citizen;
- You are (or will be) a resident of Michigan and the city or township where you want to register to vote for at least 30 days by Election Day;
- You are 17.5 years old and will be age 18 on Election Day; and
- You are not serving a sentence in jail or prison

What if I'm a student?

- You can register to vote either at your school address or your home address—depending on what address you consider to be your residence.
- Your residence is where you habitually sleep, keep your belongings and have a regular place of lodging. This includes students from out-of-state.
- Michigan requires your voter address and license/state ID address to match. If you already have a Michigan driver's license or State ID and you register to vote at a different address, you will receive a change of address sticker to affix to your license/ID.

What if I am incarcerated or have been convicted of a crime?

- Only persons who are currently incarcerated and serving a sentence are prohibited from voting.
- You can register and vote if you are on probation or parole.
- Your right to vote is automatically restored when you are released from incarceration. However, it will be restored at the address you were previously registered to vote; for many, voting will require you to file a change of address.

What about someone who is homeless?

If you don't have a home, you can register to vote using a street corner, park, shelter or any other place where you usually stay as your address.

Voting Rights

- **Citizens may register to vote right up to and including Election Day**

NOTE: From the 14th day before and through Election Day at 8 pm (last 2 weeks before the Election) it must be in person in city/township clerk's office with proof of residency.

- **Voting before Election Day by absentee ballot for ALL registered voters**
- **Online voter registration for those with a valid Michigan driver's license or state ID** www.michigan.gov/vote
- **Automatic Voter Registration** for those who conduct business with the Secretary of State regarding a Michigan driver's license/state ID.
- **Straight party voting as an option**
- **Mandated Election Audits** (Statewide elections)
- **Military/Overseas ballots** (45 days prior to Election Day)
- **Secret Ballot** guaranteed
- **Clerk Offices Open** for 8 hours the weekend before Election Day
- **Nine days of early voting may be available in some jurisdictions: check with your local clerk.**

How to Get Information or Help

- **Michiganvoting.org** in English, Spanish, Arabic
 - Michigan Voter Information Center www.michigan.gov/vote
 - Your local or county clerk's office
 - The League of Women Voters, ACLU, NAACP or other voter advocacy group
 - **www.VOTE411.org** – Online **nonpartisan** voter's guide; what's on your ballot;
 - **Election Protection Hotline**: 866OurVote.org
- 866-OUR-VOTE (English) 866-687-8683; 888-VE-Y-VOTA (Spanish) 888-839-8682
844-YALLA-US (Arabic); 844-925-5287; 888-API-VOTE (Asian Languages) 888-274-8683

If the phone lines aren't open, voters can leave a message.