

Voter Information 2020

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



VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY by ABSENTEE BALLOT

- **No reason needed.** Request (by phone, letter, etc.) and submit an application from your local clerk or download one at www.mi.gov/vote and mail/deliver to your local clerk. You can track your application and ballot at www.mi.gov/vote.

- **IN PERSON** - Vote the absentee ballot 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 in your clerk's office.

- **BY MAIL / FROM HOME** – Vote the absentee ballot and use the provided envelope to mail (1st class postage required) to your city/township clerk's office. Your ballot must be **received** by 8 pm on Election Day. Allow a week.

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

- Voters may sign up to be placed on a permanent absent voter application list in most municipalities.

- Your signature should match your signature on file. If your signature has changed, consider asking for a new one to be 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 a simple form and vote.

Accessibility

- Any voter may vote by Absentee Ballot.
- Every 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.

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Vote411.org Online Nonpartisan Voter's Guide

How do I 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.mi.gov/vote

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

Online at www.mi.gov/VoterRegistration

When applying for services at state agencies that provide public assistance

At a voter registration drive.

Am I already registered? You can check at www.mi.gov/vote or www.mvic.sos.state.mi.us (on a device).

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 18 years old or will be by 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 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 for a misdemeanor or felony conviction 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?

- You don't need a home to register, but you do need to identify an address for mail, and a location you consider a place of residence; it can be a street corner, a park, a shelter or any other place where you usually stay.

New 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 your clerk's office.

- **Voting Before Election Day by Absentee Ballot for ALL registered voters**
- **Online voter registration** www.Michigan.gov/VoterRegistration
- **Automatic Voter Registration** for those with a state ID / driver's license
- **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

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; Printed State Voter Guides for November 3 General Election will be widely distributed.
 - **Election Protection Hotline**: 866OurVote.org (866-687-8683); 866-OUR-VOTE (English); 888-VE-Y-VOTA (Spanish); 844-418-1682 (Arabic); 888-API-VOTE (Asian/PI)
- Lines are always open, including Election Day