

# Know Your **VOTING** Rights

Wisconsin residents are now required to present valid photo identification for voting. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation provides free, state ID cards for voting purposes. If you are applying for a Wisconsin ID for voting, and if documents to prove U.S. citizenship, name and date of birth, or legal name change are unavailable to you, the DMV will still help to verify your birth and citizenship records so that you can obtain a photo ID for voting. For more information, visit the WisDOT's website at

<http://www1.wisconsin.gov/Pages/dmv/license-drivers/how-to-apply/id-card.aspx>

## ***Acceptable forms of Photo ID MUST include:***

1. The voter's photograph; AND
2. The voter's name; AND
3. An expiration date that meets the cut-off deadlines for that particular type of ID

Your photo ID does NOT have to have your current address to be valid for voting. However, if it does not have your current address, you will need to provide proof of residency upon registering to vote. (More info on Page 2).

## ***What can I use as a Photo ID?***

*The following IDs are acceptable for voting, and can be unexpired or expired after the date of the most recent general election (currently Nov. 4, 2014).*

- Wisconsin driver's license
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued ID card
- U.S. Passport book or card
- Military ID card issued by U.S. Uniformed Services

*Other valid IDs include:*

- A certificate of naturalization (issued no earlier than 2 years before the date of the election and must be unexpired)
- Receipt from DMV indicating you applied for a license or ID card (valid for 45 days from date issued)
- An ID card issued by a federally recognized Native American tribe in Wisconsin
- A citation or notice of intent to revoke or suspend a Wisconsin DOT-issued driver's license (dated within 60 days of the election)
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*If using a Student ID:*

- The ID must be from a Wisconsin accredited university or college, or technical college, and contain the following:
  - Date card was issued
  - Signature of student
  - An expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance
- The ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment, such as a tuition fee receipt, enrollment verification letter, or class schedule.
- Note: Most student IDs DO NOT currently conform to these requirements. Please contact your university or the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board to see if your ID is accepted or if the university offers the opportunity to obtain a separate, qualifying ID that can be used for voting.

## ***Individuals EXEMPTED from photo ID requirement:***

- Active military and overseas voters DO NOT need a photo ID to vote when voting by absentee ballot
- Voters who are elderly, disabled, or ill and consider themselves "indefinitely confined" can vote absentee by mail WITHOUT a photo ID. Fill out GAB Form 121 and mark item six as "indefinitely confined" on the absentee ballot application form, which you can find here:  
<http://www.gab.wi.gov/forms/gab-121-english>
- Those in nursing homes may also receive alternatives to photo identification

## Registration and Residency

Voters can register in advance of or on Election Day. A qualified voter who moves *within* Wisconsin less than 28 days before an election must vote at his or her previous election ward. An individual who moves *to* Wisconsin from another state less than 28 days before an election will not be able to vote at their new address. Voters are required to list their last residential address for registration applications.

### ***Acceptable forms of proof of residence MUST include:***

1. A current and complete name, including both the given and family name; AND
2. A current and complete residential address, including a numbered street address, if any, and the name of the municipality

### ***Example proof of residence documents:***

- Deed, title, or rental lease agreement for current residence. Lease must include the landlord's name and phone number
- Federal, state, county or municipal government-issued correspondence, excluding Quest or Forward cards
- Valid Wisconsin hunting or fishing license
- Department of Corrections documentation on letterhead issued in past 90 days
- Certified public school record/transcript identifying the person by name and current address.
- Employee photo ID card issued by current employer
- Letter on letterhead from a homeless shelter or social service organization that provides services for homeless individuals and signed by a person from the organization
- Valid Wisconsin driver's license or ID card with current Wisconsin residence address printed on it
- Paycheck or stub featuring employer's name and address
- Utility bill for water, gas, electricity, phone (mobile or landline), cable, or internet service in past 90 days
- Account statement from a financial institution issued in past 90 days

## Absentee Voting

### ***Absentee ballot application:***

An application **MUST** be received by the municipal clerk no later than 5 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the election in order for the absentee ballot to be sent to you. It can be delivered by mail or in person.

### ***In-person absentee voting:***

In-person absentee voting now runs on WEEKDAYS for the two weeks before an election, ending at 5 p.m. or the close of business (whichever is later) on the Friday before the election. In person absentee voting is no longer permitted on weekends and municipalities **CANNOT** offer more than 55 hours each week for residents to vote early.

### ***Automatic absentee ballots:***

A voter who **CANNOT** get to the polls because of age, illness, infirmity, or disability may apply as an "indefinitely confined" voter and receive absentee ballots automatically for each election. If a voter ever fails to vote using this option, the voter must renew the automatic absentee ballot application within 30 days of notification from the clerk. Otherwise the voter's name will be removed from the indefinitely confined voter list.

## Poll List Requirement

A voter **MUST** sign a poll list or supplemental list, unless exempted by reason of physical disability, in which case the inspectors must note that the individual was "exempted by order of inspectors"

