

How to Register to Vote

As of January 1, 2006, all municipalities in Wisconsin require voter registration prior to a person being allowed to vote.

The federal "Help American Vote Act of 2002" requires any person registering to vote to supply his or her Wisconsin Department of Transportation-issued driver's license number.



Electors who have not been issued a Wisconsin driver license must provide the last four digits of their Social Security Number OR their Wisconsin state ID card number.

If the elector does not have a current, valid Wisconsin driver license, Wisconsin state ID card, or Social Security Number, the applicant may indicate this by filling in the appropriate circle on the registration form. (Box 2 on **GAB-131**)

THE REGISTRATION CANNOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL THE ELECTOR PROVIDES THIS INFORMATION.

If the voter has a current, valid Wisconsin driver license but does not know the number and did not bring it to the polling place, poll workers must allow the voter to vote by provisional ballot. (Note: the voter CANNOT use the last 4 digits of their Social Security Number if he or she has been issued a Wisconsin driver's license). The provisional ballot will not be counted until the voter either:

- a) brings his or her driver license number to his or her polling place before the polls close at 8:00 pm on Election Day; or
- b) transmits (via fax, email, telephone call or personal visit) his or her driver license number to the municipal clerk before 4:00 pm on the Friday after the Election.

Anyone wishing to vote in the state of Wisconsin has three options to register:

1. **BY MAIL:** Download the Application for Voter Registration (**GAB-131**), complete the form and mail it into the municipal clerk's office. **Find your Wisconsin Municipal Clerk here.** The application must be postmarked no later than the 20th day (3rd Wednesday) before the election.

PLEASE NOTE: State and federal law now requires that any first-time voter submitting a registration application by mail provide a copy of an acceptable identifying document that provides proof of residence. (A "first-time voter" is an individual who has not voted in an election in Wisconsin.) Acceptable forms of proof of residence are outlined below. Please note that first-time voters registering by mail may not use a residential lease as proof of residence. The copy of the form of proof of residence must be included when submitting the registration application. If a copy of proof of residence is not included, the elector will be required to supply it

before being issued a ballot at the polling place or before being issued an absentee ballot in the municipal clerk's office.

2. IN PERSON: Register in the municipal clerk's office up to 5 p.m. or the close of business whichever is later on the Friday before the election. Note: After the BY MAIL deadline, an elector registering in person in the clerk's office is required to present acceptable proof of residence as outlined below.

3. AT THE POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY: If you wish to register to vote at your polling place, you must bring proof that you reside at your present location. For purposes of voter registration, 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 a municipality.

NOTE: **Proof of residency** is required for **voter registration** and must be current and valid. The purpose of the proof of residency document is to establish the voter's current address, not to prove that the voter complies with the 28 consecutive day residency requirement. The voter's sworn statement on the registration form that they meet the 28-day requirement shall be presumed to be true unless the inspector or a challenger has first-hand knowledge sufficient to question the certification.

Proof of Residence

The following constitute acceptable Proof-of-Residence if the document contains your current name and address and is valid on Election Day (unless otherwise indicated):

1. A current and valid Wisconsin driver license.
2. A current and valid Wisconsin identification card.
3. Any other official identification card or license issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit.
4. Any identification card issued by an employer in the normal course of business and bearing a photo of the card holder, but not including a business card.
5. A real estate tax bill or receipt for the current year or the year preceding the date of the election.
6. A residential lease which is effective for a period that includes election day (NOT for first-time voters registering by mail).
7. 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.
8. A gas, electric or telephone service statement (utility bill) for the period commencing not earlier than 90 days before election day.
9. Bank statement.
10. Paycheck.
11. A check or other document issued by a unit of government.

Updating Voter Registration Information

If you move your residence or change your name, you are required to update your voter registration information.

This is done by filling out form **GAB-131** and sending it to your local municipal clerk's office.