

# NORTH DAKOTA VOTERS

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Basic requirements:** You must be a citizen of the U.S., a resident of North Dakota, have lived in a precinct for the 30 days before an election, and be 18 years of age or older. There is no voter registration, only proof of ID is required to vote.
- **Voting if you're attending college:** Students can vote in their college town with an ID that reflects their current address. They could alternatively vote in person in their hometown or by absentee ballot.
- **Voting if you're experiencing homelessness:** You don't need a home to vote, but you do have to identify a place of residence. This may be a last known residence listed on your ID or temporary address such as a shelter. The address of which would need to be on your ID or by providing supplemental verification with an old ID.
- **Voting and ADA requirements:** All polling places are required to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Call your county auditor if any issues arise on Election Day.
- **Moving and name changes:**
  - You must be a resident of your voting precinct for at least 30 days prior to the election.
  - If you moved less than 30 days before the election, you won't be able to vote at that precinct (but should be able to vote in your previous precinct in person or by mail).
  - If you moved at least 30 days before the election and have updated your address on your ID you can vote in the election in the precinct of your new residence.
  - North Dakotans are able to update their address information via the Department of Transportation's website, [dot.nd.gov](https://dot.nd.gov). You don't necessarily need to get a new ID to vote, updating your information with the D.O.T. is sufficient.
  - Updating your ID ahead of Election Day is preferred, however if you are unable to do so, another document displaying a residential address may be provided to the election official, such as:
    - A current utility bill
    - A current bank statement
    - A check issued by a federal, state, local, or tribal government
    - A paycheck
    - A document issued by a federal, state, local, or tribal government

## Voting early, absentee, or by mail

- **Can I vote before Election Day?** Yes, any person eligible to vote can do so, on or before Election Day by absentee or mail ballot or by casting a ballot in person at an early voting center.
- **How do I get an absentee ballot?** Any qualified voter is eligible to vote absentee/by mail without excuse. Applications for may be submitted anytime within the calendar year of an election.
  - Get an application for an absentee ballot at [vote.nd.gov](https://vote.nd.gov)
  - Applications will be returned for correction if data does not match the state's central voter file.
  - Ballots must be postmarked the day prior to the election or returned to a secure ballot box by 7 p.m. on Election Day.
  - The signature on any ballot envelope must match application signatures.
  - Track your ballot's status at [vote.nd.gov](https://vote.nd.gov).

## Voting on Election Day

- **Election Day, Nov. 8 2022:** Hours of polling places in North Dakota vary by county. Find schedules online at [vote.nd.gov](https://vote.nd.gov).
- **Finding your polling location:** Hours in North Dakota may vary by county, most polling locations are open between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Find your location's schedule at [vote.nd.gov](https://vote.nd.gov).
- **If you are running late:** You have the right to vote if you're in line. Once handed a ballot after the polls close you only have 30 minutes to cast your vote.
- **Getting time off:** If your work schedule would make it practically impossible for you to vote in-person while the polls are open, your employer is encouraged by state law to give you time off to vote, however time off may be without pay. Ask your employer for time off before Election Day and confirm the hours you get off.

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## Voter ID laws

- All voters who appear at polling places must show proof of identification (P.O. Boxes will not be accepted).
- **Acceptable forms of ID include:**
  - North Dakota driver's license or non-driver ID
  - A North Dakota long-term care ID certificate
  - Tribal ID. This includes those issued by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for tribes located in North Dakota and any other tribal agency or entity, or any other document that sets forth the tribal member's name, date of birth, and current North Dakota residential address.
- **Voter affidavits are OUT. "Set-aside" ballots are IN.**
  - If you forget your ID or supplemental documents, you can vote using a "set-aside" ballot. If you vote this way, you have to return to the polling place by the day of the election or go to your County Auditor office before the meeting of the County Canvassing Board thirteen days after the election, with appropriate proof that you are qualified to vote at that location.

## Common questions

- **What if I make a mistake on the ballot?**
  - It happens. You can request a new ballot from the precinct worker.
- **What if someone tries to intimidate or harass me?**
  - Tell a precinct worker. If a precinct worker is the problem, tell a poll watcher or call the County Auditor.
- **What if my ID doesn't have my current residential address?**
  - Most IDs can be updated at no cost by calling the DOT at 701-328-4353 or at [dot.nd.gov](http://dot.nd.gov).

## Quick tips

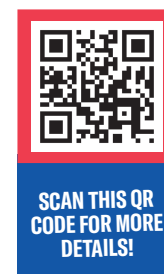
- Locate your polling place and note the hours of operation.
- Consider voting early, absentee, or by mail if possible.
- Read all instructions carefully.
- Ask for help if you need it.
- Take your time.
- You are allowed bring a translator or request assistance as needed.

## Get involved

- **Become a precinct worker:** This paid position is recruited by your County Auditor. Learn more by visiting [sos.nd.gov](http://sos.nd.gov).
- **Become a poll watcher.** Contact the ACLU of North Dakota [northdakota@aclu.org](mailto:northdakota@aclu.org) for more information.

## More information

- **North Dakota Secretary of State**, [vote.nd.gov](http://vote.nd.gov) or 800-352-0867
- **Election Protection**, 866-687-8683
- **North Dakota Native Vote**, [ndnativevote.org](http://ndnativevote.org)
- **League of Women Voters**, [vote411.org](http://vote411.org)



Please note. This handout is a resource, not legal advice. It is provided for informational purposes only. North Dakota may revise its laws after this is printed or published online. If you believe your rights have been violated or for more information on your rights as a voter, contact us at [aclund.org](http://aclund.org) or email [northdakota@aclu.org](mailto:northdakota@aclu.org).

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