



# How to Vote in South Dakota

Voters with disabilities, get ready and vote in the General Election on or before November 3, 2020, with this voter guide, prepared by AAPD's REV UP.



## 1. Registering to Vote

- **How can I register to vote?** South Dakota does not have online registration, so you must fill out this [registration form](#). If you have already registered, you can double-check your voter registration status at [vote.org](#).
- **When do I need to register?** Make sure to register by 10/19/2020 because South Dakota does not allow people to register on Election Day.
- **Do I need an ID?** You will need to have a South Dakota address and driver's license or a social security number if you don't have a state ID.
- **Can I vote if I have a disability?** Yes! People with disabilities who are at least 18 years old have the right to vote. Your vote matters and is protected by laws to ensure voting is accessible, independent, and private. If you have a guardian, you can still vote, unless a judge says you cannot vote. Contact your local [Protection and Advocacy agency](#) for help understanding or restoring your vote.



## 2. Learning about the Issues

- **What people or laws can I vote for?** Enter your home address in [Ballotpedia's Sample Ballot Lookup](#) to find out what is on your ballot. Learn about policy changes on the ballot, called "ballot measures," or what the 2020 ballot questions will be [here](#).



### 3. Voting in Person

- **Where do I need to go to vote?** If you are registered to vote, you can find your polling place through this [online portal](#).
- **When can I vote?** South Dakota does not allow in-person early voting, but they do have in-person absentee voting, so you can vote between 9/18/2020 and 11/2/2020 and avoid lines on Election Day!
- **Can I vote from a car if the polling place is inaccessible?** No, South Dakota does not specifically allow voters to request a ballot from a car, if a polling place is inaccessible.
- **What if I want assistance with my ballot?** You may choose someone (except your boss, union agent, or a candidate) to assist you in marking your ballot.
- **Do I need an ID?** Yes, you will need to bring an [acceptable photo ID](#) to the polling place; if not possible then you must sign a personal identification affidavit in order to still vote.



### 4. Voting by Mail

- **Can I vote by mail?** Yes, if you have a disability, you can vote absentee in South Dakota. Any voter can request to vote by mail without an excuse.
- **How do I request a mail ballot?** You can download and fill out an application [here](#) and mail it to your [County Election Official](#).
- **When do I need to request my ballot?** The last day to request an absentee ballot is 11/2/2020. Request your ballot as soon as possible to make sure that your ballot is received on time.
- **How do I fill out my ballot?** South Dakota does not have an electronic absentee ballot available for voters with disabilities, so you must complete a paper ballot. Make sure to sign your ballot or envelope when prompted, since your signature will be verified.
- **What if I want assistance with my ballot?** You may choose someone (except your boss, union agent, or a candidate) to assist you in marking your ballot. If you are completing your ballot remotely, someone assisting you may need to complete an

affidavit to be returned with the paper ballot. Contact your local Protection and Advocacy agency for more information.

- **How do I return my ballot?** You have to return your ballot to your County Election Official. Your ballot must be received by Election Day, so request your ballot as soon as possible if you plan to vote by mail!
- **Do I need an ID?** Yes, when you are requesting a mail-in ballot. If you do not have a valid photo ID you must sign the outside of the envelope.
- **Can I track my ballot?** Yes, you can track your ballot on the [Voter Information Portal](#).

## 5. Additional Resources

- **Where can I find more info on how to vote?** For the most accurate and up-to-date elections info, contact your elections office:  
**South Dakota Secretary of State**  
Address: 500 E. Capitol Ave, Ste. 204, Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone: (605) 773-3537  
Email: [hava@state.sd.us](mailto:hava@state.sd.us)  
Website: <https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/default.aspx>
- **What if I am having trouble voting or registering to vote?** If you have any trouble voting, contact your local Protection and Advocacy organization:  
**Disability Rights South Dakota**  
Address: 2520 E. Franklin Street, Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone: Voice/TTY: 605-224-8294, Toll Free Voice/TTY: 800-658-4782  
Email: [drsd@drsdlaw.org](mailto:drsd@drsdlaw.org)  
Website: <https://drsdlaw.org/>
- **What if I have more questions?** Check out these resources:
  - [Guardianship and Voting Laws](#)
  - [Incarceration and Voting Rights](#)
  - [Resources for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Voters](#)
  - [Resources for Blind and Low Vision Voters](#)
  - [Easy Read and Plain Language Voting Resources](#)
  - [ASL Hotline](#): 301-818-VOTE (301-818-8683)

- [Election Protection Hotline](#): 866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683)

