



# HOW TO VOTE IN PENNSYLVANIA

A Quick Guide for People with Disabilities Voting in the 2022 General Election on or Before November 8, 2022.



## REGISTERING TO VOTE

- **How can I register to vote?** You can register:
  - If you have already registered, you can check if you are registered to vote at [vote411.org](https://vote411.org).
  - Online at Pennsylvania's [Online Voter Registration Website](#).
  - By downloading and mailing the Pennsylvania [mail in registration form](#).
- **When do I need to register?** Be sure to register to vote on or before October 24, 2022. Pennsylvania does not allow people to register after this date or on Election Day for this election.
- **Do I need identification (ID) to register?** You will need to have a Pennsylvania address and Pennsylvania state ID card or driver's license. You can use your 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 18 years old or older have the right to vote. Your vote matters and is protected by laws to make sure voting is accessible, independent, and private. If you have a guardian, you can still vote. For help understanding or getting back your right to vote, contact your local [Protection and Advocacy Agency \(P&A\)](#).

- **Can I vote if I have gone to jail or prison?** If you have gone to jail or prison, you should check to see if you are allowed to vote. Learn about voting rights for people who have [gone to jail or prison](#). You can also [contact your local P&A](#).



## LEARNING ABOUT THE ISSUES

- **What is a ballot?** A ballot is a list of who and what you can vote for. Your ballot will list candidates who are running for different offices, such as Senator or Representative. You vote by marking your choice on the ballot.
- **What is a ballot measure?** Sometimes, your ballot will have ballot measures. A ballot measure is a law, issue, or question that you can vote on. Voters get to decide if they agree or disagree with the ballot measure by voting yes to agree or no to disagree. You can learn about ballot measures on the Pennsylvania [election website](#).
- **Can I look at my ballot before I go to vote?** Enter your home address in [Ballotpedia's Sample Ballot Lookup](#). This tool will give you a "sample ballot," which will show you what will be on your ballot when you vote.



## VOTING IN PERSON

- **Where do I need to go to vote?** The place where you go to vote in person is called a polling place. You can find your local polling place through the Pennsylvania election website. [Find your polling place](#).
- **Can I vote before Election Day?** Pennsylvania allows any voter to vote in person before Election Day at the local elections office. Voters can do this during a period called the "In-Person Absentee Voting period." The dates for this period are set by the local elections office. Contact your local election office for more information. [What is In-Person Absentee Voting?](#)

- **Can I vote outside if the polling place is inaccessible?** No, Pennsylvania does not allow voters to vote outside the polling place if it is inaccessible.
- **What if I want help with filling out my ballot?** You may choose someone to help you vote. Your helper cannot be a candidate or your boss. If you are part of a labor union at work, the person who helps you vote cannot be a representative of that labor union. [What is a labor union?](#) You may also ask for help from poll workers at the polling place. If it is the first time you need help with voting, you will need to fill out a form saying that you need help.
- **Do I need an ID?** Pennsylvania requires voters to show ID if they are voting for the first time in at this polling place, or if it is their first time voting in a federal election in Pennsylvania. [Learn about voter ID.](#)



## VOTING BY MAIL

- **Can I vote by mail?** There are two ways to vote by mail in Pennsylvania: mail-in ballots and absentee ballots. Any voter in Pennsylvania can vote with a mail-in ballot. Only voters with disabilities and voters who are away from home on Election Day can use an absentee ballot. [What is absentee voting?](#)
- **How do I request a mail ballot?** You must apply for an absentee or mail ballot online, by mail, or in person from your local elections office. [Request your ballot.](#)
- **Can I get an electronic absentee or vote by mail ballot?** Pennsylvania allows voters with disabilities to request an accessible electronic ballot that they can fill out electronically, print, and return. [Request electronic ballot.](#)
- **When do I need to request my ballot?** The last day to request your ballot is November 1, 2022. Request your ballot as soon as possible to make sure that you receive your ballot on time.

- **Do I need to sign my ballot?** Be sure to sign your ballot or envelope when asked, since Pennsylvania requires this signature to match one of your past signatures.
- **What if I want help with filling out my ballot?** You should be allowed to choose someone to help you with filling out your ballot.
- **How do I return my ballot?** You can return your ballot by mail or in person. Some counties may have ballot drop boxes. Your ballot must be received by election officials by 8 p.m. on November 8, 2022.
- **Can someone return my ballot for me?** You may choose to have someone deliver and return your ballot for you. This person is called a Designated Agent. You must fill out a form and give it to your local elections office to choose someone to be your Designated Agent. [Learn about Designated Agents.](#)
- **Do I need an ID to vote by mail?** Pennsylvania requires voters to include a copy of their ID when they are voting by mail or by absentee ballot.
- **Can I track my ballot?** Yes, you can track your ballot online to see if the elections office has received it. You can do this on the Pennsylvania election website. [Track your ballot.](#)



## MORE VOTING HELP

- **Where can I find more info on how to vote?** Check out the Pennsylvania [state election website](#). Learn about [voting assistance for voters with disabilities](#).
- **What if I am having trouble voting or registering to vote?** If you have any trouble voting, [contact your local P&A](#). The hotline number for voters with disabilities is 1-800-692-7443.
- **What if I have more questions?** Check out these resources:
  - [Disability Rights Pennsylvania Voting Guides](#)

- [Vote.PA.Gov Hotline: 1-877-868-3772](#)
- [Guardianship and Voting Laws](#)
- [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 \(866-687-8683\)](#)



The 2022 State Voting Guides for Disabled Voters are made by the REV UP Voting Campaign at the American Association of People with Disabilities. This project was led by Sarah Blahovec with plain language support from Liz Weintraub at the Association of University Centers on Disabilities and input from REV UP organizers.