



# HOW TO VOTE IN WASHINGTON

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://www.vote411.org).
  - Online at Washington's [Online Voter Registration Website](#).
  - By downloading and mailing the Washington [mail in registration form](#).
- **When do I need to register?** Be sure to register to vote on or before October 31, 2022, or register to vote in person on Election Day.
- **Do I need identification (ID) to register?** You will need to have a Washington address and Washington 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, unless a judge said you cannot 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 Washington [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?** Most voters in Washington vote by mail. Learn about voting by mail below. If you need help voting, or you want to vote in person, you can go to a vote center. You can find your local vote center through the Washington election website. [Find your vote center](#).
- **Can I vote before Election Day?** Washington allows any voter to vote in person before Election Day during the Early Voting period. You can vote between October 21, 2022 and November 8, 2022 to avoid lines on Election Day!
- **Can I vote outside if the polling place is inaccessible?** Washington does not usually allow voters to vote outside the vote center if it is inaccessible. However, some counties may offer this option, which is

called curbside voting. Contact your local elections office for more information.

- **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 vote center.
- **Do I need an ID?** In Washington, a voter must sign a statement called a ballot declaration when they vote in person. Their signature must match the signature on their voter registration. Voters are also allowed to show photo ID to vote if they are worried that their signature won't match. [Learn about voter ID.](#)



## VOTING BY MAIL

- **Can I vote by mail?** Any voter in Washington can vote by mail.
- **How do I request a mail ballot?** If you are registered to vote, Washington will automatically send you a mail ballot. You must register to vote by October 28, 2022.
- **Can I get an electronic vote by mail ballot?** Some counties in Washington allow voters to fill out their ballots electronically, and then print and return them. Contact your local elections office to see if your county offers this option. [Contact your county elections department.](#)
- **Do I need to sign my ballot?** Be sure to sign your ballot or envelope when asked, since Washington 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. Someone helping you may need to complete a statement called an affidavit to be returned with the ballot. [What is an affidavit?](#)

- **How do I return my ballot?** You can return your ballot by mail or to a ballot drop box. If you are mailing your ballot, it must be postmarked by November 8, 2022. If you are returning your ballot to a ballot drop box, you must drop it off by 8 p.m. on November 8, 2022.
- **Can someone return my ballot for me?** Yes, you may choose to have someone return your ballot for you.
- **Do I need an ID to vote by mail?** No, you do not need an ID when voting by mail unless you are voting for the first time in a federal election in Washington.
- **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 Washington election website. [Track your ballot.](#)



## MORE VOTING HELP

- **Where can I find more info on how to vote?** Check out the Washington [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 800-562-2702.
- **What if I have more questions?** Check out these resources:
  - [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.