



# HOW TO VOTE IN MAINE

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).
  - If you are not registered, you can register in-person in your town or city until (and on) Election day.
  - By downloading and mailing the Maine [mail in registration form](#). Maine does not have online voter registration.
- **When do I need to register?** If you register by mail, your application must be received by municipal clerks by October 18. If you register in-person, you can register up to and on Election Day.
- **Do I need identification (ID) to register?** You will need to have an ID to register. This ID could be a Maine state ID card, drivers license, US Passport, military ID, or an ID card from a federally recognized Indian tribe. You can use your social security number or a birth certificate.
- **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?** Yes! In Maine, all U.S. citizens who are at least 18 years old have the right to vote, even if they have been to jail or prison or are in jail orl prison right now.



## 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 Maine [election website](#).
- **Can I look at my ballot before I go to vote?** Enter your home address in the [State of Maine Voter Information Lookup Service](#). This tool tell 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 Maine election website. [Find your polling place](#).
- **Can I vote before Election Day?** Maine allows any voter to vote in person before Election Day at the town or city hall. This happens during a period called the "In-Person Absentee Voting" period. You can vote between October 9, 2022 and November 3, 2022 to avoid lines on Election Day! [What is In-Person Absentee Voting?](#)

- **Can I vote outside if the polling place is inaccessible?** No, Maine 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.
- **Do I need an ID?** Maine does not require voters to show ID to vote in person, unless it is their first time voting in a federal election in Maine. [Learn about voter ID.](#)



## VOTING BY MAIL

- **Can I vote by mail?** Any voter in Maine can vote by mail. This is called absentee voting. [What is absentee voting?](#)
- **How do I request a mail ballot?** You must request your ballot online, by phone, or in writing from your local elections office. [Request your ballot.](#)
- **Can I get an electronic absentee ballot?** Maine allows voters who are blind, have low vision, have a physical disability, or have a learning disability that makes it difficult to read or mark a paper ballot to request an electronic absentee ballot. They can fill out the ballot and return it electronically. [Request electronic ballot.](#)
- **When do I need to request my ballot?** The last day to request your absentee ballot is November 3, 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 or envelope?** Be sure to provide your signature when asked, since Maine requires the signature on the envelope 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. If you get help

with filling out your ballot, you must have your ballot witnessed by a notary, municipal clerk, or clerk of courts. [What is a notary?](#)

- **How do I return my ballot?** You can return your ballot by mail or in person. Some towns or cities 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?** Yes, you may choose to have someone return your ballot for you. You must write the elections office and ask for permission to have someone return your ballot for you. You must also have your ballot signed by two witnesses or a municipal clerk, clerk of courts, or a notary.
- **Do I need an ID to vote by mail?** No, you do not need an ID when voting an absentee ballot by mail unless you are voting for the first time in a federal election in Maine.
- **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 Maine election website. [Track your ballot.](#)



## MORE VOTING HELP

- **Where can I find more info on how to vote?** Check out the Maine [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 1-800-452-1948.
- **What if I have more questions?** Check out these resources:
  - [State of Maine Voter Guide](#)
  - [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.