



HOW TO VOTE IN RHODE ISLAND

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.
 - Online at Rhode Island's [Online Voter Registration Website](#).
 - By downloading and mailing the Rhode Island [mail in registration form](#).
- **When do I need to register?** Be sure to register to vote on or before October 9, 2022. Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island address and Rhode Island 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?** You can vote as long as you are not in jail or prison right now for a felony conviction.



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 Rhode Island [election website](#).
- **Can I look at my ballot before I go to vote?** You can use the [Rhode Island Secretary of State website](#) to look up your 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 Rhode Island election website. [Find your polling place](#).
- **Can I vote before Election Day?** Rhode Island allows any voter to vote in person before Election Day during the Early Voting period. You can vote between October 19, 2022 and November 7, 2022 and avoid lines on Election Day!
- **Can I vote outside if the polling place is inaccessible?** No, Rhode Island 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. You and your helper must sign a statement called an affidavit which says that you need help. [What is an affidavit?](#)

- **Do I need an ID?** Rhode Island requires voters to show a photo ID to vote in person. If you don't have a voter ID, you can cast a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot is a type of ballot that is kept apart from other ballots. A provisional ballot will only be counted if your signature matches the signature on your voter registration form. Or, you can take photo ID to the Board of Canvassers before the end of Election Day, and they will count your ballot. [Learn about voter ID.](#)



VOTING BY MAIL

- **Can I vote by mail?** Any voter in Rhode Island can vote by mail.
- **How do I request a mail ballot?** You must apply for a mail ballot through your local board of canvassers. [Request your ballot.](#)
- **Can I get an electronic vote by mail ballot?** Rhode Island allows voters with disabilities to request an accessible mail 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 October 18, 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 Rhode Island 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, in person, or to a drop box. 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.
- **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 Rhode Island.
- **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 Rhode Island election website. [Track your ballot.](#)



MORE VOTING HELP

- **Where can I find more info on how to vote?** Check out the Rhode Island [state election webpage on accessibility and voting assistance.](#)
- **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 401-831-3150.
- **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.