



## Wisconsin Student Voting Guide

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This resource seeks to provide voters with a comprehensive, step-by-step guide to participate in the upcoming Nov. 3 general election, taking into account the more prominent role of absentee voting in Wisconsin due to COVID-19. **In order to vote in Wisconsin, you must meet the following criteria:**

- Be a U.S. citizen.
  - Be at least 18 years of age by the election.
  - Have resided at your address for at least 28 days by the election.
  - Have not lost your ability to vote.
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### Step 1: Register to Vote

Voter registration is open until 5 p.m. 20 days before the election. Wisconsin requires 28 days to establish residency at a new address, and temporary absence does **not** affect residency as long as you intend to return. When you register to vote, you must present a proof of residence document that shows your name and current address. A list of acceptable forms of proof of residence can be found [here](#). If you are unsure whether or not you are registered to vote, you may check your registration status online at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov).

You may register to vote in one of the following three ways:

#### Online

If you have a valid, unexpired Wisconsin driver's license or ID card **and** your address on file with the Department of Motor Vehicles matches the address at which you are registering to vote, you may register to vote online at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov). If the DMV does not have your current address on file, you may update it on the DMV's website.

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## Mail/Delivery

If you do not have a valid, unexpired Wisconsin driver's license or ID card, you may complete the voter registration form online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) and mail or deliver the completed form, along with a proof of residence document, to your municipal clerk's office. You may find your municipal clerk's office online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov).

## In Person

You may register to vote in person at your municipal clerk's office until the Friday before the election. Alternatively, you may also register to vote at your polling place on Election Day. Either way, you must present a proof of residence document. You may find your polling place online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov).

## Step 2: Request Your Absentee Ballot

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is 5 p.m. the Thursday before the election. Anyone may request an absentee ballot in Wisconsin, and you do not need a specific reason to do so. You may have your absentee ballot mailed to an address different from the address at which you are registered to vote if you are not physically present at your registration address. **Remember to request your ballot as early as possible so there is adequate time to mail it back to your municipal clerk's office.**

Whether you are requesting an absentee ballot or voting in person (more on that below), Wisconsin requires voters to present a photo ID in order to vote. A list of acceptable forms of photo ID and answers to frequently asked questions can be found online at [bringit.wi.gov](https://bringit.wi.gov). You may also call the Voter ID Helpline with any questions at 608-285-2141. Information about student IDs can be found [here](#).

You may request an absentee ballot in one of the following three ways:

### Online

The easiest way to request an absentee ballot is online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov). You must be registered to vote in order to request an absentee ballot. If you are not yet registered to vote or if you need to update your name and/or address, follow the instructions above. When you request an absentee ballot, you will be prompted to specify the address to which you would like your absentee ballot mailed and upload a copy of your photo ID.



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## Email

You may request an absentee ballot via email to your municipal clerk's office. You will need to include your name, the address at which you are registered to vote, the address to which you would like the ballot mailed (which can be different from your registration address) and the election(s) for which you would like to receive the ballot. You will also need to attach a copy of your photo ID.

## Mail/Delivery

You may also mail or deliver the absentee ballot [request form](#) to your municipal clerk's office along with a copy of your photo ID. If you are already registered to vote, you may receive an absentee ballot request form from the Wisconsin Elections Commission. Please note that this mailing cannot be forwarded to a new address.

## Step 3: Complete and Return Your Absentee Ballot

When you receive your absentee ballot, there will be three items inside the envelope: instructions for how to complete and return the ballot, the ballot itself and a return envelope. The return envelope is pre-addressed to your municipal clerk's office and includes postage, so all you need to do is return it in the mail. **Completed ballots must arrive at your municipal clerk's office or your polling place no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day. The U.S. Postal Service recommends that completed ballots be placed back in the mail one week before the election in order to arrive in time. Check with your municipal clerk's office to see if there are any locations to drop off your ballot.**

Read through the instructions so your ballot is completed correctly and will be counted. You will need to have someone witness you complete your ballot, and that person must sign their name and write their address on the certificate of the return envelope. Your witness may be any adult U.S. citizen except for a candidate that appears on the ballot.

In order to ensure your ballot is completed correctly and will be counted, please go through the following checklist:

- Use a black or blue pen to complete your ballot.
- Review your name and address on the return envelope to ensure it is correct.
- Once completed, place your ballot in the return envelope.
- Sign and date the certificate on the return envelope.
- Have your witness sign and write their address on the return envelope.
- Mail or deliver your completed ballot to your municipal clerk's office.



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## Check the Status of Your Ballot

You may check the status of your ballot online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov). This will show the date you requested the ballot, the date it was mailed to you and the date your completed ballot was received.

## In-Person Absentee Voting (Early Voting)

Alternatively, you may vote absentee in person at your municipal clerk's office starting two weeks before the election and up until the Sunday before the election. (This is also referred to as early voting.) Please check with your municipal clerk's office for early voting locations and hours. Wisconsin requires voters to present a photo ID in order to vote. A list of acceptable forms of photo ID and answers to frequently asked questions can be found online at [bringit.wi.gov](https://bringit.wi.gov). Remember to practice social distancing—maintaining at least six feet of distance from people who live outside your household—and wear a face covering while in public.

## In-Person Voting on Election Day

Of course, you may also vote in person at your polling place on Election Day. You may find your polling place at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov), and please note that your polling place may have moved since the last election. Wisconsin requires voters to present a photo ID in order to vote. A list of acceptable forms of photo ID and answers to frequently asked questions can be found online at [bringit.wi.gov](https://bringit.wi.gov). Remember to practice social distancing—maintaining at least six feet of distance from people who live outside your household—and wear a face covering while in public.

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## About Us

**Campus Election Engagement Project (CEEP)** is a national nonpartisan project that helps administrators, faculty, staff and student leaders at America's institutions of higher education engage students in federal, state and local elections. CEEP views voting as a means to promote a more equitable and inclusive democracy and to address past and present disenfranchisement. To learn more, visit [campuselect.org](https://campuselect.org) or contact us at [info@campuselect.org](mailto:info@campuselect.org).

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