

The Facts on Voter ID and Voter Registration

Starting with the November 4, 2014 General Election, all Wisconsin voters must show an acceptable photo ID before they can be issued a ballot to vote. This includes voters at polling places and many absentee voters. **THIS IS A VERY RECENT CHANGE TO STATE LAW.**

1. What types of photo ID are acceptable for voting?

The following photo IDs are acceptable, even if they are expired as long as the ID expired **AFTER** the 11/6/2012. **NOTE: For voting purposes, the photo ID does not need to have a current address. Election workers will only confirm the name of the voter and the photo.**

- A **Wisconsin driver's license**, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- A **Wisconsin Identification Card** issued by the Dept. of Motor Vehicles (available for free)
- A **Military ID** card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A **U.S. Passport**

The following photo IDs are acceptable only if unexpired:

- A **Wisconsin driver's license receipt or Wisconsin Identification Card receipt** issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles (valid for 45 days)
- A **photo identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college** that contains **all** of the following information: the date of issuance; the signature of the student; the expiration date no later than 2 years after date of issuance; and it must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment.

No other photo IDs, including out-of-state IDs, are acceptable for voting purposes.

2. If I have a valid Wisconsin driver's license or Wisconsin Identification Card, is there anything else you may need to vote?

Yes, you need to be registered to vote at your current address and under the name that appears on your photo ID. You must complete a voter registration application if you are a new Wisconsin voter, your name and/or residential address has changed since you last registered to vote, or if you have not voted in the past four (4) years. If you do not know if you are registered to vote, you can call the Milwaukee County Election Commission at 414-278-4060, visit their website at <http://county.milwaukee.gov/CountyElectionCommission> or visit www.myvote.wi.gov.

In order to register to vote, you must provide a document that includes your current and complete name, your current and complete address, and, a visible account or document number if available.

This document can be a current WI driver's license or current Wisconsin Identification Card, a utility bill (e.g. gas, electric, telephone) from no earlier than 90 days of the election, a bank statement, a pay stub, an ID card or license from a unit of government, an employer ID card if it has a photo, or a residential lease that effective for the period that includes the Election Day, or

any document issued by a unit of government, including a letter from the IRS, Medicare, Social Security, FoodShare, Workforce Development, BadgerCare, and the Veteran's Administration

3. How can I get a free Wisconsin Identification Card to vote?

If you do not have a driver's license, you can get a free Wisconsin Identification Card to vote at any State of Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) service centers. You can find a list of all DMV offices here: www.got.wisconsin.gov/about/locate/dmv/index.htm **You must have the all of the following original items (not photocopies):**

- a. **Proof of name and date of birth**, for example, a certified U.S. birth certificate, valid passport or certificate of naturalization.
IMPORTANT: If you do not have a certified Birth Certificate, The Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) can assist you in verifying your birth information by contacting appropriate entities within Wisconsin or in other states. You will need to state that you do not have the birth certificate and that it would require a fee to obtain. If you do not receive the ID by Election Day, you may use the receipt that you have applied as your photo ID. The receipt can also be used as your proof of residence if you need to register to vote.
- b. **Proof of identity** - usually a document with a signature or photo such as: (1) a valid or expired (8 years or less) photo Driver's license or Wisconsin Identification Card (from any state); (2) marriage certificate or certified copy of divorce judgment; (3) social security card; (4) W-2 form including name, address, and social security number; (5) SSA 1099 form from Social Security; or (6) paystub with name and social security number.
- c. **Proof of Wisconsin residency** that includes both your name and your current street address, such as: (1) a paycheck or pay stub within the last 90 days; (2) utility, telephone, cable or internet bill within the last 90 days; (3) bank statement within the last 90 days; (4) current lease (original); (5) current renter's or vehicle insurance policy; (6) Employer photo ID; (7) school record or transcript within the last 90 days; (8) Government-issued correspondence or product issued from a federal, state, county or city agency (original or certified copy issued within the last year).
- d. **Proof of U.S. citizenship:** This would include a certified U.S. birth certificate or a US Passport; or a Certificate of Naturalization or Certificate of Citizenship.
- e. **Your social security number**

4. What if I would like to request an absentee ballot?

Unless you are able to certify that you are indefinitely confined to your home, you will need to provide a photocopy of your photo ID with your absentee ballot application.

5. What if I have additional questions?

For related questions to voting contact the Milwaukee County Election Commission at 414-278-4060 or visit <http://county.milwaukee.gov/CountyElectionCommission>. For questions related to the free WI ID card, contact the DMV at 414-266-1000.