

# Wisconsin Elections and Ethics Commissions

Formerly the Government Accountability Board

Voters About the GAB Campaign Finance Elections Ethics Lobbying Clerks

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We hope you find our website easy to use and navigate.

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E-mail us with your questions or comments.

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I want to vote absentee

Who can Request an Absentee Ballot?

Any **qualified elector** (*U.S. citizen, 18 years of age, who has resided in the district in which he or she intends to vote for at least 10 days*) who registers to vote is eligible to request an absentee ballot. Under Wisconsin law, voters do not need a reason or excuse, such as being out of town on Election Day, to vote absentee. Any voter who prefers to vote by absentee ballot may request one. You have several options for requesting an absentee ballot and casting your vote.

**Request an Absentee Ballot by Mail**

If you are a registered Wisconsin voter, you can download the **Application For Absentee Ballot (EL-121)**. Just complete the form and mail it to your municipal clerk's office. You can find your clerk at **MyVote WI: myvote.wi.gov** by searching for your voter record or performing an address search. You can also find your clerk by **searching through the list of all Wisconsin municipal clerks**. Your application must be received by the clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the election in order for an absentee ballot to be SENT to you. You will also need to provide a copy of your acceptable photo ID with your request. If you have not previously provided a copy of photo ID, photo ID must accompany your first application by mail. More information about photo ID can be found at [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov).

If you are not already registered, you will need to **register to vote** before an absentee ballot can be sent to you.

Voters who are indefinitely confined, meaning they have a difficult time getting to the polls due to age, illness, infirmity, or disability, may request that a ballot be automatically sent to them for each election. Indefinitely confined voters do not need to provide a photo ID with their absentee ballot request. If you or someone you know are indefinitely confined you will make this designation in box 6 of the **Application for Absentee Ballot (EL-121)**. More information on the exceptions to the photo ID law can be found at: <http://bringit.wi.gov/are-there-exceptions-new-law>

**Military and Overseas voters have additional options for absentee ballot delivery.** Click here for **Military**. Click here for **Overseas**. Military and permanent overseas voters do not need to provide a photo ID with their request.

**Request an Absentee Ballot by E-Mail or Fax**

Regular Wisconsin voters may also request that a ballot be sent to them by sending an e-mail or fax to their municipal clerk. This request must be made no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the election in order for an absentee ballot to be SENT to you. If you have not previously provided a copy of photo ID, photo ID must accompany your application. More information about the photo ID requirement can be found at [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov).

**Instructions for Completing Absentee Ballot**

You can find detailed instructions for completing your absentee ballot here: [Uniform Instructions for Absentee Voters](#).

**Deadlines for Returning Your Absentee Ballot**

Your completed absentee ballot must be delivered no later than **8 p.m. on Election Day**. The U.S. Postal Service recommends absentee ballots be mailed one week before Election Day to arrive in time.

**In-Person Absentee Voting at your Municipal Clerk's Office (Early Voting)**

You can also vote absentee at your local municipal clerk's office. If you apply for an absentee ballot in your municipal clerk's office, or another designated location for in-person absentee voting, you will vote your ballot immediately in the clerk's office, seal your ballot in the proper envelope, and return it to a member of the clerk's staff. No ballots may be taken out of the clerk's office.

**You will need to show your acceptable photo ID** for voting when voting by in-person absentee ballot. More information about acceptable photo IDs can be found at [www.bringit.wi.gov](http://www.bringit.wi.gov).

**When can I Vote an In-Person Absentee Ballot?**

Each city, village and town in Wisconsin is responsible for setting the dates and hours of in-person absentee voting for their municipality. To find the dates and hours for in-person absentee voting where you live, **contact your municipal clerk**.

**Who is my Municipal Clerk?**

The municipal clerk is the clerk for the City, Village or Town in Wisconsin where you reside. If you do not know who your municipal clerk is, or where the clerk's office is located, please use the MyVote Wisconsin website: [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov) to locate your clerk's contact information. You can also find your clerk by searching a list of all [Wisconsin Municipal Clerk Contact Information](#).

**Back to Voter Information Center**



Wisconsin Government Accountability Board | 212 East Washington Avenue, Third Floor P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7984

tele (608) 266-8005 | fax (608) 267-0500 | tty 1-800-947-3529 | e-mail [gab@wi.gov](mailto:gab@wi.gov)

Toll-Free Voter Help Line: 1-866-VOTE-WIS



# Wisconsin Application for Absentee Ballot

Confidential Elector ID#  
*(HINDI - sequential #) (Official Use Only)*

WisVote ID #  
*(Official Use Only)*

Ward No.

Instructions

Detailed instructions for completion are on the back of this form. Return this form to your municipal clerk when completed.

- You must be registered to vote before you can receive an absentee ballot. You can confirm your voter registration at <https://myvote.wi.gov>

**PHOTO ID REQUIRED**, unless you qualify for an exception. See instructions on back for exceptions.

## VOTER INFORMATION

|   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Municipality  | <input type="radio"/> Town<br><input type="radio"/> Village<br><input type="radio"/> City | County                                       |
| 2 | Last Name   | First Name  |  |
|   | Middle Name   | Suffix (e.g. Jr, II, etc.)  | Date of Birth<br><small>(MM/DD/YYYY)</small> |
|   | Phone   | Fax   | Email  |
| 3 | Residence Address: Street Number & Name   |   |  |
|   | Apt. Number   | City  | State & ZIP                                  |
| 4 | If you are a military or permanent overseas elector, fill in the appropriate circle (see instructions for definitions): <input type="radio"/> Military <input type="radio"/> Permanent Overseas |   |  |

**I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT BY:** (Ballot will be mailed to the address above if no preference is indicated. Absentee ballots may not be forwarded.)

|   |  |                                       |      |             |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|------|-------------|
| 5 | <input type="radio"/> MAIL                   | Mailing Address: Street Number & Name |      |             |
|   | <input type="radio"/> VOTE IN CLERK'S OFFICE | Apt. Number                           | City | State & ZIP |
|   |  | Care Facility Name (if applicable)    |      |             |
|   |  | C / O (if applicable)                 |      |             |
|   | <input type="radio"/> FAX                    | Fax Number                            |      |             |
|   | <input type="radio"/> EMAIL                  | Email Address                         |      |             |

**I REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BE SENT TO ME FOR:** (mark only one)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 6 | <input type="radio"/> The election(s) on the following date(s): _____<br><input type="radio"/> All elections from today's date through the end of the current calendar year (ending 12/31).<br><input type="radio"/> Every election subsequent to today's date. I further certify that I am indefinitely confined because of age, illness, infirmity or disability and request absentee ballots be sent to me until I am no longer confined or fail to return a ballot. |
|---|---|

**TEMPORARILY HOSPITALIZED VOTERS ONLY** (please fill in circle)

|   |  |                  |                   |  |
|---|--|------------------|-------------------|--|
| 7 | <input type="radio"/> I certify that I cannot appear at the polling place on election day because I am hospitalized, and appoint the following person to serve as my agent, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 6.86(3).  |                  |                   |  |
|   | Agent Last Name  | Agent First Name | Agent Middle Name |  |
|   | <b>AGENT:</b> I certify that I am the duly appointed agent of the hospitalized absentee elector, that the absentee ballot to be received by me is received solely for the benefit of the above named hospitalized elector, and that such ballot will be promptly transmitted by me to that elector and then returned to the municipal clerk or the proper polling place. |                  |                   |  |
|   | Agent Signature  | X                | Agent Address     |  |

**ASSISTANT DECLARATION / CERTIFICATION** (if required)

I certify that the application is made on request and by authorization of the named elector, who is unable to sign the application due to physical disability.

|                 |   |              |  |
|-----------------|---|--------------|--|
| Agent Signature | X | Today's Date |  |
|-----------------|---|--------------|--|

**VOTER DECLARATION / CERTIFICATION** (required for all voters)

I certify that I am a qualified elector, a U.S. Citizen, at least 18 years old, having resided at the above residential address for at least 10 consecutive days immediately preceding this election, not currently serving a sentence including probation or parole for a felony conviction, and not otherwise disqualified from voting. **Please sign below to acknowledge that you have read and understand the above.**

|                 |   |              |  |
|-----------------|---|--------------|--|
| Voter Signature | X | Today's Date |  |
|-----------------|---|--------------|--|

## Wisconsin Application for Absentee Ballot Instructions

**General Instructions:** This form should be submitted to your municipal clerk, unless directed otherwise.

- This form should only be completed by registered voters; if you are not a registered voter or military elector, please submit a Voter Registration Application (EL-131) with this form.

**Photo ID requirement:** If you will receive your absentee ballot by mail, and have not previously provided a copy of acceptable photo ID with a prior by-mail absentee ballot request, a copy of photo ID must accompany this application. You may submit your application and a copy of your ID by mail, fax or email. In-person voters must always show acceptable photo ID.

**The following documents are acceptable Photo ID** (For specific information regarding expired documents visit <http://bringit.wi.gov>.)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| State of WI driver license or ID card                              | Certificate of Naturalization                   |
| Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service                | WI DOT DL or ID card receipt                    |
| Photo ID issued by the federal Dept. of Veterans Affairs           | Citation/Notice to revoke or suspend WI DL      |
| University, college or tech college ID and enrollment verification | ID card issued by federally recognized WI tribe |
| U.S. passport booklet or card                                      |   |

**In lieu of photo ID**, the voters listed below may satisfy the voter ID requirement by the following means:

- Electors who are indefinitely confined (see Section 6) – the signature of a witness on the Absentee Certificate Envelope.
- Electors residing in care facilities served by Special Voting Deputies – the signatures of both deputies on the envelope.
- Electors residing in care facilities not served by Special Voting Deputies – the signature of an authorized representative of the facility. If the elector is also indefinitely confined, the elector does not need a representative of the facility to sign.
- **Military, Permanent Overseas and Confidential Electors – Exempt from the photo ID requirement.**

1 • Indicate the municipality and county of residence. Use the municipality's formal name (for example: City of Ashland, Village of Greendale, or Town of Albion).

2 • Provide your name as you are registered to vote in Wisconsin. If applicable, please provide your suffix (Jr, Sr, etc.) and/or middle name. If your current name is different than how you are registered to vote, please submit a Voter Registration Application (EL-131) with this form to update your information.  
• Provide your month, day and year of birth. Remember to use your birth year, not the current year.

3 • Provide your home address (legal voting residence) with full house number (including fractions, if any).  
• Provide your full street name, including the type (eg., Ave.) and any pre- and/or post-directional (N, S, etc.).  
• Provide the city name and ZIP code as it would appear on mail delivered to the home address.  
• You may not enter a PO Box as a voting residence. A rural route box without a number may not be used.

4 • A "Military elector" is a person, or the spouse or dependent of a person who is a member of a uniformed service or the merchant marines, a civilian employee of the United States, a civilian officially attached to a uniformed service and serving outside the United States, or a Peace Corp volunteer. Military electors do not need to register to vote.  
• A "Permanent Overseas elector" is a person who is a United States citizen, 18 years old or older, who resided in Wisconsin immediately prior to leaving the United States, who is now living outside the United States and has no present intent to return, who is not registered in any other location, or who is an adult child of a United States citizen who resided in this state prior to establishing residency abroad. Permanent Overseas electors will receive ballots for federal offices only and must be registered to vote prior to receiving a ballot.

5 • Fill in the circle to indicate your preferred method of receiving your absentee ballot.  
• Military and Permanent Overseas voters may request and access their ballot directly at <https://myvote.wi.gov>.  
• If no preference is indicated, your absentee ballot will be mailed to your residence address listed in Box 3.  
• You are encouraged to provide a physical mailing address as backup in case of electronic transmission difficulties. Please only fill the circle for your preferred means of transmission.  
• If you are living in a care facility, please provide the name of the facility.  
• If someone will be receiving the ballot on your behalf, please list them after C/O. Please note: The absentee elector is still required to vote their own ballot, although they may request assistance in physically marking the ballot.

6 • Select the first option if you would like to receive a ballot for a single election or a specific set of elections.  
• Select the second option if you would like to have a standing absentee request for any and all elections that may occur in a calendar year (ending December 31).  
• Select the third option only if you are indefinitely confined due to age, illness, infirmity or disability and wish to request absentee ballots for all elections until you are no longer confined or fail to return a ballot for an election.

7 • This section is only to be completed by an elector or the agent of an elector who is currently hospitalized.  
• An agent completing this form for a hospitalized elector must provide his/her name, signature and address on this application.

**Assistant Signature:**

In the situation where the elector is unable to sign the Voter Declaration / Certification due to a physical disability, the elector may authorize another elector to sign on his or her behalf. Any elector signing an application on another elector's behalf shall attest to a statement that the application is made on request and by authorization of the named elector, who is unable to sign the application due to physical disability.

**Voter Signature:**

By signing and dating this form, you certify that you are a qualified elector, a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, having resided at your residential address for at least 10 consecutive days immediately preceding this election, not currently serving a sentence including probation or parole for a felony conviction, and not otherwise disqualified from voting.