You must show one of these IDs

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I don’t have an acceptable photo ID?

Voting is a right you can’t afford to lose.

Get an ID.

See the reverse to find out how to get a Free Voter Photo ID

Do I need a photo ID if I vote absentee?

You must include a copy of your acceptable voter photo ID when you send in your signed absentee ballot request. The only exceptions are: if you are indefinitely confined due to age or disability; live in a nursing home or senior residential community; or are a permanent overseas or military voter.

Important things to remember:

• The address on your ID does NOT have to be current.

• There is not a separate “Voter Photo ID card.” You can use any of the examples pictured on this page as a Voter Photo ID.

• Note the expiration and issuance date requirements for acceptable IDs.

• The name on your photo ID does NOT have to exactly match the name you use to vote. Nicknames (e.g., “Susan” with ID for “Sue”) are OK! However, if you’ve legally changed your name, your new name must be on the ID you use to vote.

• If you forget to bring your photo ID on Election Day, you can ask the election worker for a provisional ballot. In order for your ballot to be counted, you must either return to the polling place before it closes at 8 p.m. with your ID, or bring your ID to your municipal clerk’s office by 4 p.m. the Friday after the election.

Need more information?

Visit the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) website at:
http://BringIt.wi.gov/ Or call the WEC at 1-866-VOTE-WIS (1-866-868-3947)
Here's how to Get a Free Voter Photo ID

Go to your local Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) service center.
(Find the location of your local DMV at: http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/find-dmv)

Bring your social security number (doesn't have to be your SS Card) and original documents that prove your name and date of birth; your identity; U.S. Citizenship; and Wisconsin residency (see lists below).

Fill out a “Wisconsin Identification Card” application.

Documents needed to get a Free Voter Photo ID

Bring one from each of the following four categories (originals, no photo copies).
Documents in bold can be used as proof in more than one category (e.g., Birth Certificate).
Note: the lists below contain examples of the most common documents – for more information or a complete list of acceptable documents, visit: www.Brandit.wi.gov/how-do-i-get-free-state-id-card or call 1-866-VOTE-WIS Mon-Fri, 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Name and Date of Birth:
- Birth Certificate (certified)
- Certificate of Citizenship
- Court Order (Adoption, Divorce, Name or Gender Change)
- Certificate of Naturalization

Proof of Identity:
- Marriage or Divorce Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Driver's License (Other U.S. State)
- State ID Card (Other U.S. State)
- U.S. Gov. & Military Dependent Card
- Any U.S. Gov.-issued non-photo ID Card (e.g., Medicare Card, Food Stamp Card)

Proof of U.S. Citizenship:
- U.S. Birth Certificate (certified)
- Certificate of Citizenship
- Certificate of Naturalization

Wisconsin Residency (must show name and address):
- Utility Bill (e.g., Cable, Phone)*
- Bank/Financial Institution Statement*
- Pay Stub*
- Insurance Policy dated within last year
- Gov. Issued Correspondence issued within the last year
- Mortgage Documents for WI Property
  *Issued within the last 90 days

If you don't have the required documents to prove U.S. Citizenship, name and date of birth, and/or legal name change, you can still get a free ID, but you must:

Be a U.S. Citizen, indicate that the ID card is required free of charge for the purposes of voting; and fill out a short form claiming that documents required to prove U.S. Citizenship, name and date of birth and/or legal name change are unavailable and require a fee to a government agency to obtain.