

VOTE
It's Your
Right!



QUESTIONS?
We Have Answers!

DisabilityRights
ARKANSAS

My Rights on Voting

Frequently Asked Voting QUESTIONS

1. Can I register to vote?

You can register to vote in Arkansas if you:

- Are a citizen of the United States
- Are at least 18 years old by Election Day
- Are a resident of Arkansas
- Are not a convicted felon (or have completely discharged your sentence or been pardoned)
- Have not claimed the right to vote in any other jurisdiction
- Have not been adjudicated mentally incompetent after October 1, 2001

2. Where can I register to vote?

You can register to vote by mail, at your local county clerk's office, or at any of the following locations:

- State revenue offices, Driver Services
- Public libraries or the Arkansas State Library
- Public assistance agencies
- Disability agencies
- Military recruitment offices
- Arkansas National Guard offices

3. Do I have to show a form of identification to register to vote?

On your registration application, you must provide either your Arkansas driver's license number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number, or indicate you have neither. If you are registering by mail, in order to avoid having to submit a Provisional Ballot the first time you vote, you must submit a copy of one of the following:

- Current valid photo ID
- Current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck that shows your name and address, OR
- Another government document that shows your name and address.

4. When should I register to vote?

You can register to vote at any time, but to vote in an election you must be registered at least 30 days before that election.



5. For first-time voters – how do I know if I am registered to vote?

Once you register to vote, you will receive a voter registration card in the mail. This is proof that you are now a registered voter. If this is not received within 30 days after registering, call your local county clerk to confirm your registration.

6. Voters – How do I know if I am registered to vote?

On your registration application, you must provide either your Arkansas driver's license number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security Number, or indicate you have neither. If you are registering by mail, in order to avoid having to submit a Provisional Ballot the first time you vote, you must submit a copy of one of the following:

- Current valid photo ID
- Current utility bill, bank statement, government check, OR paycheck that shows your name and address, OR
- Another government document that shows your name and address, OR visit www.voterview.org

7. What if I move, or I have moved since I registered?

If you have moved since the last election, you must re-register.

8. Do I need to show a form of identification to vote?

Yes. You must present a Verification of Voter Registration when you vote in person. This identification must show your name and photo and must be issued by the United States, Arkansas, or an accredited post-secondary educational institution in Arkansas, and can include:

- Driver's license
- Photo identification card
- Concealed carry handgun license
- U.S. passport
- Employee badge or identification document issued by an accredited post-secondary educational institution in the state
- U.S. military identification document
- Public assistance card if the card shows a photo of the person receiving assistance



- Verification of Voter Registration Card

A resident of a long-term care or residential care facility licensed by the state is not required to present Verification of Voter Registration.

9. If I don't have a photo ID, can I vote?

Yes. You must obtain a Verification of Voter Registration card from your local county clerk's office. To obtain a Verification of Voter Registration card, you must present:

- A photo or non-photo ID document which includes your full legal name and date of birth
- Documentation showing your name and residential address, and
- Evidence you are registered to vote or have submitted your registration application. There is no fee or charge to receive the card.

10. Do I need to show my voter registration card to vote?

No. As long as you are registered to vote, you don't need to have the card with you.

11. Where do I vote?

Your precinct is determined by where you live, and the polling site is assigned by your county election commission. Most local newspapers publish a list of polling sites within a few days prior to an election. If you received a voter registration card from your county clerk, it may show your precinct. You can also find your location online at www.voterview.org.

12. If my name does not appear on the list of voters when I'm at the polls, can I still vote?

Yes. In this situation you may still cast a provisional ballot. Do not leave without voting! The election official will provide you with written instructions on how to determine whether or not your vote was counted and, if not, the reason your vote was not counted. In most cases, the Election Commission will mail you a notice.

13. What is a provisional ballot?



A provisional ballot allows you to cast your vote, even if you are denied a regular ballot, due to:

- Your name not appearing on the voter rolls
- Your vote being challenged by a poll watcher

If you cast a provisional ballot for either reason, you will be given written instructions which tell you how to find out whether or not your vote was counted.

14. What if my polling site is not accessible?

If your polling site is inaccessible, immediately contact your local county clerk to make sure that you are given the right to cast your ballot. You can also call Disability Rights Arkansas or several other agencies:

- Disability Rights Arkansas, 800-482-1174
- Arkansas Secretary of State; Elections Division, 800-482-1127
- Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners, 800-411-6996
- American Civil Liberties Union of Arkansas, 866-687-8683
- Arkansas State Independent Living Council, 501-372-0607

15. Is a polling site required to provide an accessible voting device?

Every polling site should have at least one accessible voting device.

16. Can I take someone to help me vote?

If you need assistance, you may bring a person of your choosing to the polling site to help fill out your ballot. The person assisting you may not comment on or interpret your choices. If you need assistance and don't have anyone with you, request assistance and two poll workers will help you, one to assist and one to observe.

17. Who is eligible for an absentee ballot?

In order to be eligible for an absentee/vote by mail ballot, you must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- You will be unavoidably absent from your polling site on Election Day, OR
- You will be unable to attend your polling site on Election Day due to illness or physical disability, OR



- You are a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marines, or the spouse or a dependent family member, and are away from your polling location due to the member's active duty status, OR
- You are a United States citizen whose residence is in Arkansas but are temporarily living outside the territorial limits of the United States.

18. How do I ask for an absentee ballot?

To receive an absentee ballot, you should request to have an application for one sent to you by contacting your county clerk. You can also find the application online at sos.arkansas.gov

19. What are the deadlines for absentee ballots?

- In person: by close of business the day BEFORE the election
- By Designated Bearer or Administrator: by close of business the day BEFORE the election. A designated bearer is anyone you choose to pick up or deliver your application or ballot
- By mail or by electronic means: by 7 days before the election
- By Authorized Agent: by 1:30 p.m. on Election Day. The authorized agent must file with the county clerk an affidavit from the administrative head of a hospital or nursing home located in this state verifying that the applicant is a patient of a hospital or long-term care or residential care facility licensed by the State and is thereby unable to vote on Election Day at his or her regular polling site.

20. Can I vote if awaiting a trial?

Yes. You are eligible to obtain an absentee ballot if you are awaiting arraignment or trial.

21. If I served time in prison, can I vote?

Yes. If you are a convicted felon, you must provide the county clerk with proof from the appropriate state or local agency or office that you have been discharged from probation or parole, have paid all probation or parole fees, or have satisfied all terms of imprisonment, and paid all applicable court costs, fines, or restitution.



22. If I haven't graduated from high school yet, can I vote?

Yes. You must be registered to vote, at least 18 years old by Election Day, a United States citizen and a resident of Arkansas.

23. If I don't speak English, can I vote?

Yes. Before going to the polls, contact your county clerk to make sure you will be able to get a ballot in your language.

24. What if I live in a state facility, and no one will take me to the polls?

No one can take away your right to vote, but if you can't find transportation (staff, family and/or friends are unwilling or unable to take you), then you will need to vote absentee.



Voting Resources:

Arkansas Secretary of State; Elections Division

www.sos.arkansas.gov

800-482-1127

Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners

www.arkansas.gov/sbec

800-411-6996

American Civil Liberties Union of Arkansas

www.acluarkansas.org

866-687-8683

Arkansas State Independent Living Council

www.ar-silc.org

501-372-0607

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www.DisabilityRightsAR.org