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## **TEXAS VOTER RIGHTS**

Voting is an important civil right. If you are a U.S. Citizen, at least 18 years old on election day, not convicted of a felony (or if punishment was completed) and have not been declared mentally incompetent by a court, then you may register, and vote.

### **REGISTERING:**

You may register by mail, or in person. Voter registration cards can be found at:

- Department of Public Safety offices
- County Tax, Clerk, Justice of the Peace, or Voter Registrar offices
- Public Libraries, Texas Workforce Commission and local Workforce Centers
- State agencies providing public assistance: (State Health Services, Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Aging and Disability Services)
- Most Post Offices, and Public High Schools
- Online: <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/>

First-time voters must either send a copy of their identification (ID) along with their registration form, or, present a form of identification at the polls when they go to vote.

**Acceptable ID\*:** Driver or State ID; Passport; Texas Election ID Certificate; Texas Handgun License; Military ID Card; US Citizenship Certificate.

\* Additional forms of ID may be acceptable if no photo ID is available:

- 1) Sign a "*Reasonable Impediment Declaration*" form
- 2) Present one of the following: a copy or original government document with voter's name and address; paycheck; birth certificate; bank statement; or utility bill.

You may receive assistance completing the voter registration card. If you are unable to complete the application, or sign your name, a "witness" may be designated to complete the task, while they are in your presence.

**PROOF OF REGISTRATION SHOULD BE MAILED TO YOU WITHIN 30 DAYS**

## **ACCESSIBILITY:**

Texas law requires polling locations meet accessibility standards for equal access. Polling location must be on the ground floor or elevator accessible, have 36-inch-wide doors, curb-cuts, non-slip ramps, and handrails on stairs. There cannot be any barrier which impedes the path of voters with disabilities. Polling locations must offer an accessible Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting device to help voters mark and cast their vote privately and independently.

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*If you need assistance reading or marking a ballot, you may ask an election official for help, or, bring someone with you to help.*

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## **ASSISTANCE:**

You may receive assistance with casting your vote if you cannot read, write, hear, or have a physical disability that prevents from reading or marking your ballot. No proof of disability is required. If you choose to have a polling official help you, a poll watcher or election inspector may observe the voting process to make sure the ballot is marked as you request. If you bring your own assistant to help you, no one else may watch you vote. You may also request an interpreter if you do not speak English, or if you communicate through sign language.

## **ALTERNATIVE VOTING METHODS:**

There are other voting methods available, if you cannot, or do not want to vote in person:

- 1) Curbside Voting: During early voting, or election day, you may request for an election officer to bring a ballot or voting machine to the entrance of the polling place or to your car at curbside. (Call your County Election Official and let them know you would like to vote Curbside. Find your County Election Official: 1-800-252-8683).
- 2) Early Voting: Anyone may vote at any early voting site in their county. Early voting begins 17 days before election day and ends 4 days before election day. Find your early voting location by calling your County Election Official, or the Secretary of State at: 1-800-252-8683.
- 3) Vote by Mail: The following registered voters may elect to vote by mail: away from the County on election day, sick or have a disability, 65+ years, or, in jail but still eligible to vote. Requests must be made BEFORE early voting begins. Request a vote by mail application from the County Election Official, or from the Secretary of State at: 1-800-252-8683.

For more information about voting and voter rights, contact:

**Texas Secretary of State** at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683) [www.sos.state.tx.us](http://www.sos.state.tx.us) OR  
**Disability Rights Texas** at 1-888-796-VOTE (8683) [www.disabilityrightstx.org](http://www.disabilityrightstx.org)

**\* This article is for general information purposes only. Those needing legal advice should seek the assistance of an attorney.**