



# Student Voting Guide for Wisconsin

## 2016 Registration Deadlines and Election Dates

Voter Registration Deadline: 20 days before Election Day—October 19

Register late in person at your municipal clerk's office until the Friday before Election Day

Registration at the polls on Election Day is available

Election Day: November 8

Voter registration forms, polling place locations, and more information can be found at  
[www.gab.wi.gov](http://www.gab.wi.gov)

## Register at School or Home?

Students have a choice about where to register to vote.

School address:

- Students attending college in Wisconsin may register at their school address. You must plan to return after temporary absences, like summer break, but do not have to plan to reside at that address permanently.

Permanent address:

- Students may choose to register or remain registered at a permanent address in Wisconsin or outside the state. In this case, students may need to vote by absentee ballot.

**You may only be registered and vote in one location.**

For other states' registration information visit:  
[www.campusvoteproject.org/studentguides](http://www.campusvoteproject.org/studentguides)

*The Higher Education Act requires most colleges and universities to make a good faith effort to distribute voter registration forms to every student.  
Make sure yours does.*

## What Type of ID Do I Need to Register?

Except for military and overseas voters, all registrants must provide a copy of or show proof of residence when registering to vote or reregistering to change a name or address. If you fail to provide proof of residence, your registration application will NOT be processed and you will NOT appear on the rolls when you go to vote.

Acceptable proof-of-residence documents must contain a name and current address. Here are some examples:

- A current Wisconsin driver's license or ID card;
- Another ID card or license issued by Wisconsin;
- Any government document or check including benefits and federal student loan documents;
- A university, college, or technical college photo ID card ONLY if the voter provides a tuition fee receipt from the last 9 months or an enrollment verification letter;
- **\*Public\*** university & technical college correspondence & documents including admissions correspondence, financial aid notices, tuition fee receipts, report cards, schedules, or MyUW-Madison/Student Center webpages;
- An employer photo ID with a current address;
- Bank or credit union statement;

(more ID options on the next page)

[www.campusvoteproject.org](http://www.campusvoteproject.org)

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## What Type of ID Do I Need to Register? (continued)

- A utility bill like gas, electric, water, cell phone, or cable bill for a period beginning no earlier than 90 days before Election Day;
- Paycheck;
- Current residential lease (Not valid if registering by mail); or
- An affidavit on public or private social service agency letterhead identifying a homeless voter and describing the individual's residence for voting purposes.

Wisconsin's voter registration form asks for your Wisconsin driver's license or ID number, if you have one, or if you do not, the last four digits of your Social Security Number. Make sure to provide this information on the registration form so the state can verify your identity.

## Where Do I Vote?

Make a plan. Look up your polling location and hours at:  
[myvote.wi.gov/](http://myvote.wi.gov/)

## What Type of ID Do I Need to Vote?

**Both in-person and absentee Wisconsin voters MUST show one of the following types of photo ID at the polls or submit a copy with the absentee ballot request.**

- Wisconsin driver's license or ID card (must be current or expired after the last general election) [Suspended or revoked licenses are valid]
- Military or uniformed service ID card
- U.S. Passport
- Certificate of naturalization issued within two years of the general election's date
- Tribal ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin
- College, university or technical college student ID card with a signature, an issuance date, and an expiration date no later than 2 years after the issuance date. It must be presented with proof of current enrollment like a tuition fee receipt or letter verifying enrollment, as a paper copy or on a smartphone or tablet.
- Ticket/citation from the last 60 days if you had to surrender your driver's license

Photo ID does NOT need to have any address or a current address, just your name and photo.

If you do not have an accepted form of voter ID, a free voter ID card can be obtained from the DMV office. To get info on that process, please call 866-OUR-VOTE or visit [bringit.wi.gov](http://bringit.wi.gov).

*This Guide was prepared by FELN staff who are not licensed to practice law in Wisconsin and FELN intends that the information contained herein is used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Wisconsin legal professional.*

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## How Can I Vote?

### By Mail

- Wisconsin voters can request an absentee ballot by using the Application for Absentee Ballot (GAB-121). Requests for absentee ballots must be received by mail, email, or fax by 5 p.m. five days before the election or completed in the general registrar's office by 5 p.m. four days before the election.
- Completed ballots must be returned by 8 p.m. on Election Day or postmarked no later than Election Day and received by the municipal clerk no later than 4 p.m. on the Friday after the election.

### Early In-Person Absentee

- You can vote early at a municipal clerk's office. Check with your clerk for office hours.

### On Election Day

- The polls are open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

## Common Questions

### **Will voting in Wisconsin affect my federal financial aid?**

Where you register to vote will not affect federal financial aid such as Pell Grants and Perkins or Stafford loans or your dependency status regarding FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

### **Will I lose my scholarship if I register to vote in Wisconsin?**

Generally, no. If you receive scholarship money from a state, county, town, or a private entity (i.e., an entity other than the federal government) you should confirm that residency in a particular place is not a requirement of the scholarship and/or that voter registration in Wisconsin will not affect your eligibility.

### **Will registering to vote in Wisconsin affect my driver's license or car registration?**

With few exceptions, registering to vote in Wisconsin will have no impact on changing your driver's license and motor vehicle registration. However, as a full-time student in Wisconsin, you may have to make these changes regardless of whether you register to vote in Wisconsin. For more information, you may wish to contact the Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles.

### **Will registering to vote in Wisconsin prevent my parents from claiming me as a dependent on their taxes?**

No. Students are often told that registering to vote in a different state from their parents will make them lose their dependency status. This is not true. Where you register to vote will have no effect on your parent's tax status.

### **Does being an out-of-state student for tuition purposes affect my right to vote in my college community?**

No. You may choose to vote in your college community or back home regardless of your tuition status.