



# Voting in Montana

## How Do I Register to Vote?

1. **By Mail**-You can print out a voter registration application form from Montana's Secretary of State's website at <https://sosmt.gov/> or on their Electronic Ballot Request System. You can also pick one up at your local county election office or request one from Disability Rights Montana. You can then mail your completed form to your local county election administrator.
2. **In-Person**-You can complete a voter registration application form at your local county election office or other state agencies' offices.

## What Do You Need to Register to Vote?

- Your name and birth date.
- Your driver's license number or MVD ID number, the last four digits of your Social Security number, or another form of identification.
- A residence address. If you are experiencing homelessness, you may use a specific description of your geographic location.
- A mailing address. If you are experiencing homelessness, you may use a mailing address where you can get mail.

## Who is Eligible to Vote?

- You are a citizen of the U.S..
- You have lived in Montana for at least 30 days.
- You are at least 18 years old on Election Day.
- You are registered to vote in the state of Montana.

### You Are Eligible to Vote if You Are:

1. An adult with a disability who has been appointed a guardian, unless the guardianship order specifically states otherwise.
2. A formerly incarcerated adult.

## What Do You Need to Cast Your Vote?

If you are voting in-person, you need a current valid state ID. If you do not have a photo ID, you can provide a current utility bill, paycheck, bank statement, voter confirmation notice, government check, or other government document that shows your name and current address. If you do not have any of the items listed above, you can complete a "Polling Place Elector ID" form. You also have the option of a provisional ballot.



# Accessible Ways to Vote

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- **Electronic Ballot Request System-** As a qualified voter with a disability, you have the ability to apply for an absentee ballot, and receive and mark a ballot electronically. You can request a ballot on Montana's Secretary of State's (SOS) website.
- **Absentee Ballot-** As a registered voter, you can complete an "Application for Absentee Ballot" and mail or drop the application off at your county election office. An absentee voting packet will be mailed to the address you provided on your application. You should submit your application as soon as possible in order to receive your absentee voting packet by mail in time.
- **Accessible Voting Machines-** Every polling place in Montana has at least one specialized voting machine, called an AutoMARK™ or ExpressVote®. This allows individuals with disabilities to vote independently and privately as required by law.
- **Curbside Voting-** If you cannot enter your polling location, you may ask that a ballot be brought to you by an election judge.
- **Designate an Agent-** You may designate an agent to assist you with the voting process by completing a "Designation of Agent by Individual with Disability" form located on Montana's SOS website. You then deliver the signed application to your local election office.
- **Assistance from Your Election Judge-** You may ask an election judge for assistance with marking your ballot due to a physical disability or illiteracy.

\*The "Voter Information Pamphlet" published by the SOS for each state general election is available in braille and audio formats. You should contact the SOS office in advance to request these formats.

You can scan the QR code to visit Montana's SOS office's "Voters with Disabilities" web-page.





# Voting and COVID-19

- Regular voter registration by mail has been extended until May 26, 2020. However, you should register to vote by mail as soon as possible.
- The Governor issued an order allowing all counties to make the decision as to whether or not to conduct the upcoming federal primary by mail due to COVID-19 and associated closures.
- Please contact your county election office to find out more information about their plan.
- There will be few, if any, counties that will have polling places available to vote on election day. This means that in many counties, accessible voting machines, such as AutoMARK™ or ExpressVote®, will only be available at the county election office.
- Accessible voting machines will be made available to voters with disabilities starting May 4th until election day at county election offices.
- To be sure that an accessible voting machine is available or that curbside voting will be available, call your county election office first.
- If voters with disabilities need to go to their county election office to either register and/or vote, they should go between May 4th and May 26th in order to maintain social distancing.
- You do have the option to register and vote at your county election office up until election day. Since historically the lines have been long on election day, please consider voting by mail or early in-person voting in order to protect your health and safety during COVID-19.
- If you are registered to vote and you need to go to your county election office to vote, it is best to wait until you receive your ballot in the mail. If you choose to go beforehand, you should contact your county election office first.
- If you experience any difficulty with accessing a voting machine or with curbside voting, please contact Disability Rights Montana at 1-800-245-4743.