



Make sure you are registered to vote for the 2020 Elections and that your vote is counted. Help others—your family, your friends, your neighbors, your clients—so they can vote!

*Information in this guide is adapted from the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office. Please double check any information found here on the [Secretary of State's website](#).*

*The Minnesota Alliance on Crime is a nonpartisan 501(c)(3).*

## Voting Information in Multiple Languages

- [Español](#)
- [Hmoob](#)
- [Soomaali](#)
- [Tiếng Việt](#)
- [Русский](#)
- [中文](#)
- [ພາສາລາວ](#)
- [Afaan Oromo](#)
- [ខ្មែរ](#)
- [አማርኛ](#)

## Who Can Vote in Minnesota?

You must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old on Election Day
- A resident of Minnesota for 20 days
- Finished with **all parts of any felony sentence**

You can vote while **under guardianship** unless a judge specifically has revoked your right to vote.

You cannot vote if a court has ruled that you are legally incompetent.

## Registering to Vote

### **Register online**

It's quick and easy! You will need your Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota identification card number, or the last four numbers of your Social Security number. **Deadline to register online is October 13, 2020.**

### **Register on paper**

Download and print forms in English and other languages. Use these forms to register yourself or to register others in a voter registration drive. **Registration must be received by mail by October 13, 2020.**

## **Register on Election Day**

You can register or update your registration when you vote, whether that is at your polling place on Election Day or at an early voting location. You will need proof of residence to register. [Learn more about registering when you vote.](#)

## **Check my registration**

You can see if you are registered at your current address.

## **Vote in Person on Election Day**

### ***Where do I vote in person?***

Enter your address into the [State of Minnesota Polling Place Finder](#) to find out important voting information for your precinct, including:

- Your Polling Place (where you vote, map & directions)
- Districts for your precinct (including maps)
- "Candidates on My Ballot" (candidates and questions on the ballot at your next election, when available)

### ***When is Election Day? What are the in-person voting hours?***

**Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020.**

Polls will be open from 7 a.m.\* - 8 p.m.

*\*In state and federal elections, towns with less than 500 registered voters are not required to open until 10 a.m. but most choose to open at 7 a.m.*

**Wear a mask if you vote in person!**

## **Tips for New In-Person Voters**

## **Vote Early by Mail**

To vote by mail, apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to you. You do not need to be registered to apply. **If you have already applied for a General Election ballot, it will be mailed to you as soon as ballots become available.**

For your ballot to count, remember this important information:

1. **Read the instructions** that come with your ballot carefully.
2. **Your signature envelope might have a box for a witness to complete and sign.** Due to COVID19, there is no witness requirement for registered voters for the November 3, 2020 State General Election. Non-registered voters will still need a witness, to indicate their proof of residence.
3. **Mail the ballot and forms back right away** after you finish. Your returned ballot must be postmarked on or before Election Day (November 3, 2020) and received by your county within the next seven calendar days (November 10). You may also drop off your ballot envelope in person--see details below.

To request an absentee ballot for the November general election, use the [online absentee application](#), or one of downloadable applications below. Return your completed absentee application to your [county election office](#) by mail, fax or email.

Downloadable absentee applications:

- [English Absentee Application](#)

- [English Large Print Absentee Application](#)

### ***Application deadline***

You can apply for a ballot any time during the year, except the day of the election. Leave time for election officials to mail your ballot. Your returned ballot must be postmarked on or before Election Day (November 3, 2020) and received by your county within the next seven calendar days (November 10).

### ***Track your ballot***

You can [track the status of your ballot](#) and confirm that it was received and counted.

### ***Deadline to return your ballot***

Your ballot will not count if it is received after the deadline.

### ***Returning your ballot by mail***

**It must be postmarked on or before Election Day (November 3, 2020) and received by your county within the next seven calendar days (November 10).** Return your ballot by mail or package delivery service (such as FedEx or UPS).

### ***Returning your ballot in person***

You can also return your ballot in person no later than 3 p.m. on **Election Day** to the election office that sent your ballot. You can drop off ballots for up to three other voters. You will need to show identification with name and signature when returning a ballot for someone else. You may *not* drop your ballot off at your polling place on election day.

[Click here for more info.](#)

## **Voter's Rights**

[Click here for poster on voter's rights from the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office.](#)

## **Voting Safety for Victims/Survivors**

### ***Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program***

If you have safety needs, the [Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program](#) can help. When you enroll in this program, all voting is done by absentee ballot through the mail through the Safe at Home office. Your name and address is never shared with your local elections office. Only your marked ballot is counted.

### ***Additional options***

- You can ask to keep your information private by sending a [Request to Withhold Voter Information from Public Information](#) to your [county election office](#). Your name and address will still appear on the list of voters at the polling place on Election Day, but will not be available to members of the public.
- As an additional safety measure, you can send a [Request to Inactivate Voter Record](#) to your [county election office](#). This will prevent election officials from seeing the information in the private database of voters unless they are specifically looking for your voter record. Once you inactivate your record, you must re-register before voting again.
- If you register on Election Day, you can ask to keep your information private and inactivate your record in one step. Bring copies of both the above letters to attach to your registration application. Your information will be entered in the state's voter database after the election only as long as needed to verify your voting address but will be marked as private from its entry. To verify the address, a county election official will send a postcard to ensure it can be delivered to the address. When it is

determined the postcard has been delivered to the address, the election official will inactivate the record.

## COVID-19 and Voting

### *Voting early with an absentee ballot*

The State of Minnesota is encouraging voters to [vote by mail using an absentee ballot](#). To request an absentee ballot any special elections, complete and return the application below to your [county election office](#) by mail, fax or email. Please see information above on voting via absentee ballot.

### *Election Day voting*

Special election jurisdictions and voters are encouraged to follow [CDC guidance](#) on social distancing (maintaining six feet of distance between voters), equipment sanitization, and hygiene for polling places. In addition to following the CDC's guidance for polling places, we have encouraged jurisdictions to increase their curbside voting operations, and we encourage voters casting a ballot on Election Day to consider taking advantage of curbside voting.

The use of cloth face coverings can be considered as an additional measure to reduce the risk in public areas. Refer to [MDH Guidance on When to Wear a Mask](#). Note that cloth face coverings may help protect others from the wearer's respiratory droplets **but are NOT a replacement for social distancing**. Social distancing must be observed even if face coverings are in use.

### *Curbside voting*

Curbside voting is available for anyone who cannot enter the polling place for any reason, including concerns for their health. Curbside voting allows a voter to register to vote and vote without leaving their vehicle.

If you choose curbside voting, two election judges will bring out a ballot to your vehicle. If you need to register or update your registration, they will bring you an application as well. When you are finished voting, election judges will bring your ballot inside for you and put it in the ballot box.

### *Questions?*

Voters with questions about their special election or about protecting their health while voting can contact the special election jurisdiction or the Office of the Secretary of State's Election Division. The Elections Division can be reached by phone at [651-215-1440](tel:651-215-1440) or [1-877-600-VOTE \(8683\)](tel:1-877-600-VOTE) or email at [secretary.state@state.mn.us](mailto:secretary.state@state.mn.us).

## Get Out the Vote!

*Adapted from [Nonprofit VOTE](#).*

### *What nonprofits can do*

- It's not too late to help get out the vote!
- The IRS allows nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations to engage in get out the vote activities.
- Your get out the vote activities must be nonpartisan at all times.
- Your campaign can focus on *issues* but not *candidates*.
- **Always check with your supervisor before doing get out the vote work on behalf of your organization, especially government workers.**

### Actions you can take to get out the vote

- Use your communications and daily interactions with your community to remind people about the election
- Use meetings and events to share information and create excitement about the election
- Highlight reasons to vote or provide information on the voting process like “where do I vote?” or “what’s on the ballot?”
- Create visibility about the election through posters and displays in other public areas
- Conduct get out the vote drives targeting your employees or local community
- Highlight a ballot question – encouraging “yes” or “no” vote or staying neutral.
- Provide voting rights information for voters informing them of their rights on Election Day and numbers to call for help
- Help new voters. Youth, new citizens, and other first-time voters particularly benefit from information about the voting process and encouragement to vote.

### More Helpful Voting Information

<a href="#"><u>All in Together</u></a>	Guide to voting in Minnesota for women.
<a href="#"><u>APIA Vote</u></a>	Tools to mobilize the Asian American and Pacific Islander community to vote.
<a href="#"><u>Ballotpedia</u></a>	A voting education site that allows you to look at your sample ballot by entering your address. This tool also includes links to more information for each candidate.
<a href="#"><u>Minnesota Public Radio and League of Women Voters Minnesota</u></a>	Voter’s guide to the 2020 elections.
<a href="#"><u>Minneapolis Star Tribune</u></a>	2020 Minnesota Election Guide: Who's running for major offices and where they stand on the issues.
<a href="#"><u>NAACP Black Voices Change Lives</u></a>	Mobilizing Black voters nationwide.
<a href="#"><u>National Network to End Domestic Violence Safety Net</u></a>	Voting safety for victims in the 2020 election.
<a href="#"><u>Native Vote</u></a>	Resources to get the Native American vote out.
<a href="#"><u>Nonprofit Votes Count</u></a>	Get out the vote toolkit.
<a href="#"><u>Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State</u></a>	Elections and voting information.
<a href="#"><u>Queer the Vote</u></a>	LGBTQ voters take power.
<a href="#"><u>Voto Latino</u></a>	Uniting and empowering the Latinx community.

### Questions?

The best place to start if you have questions is the [Minnesota Secretary of State’s Office](#). If you have further questions, contact [Danielle](#) at the Minnesota Alliance on Crime.