

Signing the Poll Book

Voters must sign the poll book in order to obtain a ballot. The poll book now contains a signature block for each voter. Although there are two identical poll books for every ward, only one poll book needs to be signed.

Voters unable to sign the poll book because of a disability are exempt from this requirement. If this applies to you, tell the Election Officials that you are unable to sign because of a disability. You do not need to disclose the nature of your disability to the Election Officials or any observers. Election Officials will write "exempt" in your signature block.

Voter Registration Changes

You may not register to vote the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday before an election.

You must reside at your address for 28 consecutive days to be eligible to vote. A corroborating witness may no longer be used for proof of residence.

Without acceptable proof of residence (utility bill, bank statement, Wisconsin ID, paycheck, government document, or lease in your name at your current address), you need to register more than 20 days before the election.

First-time Wisconsin voters registering by mail need to send proof of residence.

Wood County Clerk Cynthia Cepress

ccepress@co.wood.wi.us

715-421-8460

Courthouse, 400 Market St.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Hours:

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

www.co.wood.wi.us/departments/clerk

Clerk's Office Outreach

To schedule a free presentation regarding the recent changes in elections and have your questions answered, contact the County Clerk's Office at 715-421-8460 or ccepress@co.wood.wi.us

Voter Public Access

<https://vpa.wi.gov>

Recent Changes to Wisconsin Election Laws



Information presented so that all eligible voters are able to cast a ballot and have that ballot counted.

Revision Oct. 2011

Photo Identification

You cannot cast a ballot until you have met ID requirements (See the “Photo ID Exemptions and Exception” section.) Following is a list of acceptable forms of photo ID. **Your photo ID does not need to show a current address.**

Acceptable forms of Voter ID

- ★ Wisconsin driver’s license*
 - ★ WI DOT-issued photo ID card*
 - ★ U.S. passport*
 - ★ Military ID card*
- *The above documents may not have expired earlier than the date of the last November election.*
- ★ Certificate of naturalization issued within last 2 years
 - ★ Unexpired Wisconsin driver’s license or state ID receipt
 - ★ ID card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin
 - ★ Unexpired ID issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college— must contain issuance date, student signature, and expiration date within 2 years of issuance, along with proof of current enrollment.

If you are eligible to vote but do not have a Wisconsin ID card, you may obtain a **free** ID for purposes of voting. You need to check a box on the DMV application to indicate that you need the ID for voting purposes. Please see www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/idcard.htm for more information.

You may need to provide a certified birth certificate or passport in order to obtain a free ID. These documents are not free. Contact the Clerk’s Office for more information.

Changes to Absentee Voting

Absentee voting in the Clerk’s Office is now restricted to the two weeks before an election. Absentee voting ends at the close of business the Friday before the election.

The new law prohibits absentee voting and voter registration the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday before an election.

Absentee voting in the Clerk’s Office requires the same type of photo ID required at the polls (see list on left).

Absentee Ballot Requests

Absentee requests for ballots sent by mail must be accompanied by a photocopy of an acceptable form of voter ID (see list on the left).

If submitting an absentee request via fax or e-mail, you may either include a photocopy of your ID with your absentee request or with your ballot.

Once you have sent the Clerk’s Office a photocopy of your ID, you will not need to send copies with future by-mail, fax, or e-mail absentee requests. Please read your absentee ballot instruction letter very carefully.

Photo ID Exemptions

Photo ID is not required for the following absentee voters:

- Military voters
- Voters who are permanently overseas
- Confidential Voters

Photo ID will not be required but will be replaced by alternative documentation requirements for:

- Indefinitely confined voters
- Nursing home residents and other voters who have ballots delivered by Special Voting Deputies
- Residents of Care Facilities who are not visited by Special Voting Deputies

Hospitalized Voters

Hospitalized voters may appoint an agent to pick up their ballot from the Clerk’s Office. The agent must present the hospitalized voter’s photo ID to the Clerk’s Office.

Provisional Ballots

Voters who are required but unable to provide acceptable photo ID will become provisional voters.

Provisional ballots are not counted unless the voter provides the Clerk’s Office with an acceptable photo ID by 4 p.m. the Friday after the election.