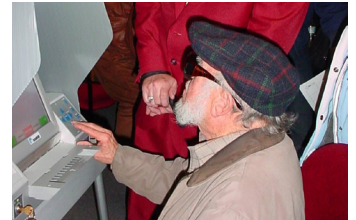




Florida
Developmental
Disabilities
Council, Inc.

Voting in Florida



A Guide for Citizens with Disabilities



Disability Rights
FLORIDA

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What Is Voting For?

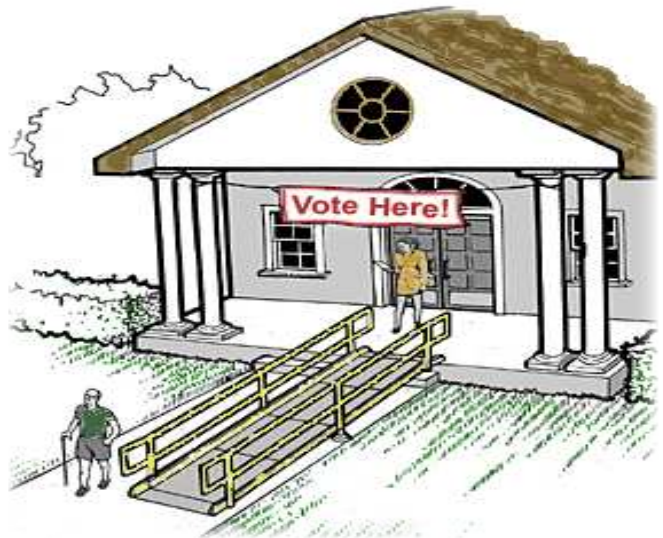
Voting is the process used to elect people for offices such as the mayor, the governor, or the President of the United States. Voting gives ordinary citizens a chance to be heard on important issues, and to create and/or change laws.

Why Is My Vote Important?

Voting is your right and responsibility as a citizen. If you vote, you can help to select the national, state, and local officials who make laws, design programs, and decide how tax dollars are spent.

When you vote, you are making important decisions about how Florida and the United States are run. You should choose the candidates who will do the best job. You will also find many different issues on the election ballot. If you do not vote, you are letting other people decide these issues for you, and then you have to live with their decisions.

Remember, your vote is secret. Nobody will know how you voted unless you wish to tell them. When you vote, you may choose to vote on only some of the issues and candidates, or on all of them. Even if you do not vote on every single issue, the votes that you do mark will still count. It is up to you to vote for what is important to you.



Every opinion counts. Your vote matters!

Why Should I Vote?

- Because I care about what happens in Florida and in the United States.
- Because I want to make changes in my community, state, or country.
- Because I want to keep things from changing; I like the way things are now.
- Because I want to set an example for others, especially children.
- Because I want my voice to be heard!

Who Can Vote?

In order to vote in Florida:

- You must be a resident of Florida
- You must be a United States citizen
- You must be at least 18 years old on or before Election Day
- You must be registered to vote



Who May Not Vote?

You may not vote in Florida if:

- You are not a resident of Florida
- You are not a United States citizen
- You are younger than 18 years old on or before Election Day
- You claim your residence in another state
- A judge in any state has taken away your right to vote because of a mental disability and you have not gotten the right back (See information below)
- You have been convicted of a felony, and your right to vote has not been restored (See information below)

If you have a mental disability, a judge can take away your right to vote if he or she finds that you are *incapacitated*. **The judge must specifically write in an order that you cannot vote.** So even if you have a guardian, you can vote unless there is a written order saying that you cannot vote. If you have lost the right to vote, you can ask the court to restore that right at any time. Remember, however, that not everyone with a guardian has lost the right to vote. If you are unsure whether or not a court has decided that you have lost your right to vote, you should contact your attorney or guardian to find out.

If you have been convicted of a felony, you may not vote unless your right to vote has been restored. You should contact the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition to find out if your right to vote has been restored. You may visit their website (www.restorerights.org) or call (1-877-826-8682) to find out whether or not your right to vote has been restored. If it has not been restored, you should file a petition with the Board of Executive Clemency to have this right restored. **Caution: It is a crime to attempt to register or vote if your right to vote has not been restored.** Contact information for the Office of Executive Clemency is below:

Mailing Address:

The Office of Executive Clemency
2601 Blair Stone Road, Building C
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2450

Telephone and Email:

Toll Free at: 1-800-435-8286

Phone at: 850-488-2952

Fax at: 850-488-0695

Email at: clemencyweb@fpc.state.fl.us

Web Address: www.fpc.state.fl.us

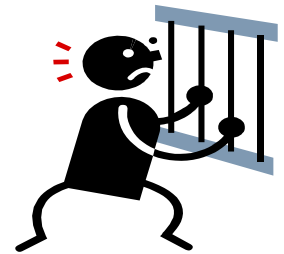
Remember: If a Court decides you are now mentally competent to vote, or the Board of Executive Clemency restores your right to vote, this action only makes you eligible to register to vote. YOU MUST STILL REGISTER TO VOTE in order to be able to cast a ballot.

How Do I Register To Vote?

In order to register to vote, you must fill out, sign, and submit a voter registration application, found on page 17. Some of the places you can register are: the office of your local Supervisor of Elections (see list on pages 12 - 14), any driver's license office or any voter registration agency, such as a public library, Center for Independent Living, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation office, Agency for Persons Disabilities office, or Department of Children and Families office.

The registration form asks you to give the number of your current, valid Florida driver's license or Florida identification card. If you do not have either of these, you must provide the last four digits of your social security number. If you do not have any of the above, you must write "NONE" in the box on your voter registration application.

Warning: If you provide FALSE information on an application, you can be convicted of a felony of the third degree and fined up to \$5,000 and/or imprisoned for up to five years.



After you turn in a completed application, the Supervisor of Elections in your area will send you a voter information card. The card will say where to go in order to cast your vote (your neighborhood polling place). If you do not receive your card within *three (3)* weeks of turning in your application, or if you have any questions regarding your registration, please call your county Supervisor of Elections.

In order to vote in an upcoming election, you must be registered no later than *29 days* before the election. Your registration date is the date that your application is postmarked or hand-delivered to the office of any Supervisor of Elections, the Division of Elections, a driver's license office or other voter registration agency.

*Note: To register to vote, read the information above and submit the voter registration application in the back of this booklet. The deadline to register in Florida is **29 days** before an election is held:*

The Florida General Election takes place on a Tuesday in early November of every even-numbered year. The Florida Primary Election takes place twelve weeks earlier.

For specific information about voter registration deadlines, early voting dates and Election Day, contact the Secretary of State at 1-866-308-6739, your county's Supervisor of Elections on pages 12-14, or Disability Rights Florida at 1-800-342-0823.

What Are Political Parties And How Do I Join One?

When you register to vote, you may choose to declare a political party. Different political parties have differing opinions about the issues. Some of the larger parties are known by the following names: Democratic, Republican, Libertarian, and Green.

If you choose to register as a member of a political party, you may vote in the primary election to help select that party's candidates for office. If you register "independent," it means you are not with a party. Independent voters are not usually permitted to participate in any party's primary election.



In the general election, you may vote for any candidate, whether or not you have chosen to become a member of any particular party.

How Do I Decide Who Or What To Vote For?

Before you vote, you should learn about who is running for office. Find out how they feel about the different issues. Do they share your opinions or disagree with them? Do you think they will listen to you if they are elected? If they are already in office, do you think they have done a good job? Think about the things that are most important to you. What would you like to see changed? What rights do you want protected? Ask people you trust how they will vote and why. You do not need to vote the same way as your friends or family, but good advice can be helpful.

Some of the issues people might base their votes on are:

- Transportation
- Services for people with disabilities
- Jobs
- Low-cost housing
- Taxes
- Education
- Health Care



How Can I Learn About The Candidates And Issues?

You can find out about the issues by reading the newspaper, surfing the Internet, watching the candidates debate each other on television, listening to the radio, and/or attending campaign events where you may meet the candidates in person and ask them what they will do if they are elected.



You may see campaign ads on television or hear them on the radio. You will probably get campaign materials in the mail. Ads are designed to try to convince you to vote for a particular candidate or issue. Sometimes ads may leave out important facts or distort the truth. Information from news articles and from non-partisan (not belonging to any political party) organizations may be more reliable in some cases.



What Are The Different Ways I Can Vote?

The way you vote is by filling out what is called a *ballot*. A ballot lists all the candidates running for office and the political party each belongs to. It also lists other issues you are being asked to vote on, like Constitutional Amendments, for example. To help you prepare for the election, you should get a sample ballot from your Supervisor of Elections. One may be mailed to you. A sample ballot is a paper that shows you what you will get to vote on in the election. It has the names of all the candidates and a description of the issues. You can mark your sample ballot at home and bring it with you to help you remember what choices you made. Sample ballots must be posted at every polling place, along with instructions on how the voting process works.

There are several different ways to vote:

- You can go to your local polling place and fill out a ballot on Election Day.
- You can vote at an early voting location in your county before Election Day.
- You can vote by absentee ballot (through the mail).
- If you are living in an institution, you have the option to vote where you live.

Polling Places are specific locations set up for voting. They can be in many different locations such as churches, libraries, schools, or other types of public buildings. Check the address listed on your voter information card, or with your Supervisor of Elections to find out the location designated as your polling place. It should also list the hours it will be open on Election Day. Typically, the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. **If you vote on Election Day, you must vote at your assigned polling place - the location where you are registered.**

Early Voting begins *ten (10)* days before an election and continues until the *third (3rd)* day before an election. Each county designates the locations and hours for early voting. Locations include the Election office, and may also include city halls and public libraries. Contact the Supervisor of Elections to find out the hours and locations for early voting in your county. See page 5 for early voting dates. Early voting is convenient, because you can choose the date and location most convenient for you to cast your vote. **If you participate in early voting, you may vote at any early voting location in the county where you are registered.**

Absentee Ballots may be used if you are a registered voter who cannot get to your polling place or early voting location. For example, if you are out of town, or in the hospital, you may vote by absentee ballot. You may also vote by absentee ballot simply because you choose to, even if you are able to vote in another

way. You, your guardian, or a member of your immediate family may request an absentee ballot from the Supervisor of Elections in person, by mail, or by telephone. One request can cover all elections through the next *two (2)* regularly scheduled general elections. If you would like to have an absentee ballot mailed to you, please contact your Supervisor of Elections by 5 p.m. on the *sixth (6th)* day before an election.

When you receive your ballot in the mail, follow all instructions carefully - mail it back to the address listed, or have it delivered to the Supervisor of Elections by Election Day. Ballots received late will not be counted. You may use the Absentee Ballot Request Form to request an absentee ballot. The form contains all of the required information and is located at the end of this booklet. Someone you designate may pick up an absentee ballot for you on Election Day or up to *five (5)* days before Election Day. That person may only pick up ballots for *two (2)* people who are not members of their immediate family. Designees must have written authorization from the voter, present a picture I.D., and sign an affidavit in order to obtain a ballot on behalf of another person.

Where You Live If you live in a nursing home or an assisted living facility, the administrator of your facility can make plans with the local Supervisor of Elections to provide a specific time for you to vote where you live. Election officials will bring ballots to the facility for any registered voter(s). Check with the administrator of your facility to see if voting has been set up in the facility where you live. If not, don't be afraid to request that the administrator do so - it is their obligation by law. If the administrator refuses to help you, contact your local Supervisor of Elections or the **Florida Voter Assistance Hotline, Toll Free, at 1-866-308-6739.**

What to Expect At My Polling Place Or Early Voting Location

Voting can be confusing if you have never voted before. This guide provides helpful information, and election workers are trained to help make the voting process easier for you if it is your first time. Don't be afraid to ask for whatever assistance you need.

All Polling Places Must Be Accessible

The law says all polling places must be accessible to a person with disabilities. Everyone should be able to get into their polling place. The doors should be wide enough for a wheelchair to fit through. There should be ramps or elevators if there are steps up or down. The parking lot and the walkways must be accessible.

Note: The Help America Vote Act requires at least one voting machine in every polling place to be accessible to anyone who has a disability.



Remember To Bring Identification

When you enter the polling place to vote, you will be asked to tell the poll worker your name. You will also be asked to provide a current and valid picture identification with a signature. Approved forms of picture identification are:

- Florida driver's license
- Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
- United States passport
- Debit or credit card
- Military identification
- Student identification
- Retirement center identification
- Neighborhood association identification
- Public assistance identification



If the picture identification does not contain a signature, you will be asked to provide an additional identification that does contain your signature.

After identifying yourself, the poll worker will find your name in the book of voters. You will be asked to sign the book, or place a mark next to your name.

What Is It Like In The Voting Booth?

When it is your turn to vote, you will go into the voting booth. Don't be surprised if it is just a table with little walls and not a separate booth that you step into. The voting booth should be a place where you can mark your ballot in private. To vote, you will either touch a screen, touch a key pad, or mark a paper ballot, depending on the type of equipment used at your designated polling place.



You will vote for the person(s) you want to elect into office. Remember to choose only one candidate per office, unless the instructions tell you otherwise. You will vote yes or no on any additional issues that may be on the ballot.

Before leaving the booth, you should always review your choices to ensure that you have marked your ballot exactly as you intended to vote. Once your vote is finalized, you may not change it, so it is always best to double-check your responses before finalizing your ballot. Finally, you will either touch the screen, press the key pad, or insert the paper ballot into the counting machine to cast your vote.



After voting, be sure to wear your "I voted" sticker proudly!

Can I Get Help When I Vote?

Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it. You have the right to ask for assistance when voting. You can ask a poll worker to show you how to operate the voting equipment or how to mark the ballot. If you still do not understand, do not hesitate to ask them to show you again.

You can also ask for help with marking and casting your ballot if you have problems reading or writing, if you have difficulty with the English language, or if you have a disability that prevents you from being able to mark your ballot or operate a voting machine by yourself. Let someone know that you will need assistance when you first arrive – while you are giving your name and address to the poll worker. They will ask you to sign a voting assistance form. You can ask poll workers or any other person you choose (such as a friend or family member) to help you. If you bring someone along to help you, that person will also be required to sign a form. The law does not permit your employer or an agent of your labor union to assist you in voting.



What Happens If I Make A Mistake?

The law says that anyone who makes a mistake in voting must be given a second chance. If you make a mistake on your paper ballot, you must return it to one of the poll workers and ask for a new ballot. You can have up to *three (3)* ballots if you make mistakes. Electronic voting systems should warn you if you have voted for too many candidates, or if you left any portion of your ballot blank, to give you the opportunity to correct it.

If you vote on a machine, you will again have the opportunity to review your choices before casting your final vote. Unfortunately, once you push the "vote" button, you cannot change your vote.

What Happens If I Am Told I Cannot Vote?

If a poll worker says that you cannot vote, you should ask why. If you are told that you are in the wrong polling place, you should ask the poll worker to give you the location of the correct polling place. If you are told that you are not registered to vote, you should contact the Supervisor of Elections to find out if this is true. If you need help, call Disability Rights Florida or the Election Protection Hotline while you are still at the polling place: **Disability Rights Florida 1-800-342-0823 / Election Protection Hotline 1-866-687-8683.**

If it turns out that you are in the wrong location, you may be offered the opportunity to cast a “provisional ballot.” However, if you cast a provisional ballot in the wrong precinct, it will not count. It is best to find out what the problem is and go to the correct polling place to cast a regular ballot.

If your only choices are to vote by provisional ballot or not vote at all, it is better to cast the provisional ballot.

Where Can I File A Complaint About Voting?



If your polling place is not accessible, you have complaints about access to voting, or you believe your rights have been violated, you may file a complaint by contacting any of the following:

Secretary of State, Division of Elections
Room 316
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

**You may also call the Florida Voter Assistance Hotline,
Toll Free, at 1-866-308-6739.**

Disability Rights Florida
2728 Centerview Drive, Suite 102
Tallahassee, FL 32301
850-488-9071 / Toll Free 1-800-342-0823
TDD Toll Free 1-800-346-4127
www.disabilityrightsflorida.org



If you need immediate assistance on Election Day,
you may also call the Election Protection Hotline,
Toll Free, at 1-866-687-8683.

How Do I Get More Copies Of This Guide?

You can get free copies of this Voting Guide in English or Spanish by calling the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Toll Free at: 1-800-580-7801, TDD Toll Free at: 1-888-488-8633, or you can download copies from the Council’s website at www.fddc.org. You can also get copies from Disability Rights Florida by calling Toll Free at 1-800-342-0823, TDD Toll Free at 1-800-346-4127, or you may download copies from Disability Rights Florida's website at www.disabilityrightsflorida.org.

Florida's Supervisor of Elections List

Alachua

P O Box 1496
Gainesville, FL 32602-1496
Phone: 352-374-5252
Fax: 352-374-5264
E-mail: pwc@alachua.fl.us

Baker

P O Box 505
MacClenny, FL 32063-0505
Phone: 904-259-6339
Fax: 904-259-2799
E-mail: election@nefcom.net

Bay

830 West 11th Street
Panama City, FL 32401
Phone: 850-784-6100
Fax: 850-784-6141
E-mail: baysuper@bayvotes.org

Bradford

P O Box 58
Starke, FL 32091-0058
Phone: 904-966-6266
Fax: 904-966-6165
E-mail: bradsoe@bradford-co-fla.org

Brevard

P O Box 1119
Melbourne, FL 32940
Phone: 321-264-6740
Fax: 321-264-6741
E-mail: fgaley@brevardelections.org

Broward

P O Box 029001
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33302-9001
Phone: 954-357-7050
Fax: 954-357-7070
E-mail: Elections@browardsoe.org

Calhoun

20859 Central Avenue East,
Room G-10
Blountstown, FL 32424-2264
Phone: 850-674-8568
Fax: 850-674-2449
E-mail: soecalco@gtcom.net

Charlotte

P O Box 511229
Punta Gorda, FL 33951-1229
Phone: 941-637-2232
Fax: 941-637-2231
E-mail: soe@charlottevotes.com

Citrus

120 North Apopka Avenue
Inverness, FL 34450-4238
Phone: 352-341-6740
Fax: 352-341-6749
E-mail: vote@elections.citrus.fl.us

Clay

P O Box 337
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043-0337
Phone: 904-284-6350
Fax: 904-284-3975
E-mail: bkirkman@clayelections.com

Collier

3301 Tamiami Trail East, MLK
Jr. Bldg.
Naples, FL 34112-4907
Phone: 239-774-8450
Fax: 239-774-9468
E-mail: supervisorofelections@colliergov.net

Columbia

971 W. Duval Street, Suite 102
Lake City, FL 32055-3734
Phone: 386-758-1026
Fax: 386-755-7233
E-mail: election@votecolumbia.com

DeSoto

P O Box 89
Arcadia, FL 34265-0089
Phone: 863-993-4871
Fax: 863-993-4875
E-mail: info@votedesoto.com

Dixie

P O Box 2057
Cross City, FL 32628-2057
Phone: 352-498-1216
Fax: 352-498-1218
E-mail: dixiecountysoe@bellsouth.net

Duval

105 East Monroe Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202-3215
Phone: 904-630-1414
Fax: 904-630-2920
E-mail: jholland@coj.net

Escambia

P O Box 12601
Pensacola, FL 32591-2601
Phone: 850-595-3900
Fax: 850-595-3914
E-mail: David_Stafford@co.escambia.fl.us

Flagler

P O Box 901
Bunnell, FL 32110-0901
Phone: 386-313-4170
Fax: 386-313-4171
E-mail: pborder@flaglerelections.com

Franklin

47 Avenue F
Apalachicola, FL 32320-2311
Phone: 850-653-9520
Fax: 850-653-9092
E-mail: dorisg@votefranklin.com

Gadsden

P O Box 186
Quincy, FL 32351-0186
Phone: 850-627-9910
Fax: 850-627-6144
E-mail: info@gadsdensoe.com

Gilchrist

112 South Main Street, Room 128
Trenton, FL 32693-3249
Phone: 352-463-3194
Fax: 352-463-3196
E-mail: elections@votegilchrist.com

Glades

P O Box 668
Moore Haven, FL 33471-0668
Phone: 863-946-6005
Fax: 863-946-0313
E-mail: holly@skyeone.com

Gulf

401 Long Avenue
Port St Joe, FL 32456-1707
Phone: 850-229-6117
Fax: 850-229-8975
E-mail: gulfsoe@gtcom.net

Hamilton

1153 US Highway 41 NW,
Suite 1
Jasper, FL 32052-5856
Phone: 386-792-1426
Fax: 386-792-3205
E-mail: elect@alltel.net

Hardee

311 North 6th Avenue
Wauchula, FL 33873-2361
Phone: 863-773-6061
Fax: 863-773-6813
E-mail: hardeesoe@yahoo.com

Florida's Supervisor of Elections List

Hendry

P O Box 174
LaBelle, FL 33975-0174
Phone: 863-675-5230
Fax: 863-675-7803
E-mail: supervisor@hendryelections.org

Hernando

20 North Main Street, Room 165
Brooksville, FL 34601-2864
Phone: 352-754-4125
Fax: 352-754-4425
E-mail: awilliams@hernandocounty.us

Highlands

P O Drawer 3448
Sebring, FL 33871-3448
Phone: 863-402-6655
Fax: 863-402-6657
E-mail: soe@bcc.co.highlands.fl.us

Hillsborough

601 East Kennedy Blvd, 16th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602-4932
Phone: 813-272-5850
Fax: 813-272-7043
E-mail: voter@hillsboroughcounty.org

Holmes

201 North Oklahoma Street, Ste 102
Bonifay, FL 32425-2243
Phone: 850-547-1107
Fax: 850-547-4168
E-mail: dwilcoxmorris@earthlink.net

Indian River

4375 43rd Avenue
Vero Beach, FL 32967-1067
Phone: 772-226-3440
Fax: 772-770-5367
E-mail: info@voteindianriver.com

Jackson

P O Box 6046
Marianna, FL 32447
Phone: 850-482-9652
Fax: 850-482-9102
E-mail: email@jacksoncountysoe.org

Jefferson

380 West Dogwood Street
Monticello, FL 32344-1470
Phone: 850-997-3348
Fax: 850-997-6958
E-mail: soejeffersonco@aol.com

Lafayette

P O Box 76
Mayo, FL 32066-0076
Phone: 386-294-1261
Fax: 386-294-2164
E-mail: lafayettesoe@alltel.net

Lake

P O Box 457
Tavares, FL 32778-0457
Phone: 352-343-9734
Fax: 352-343-3605
E-mail: elections@co.lake.fl.us

Lee

P O Box 2545
Fort Myers, FL 33902-2545
Phone: 239-533-8683
Fax: 239-533-6310
E-mail: sharrington@leelections.com

Leon

P.O. Box 7357
Tallahassee, FL 32314-7357
Phone: 850-606-8683
Fax: 850-606-8601
E-mail: vote@leoncountyfl.gov

Levy

421 South Court St.
Bronson, FL 32621-6520
Phone: 352-486-5163
Fax: 352-486-5146
E-mail: elections@votelevy.com

Liberty

P O Box 597
Bristol, FL 32321-0597
Phone: 850-643-5226
Fax: 850-643-5648
E-mail: vote@libertyelections.com

Madison

229 SW Pinckney St., Room 113
Madison, FL 32340-2466
Phone: 850-973-6507
Fax: 850-973-3780
E-mail: elections@shareinet.net

Manatee

P O Box 1000
Bradenton, FL 34206-1000
Phone: 941-741-3823
Fax: 941-741-3820
E-mail: info@votemanatee.com

Marion

P O Box 289
Ocala, FL 34478-0289
Phone: 352-620-3290
Fax: 352-620-3286
E-mail: Elections@VoteMarion.com

Martin

P O Box 1257
Stuart, FL 34995-1257
Phone: 772-288-5637
Fax: 772-288-5765
E-mail: elections@martinvotes.com

Miami-Dade

P.O. Box 521550
Miami, FL 33152-1550
Phone: 305-499-8683
Fax: 305-468-2507
E-mail: solal@miamidade.gov

Monroe

530 Whitehead Street, Suite 101
Key West, FL 33040-6577
Phone: 305-292-3416
Fax: 305-292-3406
E-mail: info@keys-elections.org

Nassau

96135 Nassau Place, Suite 3
Yulee, FL 32097-8625
Phone: 904-491-7500
Fax: 904-432-1400
E-mail: vcannon@votenassau.com

Okaloosa

302 Wilson St. N., Suite 102
Crestview, FL 32536
Phone: 850-651-7272
Fax: 850-651-7275
E-mail: phollarn@co.okaloosa.fl.us

Okeechobee

304 Northwest 2nd Street, Room 101
Okeechobee, FL 34972-0152
Phone: 863-763-4014
Fax: 941-763-0152
E-mail: elections@voteokeechobee.com

Orange

P O Box 562001
Orlando, FL 32856-2001
Phone: 407-836-2070
Fax: 407-254-6596
E-mail: voter@ocfelections.com

Florida's Supervisor of Elections List

Osceola

2509 E. Irlo Bronson
Memorial Hwy
Kissimmee, FL 34744
Phone: 407-343-3900
Fax: 407-343-3852
E-mail: osc_soe@osceola.org

Palm Beach

P O Box 22309
West Palm Beach, FL
33416-2309
Phone: 561-656-6200
Fax: 561-656-6287
E-mail: mailbox@
pbcelections.org

Pasco

P O Box 300
Dade City, FL 33526-0300
Phone: 352-521-4302
Fax: 352-521-4319
E-mail: feedback@
pascovotes.com

Pinellas

13001 Starkey Road
Largo, FL 33773
Phone: 727-464-6108
Fax: 727-464-6239
E-mail: election@votepinellas.com

Polk

P O Box 1460
Bartow, FL 33831-1460
Phone: 863-534-5888
Fax: 863-534-5899
E-mail: info@polkelections.com

Putnam

2509 Crill Ave., Suite 900
Palatka, FL 32177
Phone: 386-329-0224
Fax: 386-329-0455
E-mail: electionsoffice@
putnam-fl.com

Santa Rosa

6495 Caroline Street, Suite F
Milton, FL 32570-4592
Phone: 850-983-1900
Fax: 850-626-7688
E-mail: soe-bodenstein@
co.santa-rosa.fl.us

Sarasota

P O Box 4194
Sarasota, FL 34230-4194
Phone: 941-861-8600
Fax: 941-861-8609
E-mail: kdent@srqelections.com

Seminole

P O Box 1479
Sanford, FL 32772-1479
Phone: 407-708-7700
Fax: 407-708-7705
E-mail: ertel@voteseminole.org

St. Johns

4455 Avenue A, Suite 101
St Augustine, FL 32095-5200
Phone: 904-823-2238
Fax: 904-823-2249
E-mail: pennyh@sjcvotes.us

St. Lucie

4132 Okeechobee Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34947
Phone: 772-462-1500
Fax: 772-462-1439
E-mail: elections@
slcelections.com

Sumter

900 North Main St.
Bushnell, FL 33513-5008
Phone: 352-793-0230
Fax: 352-793-0232
E-mail: Kkrauss@
sumterelections.org

Suwannee

220 Pine Ave SW
Live Oak, FL 32064-2315
Phone: 386-362-2616
Fax: 386-364-5185
E-mail: gwilliams@
suwanneevotes.com

Taylor

P O Box 1060
Perry, FL 32348-1060
Phone: 850-838-3515
Fax: 850-838-3516
E-mail: taylorelections@
gtcom.net

Union

55 West Main Street, Room
106
Lake Butler, FL 32054-1654
Phone: 386-496-2236
Fax: 386-496-1535
E-mail: unionsoe@circuit8.org

Volusia

125 W. New York Ave.
DeLand, FL 32720-5415
Phone: 386-736-5930
Fax: 386-822-5715
E-mail: elections@co.volusia.fl.us

Wakulla

P O Box 305
Crawfordville, FL 32326-0305
Phone: 850-926-7575
Fax: 850-926-8104
Email: scrub@
wakullaelection.com

Walton

571 US Highway 90 E.
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433
Phone: 850-892-8112
Fax: 850-892-8113
Email: bbeasley@co.walton.fl.us

Washington

1331 South Blvd,
Suite 900
Chipley, FL 32428-2233
Phone: 850-638-6230
Fax: 850-638-6238
Email: washcovotes@vol.com



Florida Request for Absentee Ballot

This form must be mailed or hand delivered to the Supervisor of Elections for the County where the Voter is registered to vote. Please fill out both sides of this form. Requests for absentee ballots may also be made by telephone, fax, or online. Please have all of this information available.

(*) this information is required for the request to be valid

*** check one box**

- ☐ I am making this request for myself
- ☐ I am making this request for a member of my immediate family (Request can be made by: voter's spouse, parent, child, grandparent, sibling)
- ☐ I am making this request as the voter's legal guardian

***Voter Information:**

*Voter's Last Name: _____ Voter's Middle Initial: _____

*Voter's First Name: _____ Suffix: (Jr., Sr., II, III) _____

*Voter's Date of Birth: _____

*Voter's Residence Address:
(No P.O. Boxes) Note: Absentee
ballots cannot be forwarded

Voter's Mailing Address:
(If different from Residence Address)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Contact Information: This information is **Optional**. The information requested will give the Supervisor of Elections a way to contact you, if they have questions regarding your request.

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____
(_____) _____

***Ballots Requested:** Please select from the options below:

- ☐ I am requesting absentee ballots for all elections through the next regularly scheduled general election
- ☐ I am requesting absentee ballots for the following election dates:

Note: Requests for ballots to be mailed must be received no later than six days before the election. Ballots may be picked up beginning 5 days before the election.

*** check one box**

☐ Please mail my absentee ballot to my residence address

☐ Please mail my absentee ballot to my mailing address

☐ Please deliver my absentee to this person (my designee):

* Name of designee _____

* Relationship of designee to voter _____

***Signature Required for Voter, Legal Guardian or Immediate Family Member Requester**

*Signature

Date

Only for Requests made by Legal Guardian or Immediate Family Member:

*Requester's Name: _____

*Requester's Driver's License or Florida ID Number: _____

*Requester's Address:

*Requester's Relationship to Voter: _____



This publication is provided as general information and is intended as a general reference source for persons with disabilities and their advocates. This information is not meant to create an attorney-client relationship or provide legal counsel. Before acting or refraining from acting, please seek legal advice from a licensed attorney. Disability Rights Florida has used its best efforts in collecting and preparing material included in this publication, but does not warrant that the information herein is complete or accurate, and does not assume, and hereby disclaims, any liability to any person for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions herein, whether such errors or omissions result from negligence, accident or any other cause.



Florida Voter Registration Application

Part 1 – Instructions (DS-DE #39, R1S-2.040, F.A.C. (eff. 01/2012))

Información en español: Sirvase llamar a la oficina del supervisor de elecciones de su condado si le interesa obtener este formulario en español.

To Register in Florida, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen,
- A Florida resident, and
- At least 18 years old (you may also pre-register if you are 16 or 17 years old but you cannot vote until you are 18).

If you have ever been convicted of a felony or if a court has ever found you to be mentally incapacitated as to your right to vote, your right to vote must be restored before you can register.

If you do not meet any one of these requirements, you are not eligible to register.

Where to Register: You can register to vote in-person or by mailing or hand-delivering your application to any supervisor of elections' office, any office that issues driver's licenses any voter registration agency (for example, any public assistance office, center for independent living, office serving persons with disabilities, public library, or armed forces recruitment office) or the Division of Elections. *If mailing application, be sure to add sufficient postage.*

Deadline to Register: The deadline to register to vote is 29 days before an upcoming election. You can update your registration record at any time, but to change your political party for a primary election, you must make the change by the registration deadline. For a new application, you will be contacted if your application is incomplete, denied or a duplicate of an existing registration. If you receive a voter information card, that means you are registered to vote.

Identification (ID) Requirements: If you are a new applicant, state and federal law require you to provide a current and valid Florida driver's license number (FL DL#) or Florida identification card number (FL ID#). If you have not been issued a FL DL# or FL ID#, you must then provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number (SSN). If you have not been issued any of these ID numbers, check "None" on the application. If you do not provide any number or do not check "None," your registration may be denied. See s.303, HAVA and section 97.053(6), Fla. Stat.

Special ID requirements: If you are registering by mail, have never voted in Florida, and have never been issued one of the ID numbers above, you must include with your application, or at a later time before you vote, one of the following:

- A copy of an ID that shows your name and photo (*acceptable IDs*)--U.S. Passport, debit or credit card, military ID, Student ID, retirement center ID, neighborhood association ID, or public assistance ID; or
- A copy of an ID that shows your name and current residence address (*acceptable documents*)--utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

You do not have to provide the special ID to register if you are 65 or older, have a temporary or permanent physical disability, are a member of the active uniformed services or merchant marine who is absent from the county for active duty, or a family member thereof, or are currently living outside the U.S. but otherwise eligible to vote in Florida. If you vote at the polls, you will still need to show a photo/signature ID as is required of all voters.

Political Party Affiliation: Florida is a closed primary election state. That means registered voters affiliated with a political party can only vote for that party's candidates in a partisan race on a primary election ballot. However, regardless of the political party with which you registered, you can still vote in the primary election on any issue, any nonpartisan race or any race where the candidate will face no opposition in the general election.

Indicate the political party with which you wish to be registered. If you leave the political party affiliation field blank, you will be registered without any party affiliation. For a list of political parties registered in Florida, go to the Division of Elections' website under the heading *For the Voters* at: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/>

Race/Ethnicity: You are not required to list your race or ethnicity. However, if you choose to do so, please choose only one from the list.

Public Record Notice: This application becomes a public record when filed. However, the following information is not available to the public and is used only for voter registration purposes: your FL DL#, FL ID# and SSN, where you registered to vote, and whether you declined to register or update your voter registration record when asked by a voter registration agency. Your signature can be viewed but not copied. (Section 97.0585, Fla. Stat.)

Criminal Offense: It is a 3rd degree felony to submit false information. Penalties include fines up to \$5,000 and/or up to 5 years of prison.

Questions: For more information, contact your local supervisor of elections http://election.dos.state.fl.us/SOE/supervisor_elections.shtml or refer to the Division of Elections' website at: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us>

All shaded lettered boxes are required for a new registration.



Florida Voter Registration Application

Part 2 – Form (DS-DE #39, R1S-2.040, F.A.C. (eff. 01/2012))

The downloadable/printable online form is available at: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/pdf/webappform.pdf>

This is: ☐ New Registration ☐ Record Update/Change (e.g., Address, Party Affiliation, Name, Signature) ☐ Request to Replace Voter Information Card

A Are you a citizen of the United States of America? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		OFFICIAL USE ONLY FVRS No: _____	
B <input type="checkbox"/> I affirm that I am not a convicted felon, or if I am, my right to vote has been restored.			
C <input type="checkbox"/> I affirm that I have not been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting or, if I have, my right to vote has been restored.			
D Date of Birth (Enter in format MM-DD-YYYY)		E Florida Driver's License (FL DL) or Florida identification (FL ID) Card Number	
[Grid for Date of Birth]		If <u>no</u> FL DL or FL ID, then provide Last 4 digits of Social Security Number	
[Grid for Florida ID Number]		<input type="checkbox"/> I have NONE of these numbers.	
F Last Name		F First Name	
G Address Where You Live (legal residence-no P.O. Box)		G Middle Name or Initial	
[Grid for Address]		G Name Suffix (Jr., Sr., I, II, etc.):	
G Mailing Address (if different from above address)		G County	
[Grid for Mailing Address]		G Zip Code	
G Address Where You Were Last Registered to Vote		G State or Country of Birth	
[Grid for Address]		G Telephone No. (optional) ()	
G Former Name (if name is changed)		G Gender <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	
Party Affiliation (Check only one. If left blank, you will be registered without party affiliation)		Race/Ethnicity (Check only one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Florida Democratic Party		<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native	
<input type="checkbox"/> Republican Party of Florida		<input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander	
<input type="checkbox"/> No party affiliation		<input type="checkbox"/> Black, not of Hispanic Origin	
<input type="checkbox"/> Minor political party (print name): _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic	
		<input type="checkbox"/> White, not of Hispanic Origin	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-racial	
		Active Uniformed Services, Merchant Marine, or Overseas U.S. Citizen (Check only one if applicable)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Active duty uniformed services/merchant marine	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Family member of active duty uniformed services or merchant marine member	
		<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen Residing <u>Outside</u> U.S.	
		<input type="checkbox"/> I will need assistance with voting.	
		<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in becoming a poll worker.	
H Oath: I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will protect and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida, that I am qualified to register as an elector under the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, and that all information provided in this application is true.		SIGN/ MARK HERE 	
		Date	

Helpful Resources And Notes

Disability Rights Florida

2728 Centerview Drive, Suite 102
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-488-9071
Toll Free: 800-342-0823
Fax: 850-488-8640
www.disabilityrightsflorida.org

Florida Department of State Office

Director's Office
Room 316, R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250
Main Line: 850-245-6200
Fax Numbers: 850-245-6217 or
850-245-6218
Email: DivElections@dos.state.fl.us

Florida Voter Assistance Hotline

Toll Free: 1-866-308-6739
TTY Toll Free: 1-800-955-8771

Voter Fraud Hotline

Toll Free: 1-877-868-3737

Election Protection Hotline

Toll Free: 1-866-687-8683

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Phone: 850-488-4180
Toll Free: 800-580-7801
TDD Toll Free: 888-488-8633
Fax: 850-922-6702
www.fddc.org

Anyone needing information
on the restoration of civil
rights process should contact
the Florida Rights Restoration
Coalition:

Florida Rights Restoration Coalition

1-877-826-8682 (877-U-COUNT-2)
www.restorerights.com

The Office of Executive Clemency

2601 Blair Stone Road, Building C
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2450
Toll Free: 1-800-435-8286
Phone: 850-488-2952
Fax: 850-488-0695
Email: clemencyweb@fpc.state.fl.us

Use this page to write down helpful information.

Your Local Supervisor of Elections Office

County Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Your Polling Place

Name of Location: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

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Florida
Developmental
Disabilities
Council, Inc.

124 Marriott Drive, Suite 203
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-488-4180
Toll Free: 1-800-580-7801
TDD Toll Free: 1-888-488-8633
Fax: 850-922-6702
Website: www.fddc.org



Disability Rights
FLORIDA

2728 Centerview Drive, Suite 102
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-488-9071
Toll Free: 1-800-342-0823
TDD Toll Free: 1-800-346-4127
Fax: 850-488-8640
Website: www.disabilityrightsflorida.org

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For legal advice or representation, please consult with a licensed attorney.*

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