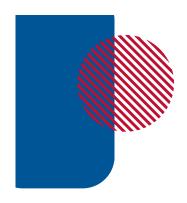
# 2025 VOTER'S GUIDE

Your Path to Informed Voting







## TABLE OF CONTENTS

01	Introduction <u>1</u>
02	Elections Calendar 2025 2
03	2025 White Bear Lake Area Elections3
04	<u>Why Vote?</u> <u>5</u>
05	<u>Who Can Vote?6</u>
06	Where is My Voting Residence?7
07	Register to Vote  Register online Register on paper Register when you vote
08	<ul> <li>Research Candidates and Issues</li> <li>MN Secretary of State</li> <li>League of Women Voters Candidate Forums</li> <li>Candidates' public voting record</li> <li>Contact the candidates</li> </ul>
09	<ul> <li>Vote</li> <li>Early voting by mail</li> <li>Early voting in person</li> <li>Election day voting</li> </ul>
10	<u>Voter's Rights</u> <u>24</u>
11	Get Involved!27
12	<u>Resources</u> 29
13	<u>Index</u> <u>31</u>

### **01** Introduction

#### **OUR MISSION**

Empowering voters and defending democracy through voter education and engagement, advocating for democracy, and encouraging civic participation.

Founded by suffragists in 1919, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota envisions a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate. Together with our national, state, and 36 local leagues in Minnesota, we:

- encourage informed and active participation in government,
- register and inform voters,
- work to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and
- influence public policy through education and advocacy.

It is our hope that this Voter Guide will be a useful resource for those seeking to understand the election process in Minnesota, either for themselves or for helping others learn.

The Guide is organized following the flow of the election process, from answering the question "why vote?" to describing "how to vote", with detailed information for each step along the way. It is intended to be accessed primarily online, but it is possible to be used also as a printed version.

Minnesota has long been a national leader in voter turnout, election reform, and ballot integrity, and the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State does an outstanding job of providing valuable and timely information for voters. That office and its website <a href="MNVotes.org">MNVotes.org</a> are essential resources for Minnesota citizens and served as the primary information source for this Guide.

Other sources valuable to the development of this Guide are the League of Women Voters MN, Vote411.org, and Ramsey County and its Election Office.

We are grateful to Ramsey Country for the financial support that allowed us to produce this Guide, and to Beecroft Marketing & Events for its development and production. We trust it will be a useful resource for both new and experienced voters.

02

### **Elections Calendar 2025**

#### Calendar: Key Dates for 2025

https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/elections-voting/voters/prepare-vote/key-election-dates

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/election-administration-campaigns/elections-calendar



Vote by mail or in person
June 27-August 11
for the Primary



Register in advance by July 22 to save time on Primary Election Day



**Primary Election Day** 



**Vote by mail or in person**September 19-November 3



**Register in advance by** October 14 to save time On Election Day



**General Election Day** 

A primary election will be held for any office for which there is more than one candidate from one political party. The winner of the primary election will represent their party on the November election ballot. In White Bear Lake, the city has determined that if there is more than one candidate for mayor or city council (which are nonpartisan races), a primary must be held. The two candidates with the most votes in the primary election will be on the ballot in November.

## O3 2025 White Bear Lake Area Elections

#### **ELECTIONS IN YOUR AREA**

Voters in **White Bear Lake** will have the following race on their primary election ballot. The two candidates with the most votes advance to the November general election.

Mayor

The following races will be on the White Bear Lake general election ballot:

- Mayor
- City Council, Ward 2
- City Council, Ward 4

Voters in **Mahtomedi** will have the following races on their general election ballot:

• City Council - 2 at-large position

Voters in the **Mounds View Public School District #621** will have the following on their November general election ballot:

• 3 seats

Download PDF: Why Vote in Local Elections

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/j1tm41in/2025\_local-elections.pdf

<sup>\*</sup> After candidate filings close, candidate names will be available on our website

## MAYOR AND/OR CITY COUNCIL TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

There are no elections in 2025 for any of the following communities:

Afton North Oaks

Arden Hills Oak Park Heights

Bayport Pine Springs

Baytown Township Scandia

Birchwood Shoreview

Dellwood St. Mary's Point

Denmark Township Stillwater

Forest Lake Stillwater Township

Gem Lake Vadnais Heights

Grant White Bear Township

Hugo Willernie

Lake Elmo

Lakeland

**Lakeland Shores** 

Marine-on-St. Croix

## 04 Why Vote?

#### MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

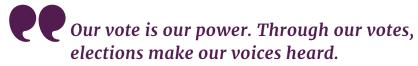
Voting is your opportunity to have **your voice heard** on issues that matter the most to you, your family, and your community.

Are you concerned about the affordability of health care? Inflation? Worried about your child's education? Immigration? Upset about those potholes?

When you vote, you are **supporting candidates** who **align with your values** and priorities. It's a way for you to actively participate in shaping the future of your community and your country.

Voting is not just a right but also a **responsibility**. It is a fundamental way for citizens to actively participate in the democratic process and have a direct impact on the governance and policies of their country.

#### Your vote matters!



~League of Women Voters





## 05

### Who Can Vote?

#### TO VOTE YOU MUST BE:

- A U.S. citizen.
- At least 18 years old on Election Day. As long as you turn 18 on or before Election Day, you are eligible to vote. That includes voting early or by absentee ballot.
- A resident of Minnesota for at least 20 days.
- Not currently incarcerated for a felony conviction.
- Not under a court order that revokes your right to vote.

https://www.sos.mn.gov/elections-voting/register-to-vote/who-can-vote/

### Pre-registration for 16 and 17 year-olds

Now, 16 and 17 year-old Minnesotans can submit a voter registration form and have their registration take effect on their 18th birthday.

If you do pre-register, election officials will process your application so it will automatically register you on your 18th birthday.

Minnesota is a national leader in youth engagement, and getting young people to think of themselves as future voters is a big part of that.



#### **Download PDF:**

**High School Students Vote** 

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/txkpzyjw/2025\_high-school-students-updated.pdf

- ✓ If you've never voted in Minnesota, have recently moved, have recently changed your name or haven't voted in more than four years, you will need to register to vote.
- ✓ You must be registered to vote at your current address.

#### **RESTORING THE VOTE:**

Now, Minnesotans who have left prison behind will be included in our democracy. Any criminal record does not affect your right to vote, unless you are currently incarcerated serving a felony conviction. If you are not incarcerated, including if you are on probation or parole, or owe restitution, you are eligible to vote.



#### **Download PDF:**

**Voting with a Criminal Record** 

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/q20 jbqgv/2025\_voting-criminalrecord.pdf

## Where is My Voting Residence?

You will need to provide your residential address when registering to vote. Your residence is where your permanent home is located.

To vote in Minnesota, you must live in the state for at least 20 days before Election Day. If you have lived in Minnesota for fewer than 20 days before Election Day, you cannot vote in Minnesota for that election. If you are temporarily away from your Minnesota residence before an election, you can vote early.

For people in certain situations the residential address may be less clear. The links below will take you to additional information about these situations.

#### **HOW TO REGISTER IF...**

#### l'm a college student

You should register to vote from the address you currently consider home. For many students, this is likely a school address or a parent's house. If you still go back to visit but no longer consider it your home, then you should register to vote where you live at school.

If you moved to Minnesota from another state and currently consider Minnesota your home, you can vote here even if you pay out-of-state tuition or have a driver's license from another state.

If you do not consider your school address to be your home, you can apply to vote by mail with an absentee ballot. Minnesota voters can apply at <a href="https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/VoterRegistration/index">https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/VoterRegistration/index</a>; otherwise, visit your home state's election website.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/im-a-college-student



**Download PDF: College Students** 

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/dvldevm3/2025\_college-students.pdf

#### <u>I'm military or living abroad</u>

Uniformed or military members serving outside their home precinct and citizens living abroad – temporarily or indefinitely – can apply for an absentee ballot. Spouses and dependents of uniformed or military members are also eligible. If you are abroad indefinitely with no plans to return to Minnesota, you can only vote for federal offices.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-from-military-or-abroad

#### I'm homeless

If you are homeless, you can register to vote using the location of where you sleep as your address. You may need to go to the polling place with someone who can confirm where you are living.

When you register to vote, you must provide your current residence. This is the place where you sleep, so if you sleep in a shelter, at a friend's house, or outside somewhere, that is your voting residence.

If you sleep outside, write a description of its location on line four of your voter registration application. For example, "In the NW corner of Jefferson Park near the intersection of Winston Ave. and Smith St.".

If you register on Election Day and you do not have documents proving where you live, a registered voter from your precinct can go with you to the polling place to sign an oath confirming where you live; if you live in a shelter, a staff person can go with you to confirm where you live.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/im-homeless

#### I'm in a residential facility

If you live in a residential facility and you need to register to vote, you can register online, on paper, or a staff person can go with you to the polling place to confirm your address.

Voters in hospitals or certain health care facilities may have special opportunities to vote at their facility or via agent delivery.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/im-in-a-residential-facility

#### I'm living temporarily in Minnesota

You cannot vote in Minnesota if you are only living here temporarily. However, you can still vote in your home state's election with an absentee ballot. To learn how to vote in your home state, visit "Can I Vote" <a href="https://nass.org/index.php/can-i-vote">https://nass.org/index.php/can-i-vote</a> from the National Association of Secretaries of State.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/what-is-my-residence/#temporary

#### My home is in foreclosure

If your home is in foreclosure, you can use it as your voting residence as long as you still reside there.

If you move from the property and do not intend to return, you can no longer vote from that address. Instead, your voting residence will be the address of where you are currently staying, even if you are temporarily with family or friends. You will need to update your voter registration with your new address.

No one can legally challenge your voter registration simply because they know your house is in foreclosure. To legally challenge your registration, a challenger must personally know that you moved from the house and do not plan to come back.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/what-is-my-residence/#foreclosure

#### My home was destroyed

If you are displaced by a fire, flood or natural disaster, where you vote from depends on whether you intend to return to the home once it is made habitable again.

#### I intend to return to my residence

You can continue to vote in person at the polling place assigned to you based on your home address. You can also vote early and in person or have the ballot mailed to your temporary address.

#### I do not intend to return to my residence

If you do not intend to return to the home after it is made habitable, then you can no longer vote from that address. In this case, you should register and vote from the location where you have been staying or from your new permanent address.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/what-is-my-residence/#home-destroyed

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### Confidentiality of Address - Safe At Home

Safe at Home is designed to help people who fear for their safety maintain a confidential address. Many times participants are survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Services are administered by the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State.

Safe at Home participants can register as absentee voters through Safe at Home. This is a special process developed for Safe at Home. This process is the only way for participants to vote in an election and keep their address confidential. There is no way for a participant to vote at a polling place without disclosing their true address.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/safe-at-home/about-safe-at-home/voting-information

## 07

### Register to Vote

#### **HOW DO I REGISTER TO VOTE**



#### Register online

You can register to vote online at: <a href="https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/VoterRegistration/index">https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/VoterRegistration/index</a>

#### You will need to:

- Provide an email address.
- Provide an identification number from either your Minnesota.
   driver's license, your Minnesota ID card or the last four (4) digits of your Social Security Number.
- Be eligible to vote in Minnesota.
- ✓ If you've **never voted in Minnesota**, have recently moved, have recently changed your name or haven't voted in more than four years, you will need to register to vote.
- ✓ You must be registered to vote at your current address.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote

Register to Vote



Point your camera phone at QR Code and it will take you to REGISTER TO VOTE page.



#### Register on paper

If you cannot provide an email address and one of the identification numbers listed above, you must register on paper. You can submit a completed voter registration application to your local elections office by mail or in person.

- Print a Voter Registration Application

  https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/register-on-paper
- Find a County Election Office: Paper copy to be mailed to your home <a href="https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/find-county-election-office">https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/find-county-election-office</a>



#### Register on election day

To register at your polling place on Election Day, you will need to bring:

#### **✓** Identification

ID with current driver's license, learner's permit or ID; or a receipt for any of these: Tribal ID with name, address, photo, and signature.

#### ✓ Approved photo ID (choose one)

Photo ID (driver's license, state ID or learner's permit issued by any state, US passport, US military or veteran ID, tribal ID with name, signature, and photo, MN university, college, or technical college ID, MN high school ID).

#### **✓** Approved document (choose one)

Document with your current name and address (bill or statement within 30 days of election) for any of the following: phone, tv, internet, sewer, electric, gas, water, bank or credit card statement, residential lease or rent agreement valid through election day, current student fee statement).

#### ✓ If you do not have an approved document

A registered voter from your precinct to sign an oath confirming your address. Staff person of a residential facility to confirm your address.



**Download PDF:** Minnesota Voter Registration Application

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/media/1587/minnesota-voterregistration-application.pdf

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### How private is my voter registration application information?

Your exact date of birth, email address, and any ID number you give (Minnesota driver's license, state ID or last four digits of Social Security number) are private. Only election officials and other authorized government agencies may access this information.

Election officials use your exact date of birth and ID number to confirm your identity with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety or Social Security Administration. If you have an ID number but refuse to give it, your application may be incomplete, and you may have to apply again or show proof of residence before you can vote.

Election officials ask for your email so they can contact you about your application. Also, the Office of the Secretary of State may email you (or contact you another way) about voting and elections or ask for public input about voting and elections. If you refuse to give an email address, you cannot register to vote online, and you will need to apply with a paper application.

The rest of the data on your application is public when used for elections, political, law enforcement or jury selection purposes. If you need to keep your contact data private because of personal safety concerns, call 1-877-600-8683.

<u>https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/privacy-notice-for-voter-registration-applications</u>

#### **Automatic Voter Registration**

Automatic Voter Registration was approved by the Minnesota legislature and signed into law in 2023. With Automatic Voter Registration, eligible Minnesotans who are applying for or renewing a state-issued ID will be registered to vote without needing to affirmatively "opt in." The system includes an intensive review process by state and local government officials to verify registrants' identity and residence and confirm their eligibility to vote.

Due to the thoroughness of the review and verification process, eligible Minnesotans should expect voter registration processing to take 4-6 weeks. As with any new system, the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State will be monitoring the process to ensure all phases work as expected and that Minnesotans are understanding the process.

For further information and a flow chart of the process:

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/automatic-voter-registration

#### Pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds

Now, 16- and 17-year-old Minnesotans can submit a voter registration form and have their registration take effect on their 18th birthday. Minnesota is a national leader in youth engagement, and getting young people to think of themselves as future voters is a big part of that.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/privacy-notice-for-voter-registration-applications



**Download PDF: High School Students Vote** 

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/txkpzyjw/2025 high-school-students-updated.pdf

#### **Translation Tools**

New translated tools are now live on the MN Secretary of State website. Click on any of the links below and find a drop down menu that allows you to use these tools in 11 different languages; Spanish, Somali, Hmong, Vietnamese, Russian, Chinese, Oromo, Lao, Khmer, Amharic, and English.

- Register to vote/check your registration
- Absentee ballot request
- Track my ballot
- Voting military or overseas

#### **Common Registration Questions**

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/common-registration-questions

## 08

## Research Candidates and Issues

Voting gives you a chance to have a say in shaping your community and country. It's how you express your opinions and contribute to the democratic process. You can influence policies, leadership, and the direction of your city, your school district, your county, your state, and your country.

There are a number of resources to help you learn about candidates and issues. Nonpartisan election information is available from the following.

#### Minnesota Secretary of State

You can see a sample ballot showing a list of the candidates and ballot questions you'll be voting on at <a href="https://myballotmn.sos.mn.gov">https://myballotmn.sos.mn.gov</a>.

#### **Contact the Candidates**

When filing with the Minnesota Secretary of State as a candidate for office, individuals must include a phone number and email address (if they have one). They also must give a campaign address and campaign website (if they have one). You can search the Secretary of State's website for information on candidate filings. Your local newspaper usually has a voters guide that provide information on candidates.

https://candidates.sos.mn.gov



Voting gives you a chance to have a say in shaping your community and country. It's how you express your opinions and contribute to the democratic process.

#### **League of Women Voters Candidate Forums**

Each year, the League of Women Voters organizes forums for candidates running in most local races (state legislative offices, county commissioners, school boards, mayors, and city councils).

The League of Women Voters Minnesota and local Leagues conduct these forums to provide the public with an opportunity to hear candidates discuss the issues that are important to members of the public. Candidates answer uniform, vetted questions about their background, motivations, and goals as they pertain to the office they seek. Forums provide a platform for voters to ask questions and learn about the individuals seeking to represent them.

The League is a nonpartisan organization that does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The views expressed in each forum are those of the candidates, not those of the League of Women Voters. LWV Minnesota and our local Leagues post complete, unedited recordings of forums on our websites. Editing is authorized only for official media reporting. Excerpts or edited clips of candidate forums may not be used for partisan or political purposes. If you have questions you would like candidates to answer, you may submit them to the League prior to the forums.

You can find information on forums, including how to submit questions and to find recordings of the meetings, on the following sites:

League of Women Voters of White Bear Lake Area <a href="https://www.lwv-wbla.org/candidate-forums">https://www.lwv-wbla.org/candidate-forums</a>

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

 $\underline{https://www.lwvmn.org/2025-candidate-forums}$ 

#### CANDIDATE PUBLIC VOTING RECORDS

Learn about the candidates' public voting record (if any) on issues that are important to you.

#### **U.S.** Congress

https://www.congress.gov/roll-call-votes

#### **U.S. Senate**

https://www.senate.gov/legislative/votes\_new.htm

#### **U.S.** House of Representatives

https://clerk.house.gov/Votes

#### Minnesota House of Representatives

https://www.house.mn.gov/votes/getvotes.asp

#### Minnesota Senate

https://www.lrl.mn.gov/guides/guides?issue=ratings

#### VoteSmart.org (up to 3 free searches)

https://www.votesmart.org/

#### **County Commissioners**

Information on votes by county commissioners is available through livestreamed meetings, public hearings, meeting minutes, and more

#### **Ramsey County**

<u>https://www.ramseycounty.us/your-government/leadership/board-commissioners</u>

#### **Washington County**

<u>https://washingtoncountymn.gov/108/County-</u> Board-of-Commissioners

#### **Municipal Elected Officials**

Information on votes by elected officials can be found in meeting minutes posted on the city, town, or township website

#### **School Board**

Information on votes by school board members can be found in meeting minutes posted on the school district's website

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### How to Identify and Fight Against Misinformation and Disinformation

The following article and additional information and resources for how to spot misinformation and minimize overload, visit the League of Women Voters Minnesota. <a href="https://www.lwvmn.org/know-your-news">https://www.lwvmn.org/know-your-news</a>

In order to decipher whether information is real or false, follow these steps:



#### **Consider the Source**

#### When reading an article online:

- If it's from a trustworthy, reputable, or major news source, it is more likely that the information is true.
- Be wary of information on social media that has no listed sources to back up the claims. "Breaking" or shocking news may contain misinformation if not corroborated by other major news sources.
- Clickbait will often have eye catching images and outrageous headers. If it seems too outlandish and isn't from a major news outlet, it may be misinformation or over-simplified. Even major news outlets can sometimes dramatize or sensationalize headlines, so it's important to read the full article and not just skim headlines.
- When in doubt, newspapers, libraries, and nonpartisan organizations that study policy, like universities and some think tanks, can be great resources for doublechecking information.

#### When reading an article in a newspaper:

Make sure that the article is an objective report. Opinion pieces like commentaries, letters to the editor, and editorials are typically written with a subjective perspective and based on the discretion of the writer. These are still good to read, but should not be mistaken for objective reports from journalists.

#### When watching TV:

Commentary shows on television are fine to watch, but may require additional research on your own. Commentary shows are also opinion pieces with a subjective perspective and based on the discretion of the show producers and presenters. Do not mistake them for objective reports from journalists.

#### **Practice Lateral Reading**

No matter where you get your news, you may still want to check multiple sources. For example, searching a topic that the New York Times has reported on and seeing multiple independent reports of the same event means that the information is likely true. Lateral reading (i.e., horizontally across multiple sources) diminishes confirmation bias and false information.

Researching at least two or three outlets and their positions can confirm the validity of the information in question while also getting yourself out of an echo chamber. You don't need to become an expert on an issue by reading every report on it, but you should be able to confirm the information from more than one source. Websites like <a href="AllSides.com">AllSides.com</a> do some of this work for you, so you don't always need to spend time researching on your own.

#### Be Wary of Images on Social Media

As stated above, misinformation and disinformation can come in various forms, even an image. Heavily-edited images on social media are usually a red flag for misinformation and disinformation, but the edits can sometimes be subtle. Often, misused or misleading images will have completely different sources or origins, like a false description or caption. As part of your research to determine whether an image is misleading or accurate, you can use a reverse image search.

- 1. In some web browsers, you can simply right-click on the image and select 'Search Google for Image.'
- 2. You can also download the image or find its URL. Then go to <a href="images.google.com">images.google.com</a> or <a href="images.google.com">ineye.com</a> and upload the image or paste the image's URL.

#### It's False...Now What?

Once you've decided the information is false, do not share it. However, it is also important to not dismiss it, either. Inform others, especially those who may have shared it with you. The News Literacy Project advises consumers to do more than label it as false. Instead, they suggest providing explanations that are supported by facts and clear details.

#### I Still Don't Know If It's False

Even after cross-checking information and searching around for an image or source to back up a claim, sometimes the results may be murky or inconclusive. When in doubt, don't share it! Fact checking every single post, meme, image, or chain email you come across can be tiring and impractical. If it becomes too overwhelming, lessen the load by choosing to consume and share less information on social media sites. Instead, stick to a few trusty news outlets.

## 09 Vote

#### **HOW TO VOTE**



#### Early voting by mail

Primary: June 27 - August 11, 2025

General: September 19 - November 3, 2025

In Minnesota, you can vote early with an absentee ballot starting 46 days before Election Day. You can request an absentee ballot online for federal, state, and county elections. To vote by mail, apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to you. You do not need to be registered to apply.



<u>Download PDF: 2025 Minnesota Absentee Ballot Application https://www.sos.state.mn.us/media/2444/english-regular-absentee-ballot-application.pdf</u>

#### To apply online

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting

To have a paper application sent to you, call your local elections office.

#### To complete this form, you will need to provide:

- Your ID number: a Minnesota driver's license or ID card and the last four digits of your Social Security number.
- An email address.

You will need a witness when you vote and complete your absentee ballot. The witness can be either a registered Minnesota voter or a notary. Your ballot must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Election Day, or it will not be counted. Voters may return their completed absentee ballot:

- by mail using the supplied stamped envelope.
- by dropping it off at the elections office that sent the ballot.

You may **not** drop your ballot off at your polling place on election day.

You can track the status of your ballot and confirm that it was received and counted by going to <a href="https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/abstatus/index">https://mnvotes.sos.mn.gov/abstatus/index</a>.

**Note:** Effective June 1, 2024, voters are able to request to be added to a list to automatically be sent an absentee ballot during the early vote period, instead of needing to apply again ahead of every election.

For a further information about absentee ballots, visit <a href="https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail">https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail</a>.



<u>Download PDF: Minnesota Application to Automatically Receive Absentee Ballot Applications</u>

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/media/2444/english-regularabsentee-ballot-application.pdf



#### Early voting in person

Primary: June 27 - August 11, 2025

General: September 19 - November 3, 2025

All voters have at least one location in their county where they can vote early in person. Ballots do not need to be requested in advance. Contact your county election office to view the list of voting locations before election day.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/find-county-election-offic/



#### **Election Day**

November 4, 2025 - This is your last day to vote!

On Election Day you must vote at your assigned polling place. It is usually located near where you live. Look up your polling place in advance - it may have changed since you last voted.

https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us

If your voter registration is current and active, you do not need to bring identification. Your name will be on a list of voters and you just need to write your signature next to your name. This means you were successfully registered at least 21 days before Election Day, and you have not moved or changed names since then.

If you need to register or update your registration, or you have not voted in four years or more, you will need to show proof of your current residence before you vote.

You can see a sample ballot showing a list of the candidates and ballot questions you'll be voting on at <a href="https://myballotmn.sos.mn.gov">https://myballotmn.sos.mn.gov</a>.

On Election Day, most polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. As long as you're in line by 8 p.m., you can vote, even if you do not reach the front of the line until after 8 p.m.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/election-day-voting



#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### Helpful videos on voting in 2025



Let's get ready to vote video
<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3Wxrb4qpWw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3Wxrb4qpWw</a>



Vote early - vote absentee video
<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5k4xay2Yvc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5k4xay2Yvc</a>

#### **MInnesota Election Facts**

The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State provides information on how elections work in Minnesota. Their website gives a comprehensive description of election administration, including a look at transparency and public access, looking at facts and fiction.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/minnesota-elections-facts

#### **Secure and Fair Elections**

The Minnesota Secretary of State serves as the state's chief elections official. The Secretary works to protect and strengthen the security and fairness of our elections process. To learn about election security, data integrity, campaign practice or financial violations, and other issues related to secure and fair elections, and to find out what to do if you have concerns about any election irregularities, visit the Secretary of State's office.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/secure-and-fair-elections

### 10 Voter's Rights

#### MN Voter's Bill of Rights

On Election Day, voters sometimes encounter problems during the voting process. They might be sent incorrect voting information. They might encounter an individual unlawfully campaigning in or near a polling place. They might encounter someone engaging in intimidating behavior. Or they might just need assistance.

- You have a right to time off work to vote, without losing your pay, personal leave, or vacation time.
- ✓ You have the right to bring your children with you to vote.
- ✓ You have the right to vote if you are in line before 8:00 p.m.
- ✓ For a listing of all your rights as a voter, <a href="https://lwvmn.org/voters-bill-of-rights">https://lwvmn.org/voters-bill-of-rights</a>.

#### **Ongoing Vote from Home**

Many Minnesotans enjoy the convenience of voting from home with an absentee ballot. Any eligible voter may vote this way, and as of June 2024 they will be able to request to be added to a list to automatically be sent an absentee ballot during the early vote period, instead of needing to apply again ahead of every election. This will save time for voters who know they want to continue voting from home.

#### **Download PDF: What's New Vote 2025**

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/32qfcndc/2025 whats-new.pdf

#### **Language Provisions**

Starting in January 2025, voter instructions in the three most commonly spoken non-English languages will be provided in every polling place statewide. Additional language access will be provided at qualifying polling places, according to census data.

- Precincts with at least 3% of the population speaking English "less than very well" will provide translated voting instructions and sample ballots.
- Precincts with at least 20% of the population speaking English "less than very well" will, upon request, provide translation services in their precinct on Election Day. Voters can also submit a request with at least 10 signatures from eligible voters from their precinct.



#### **Download PDF: What's New Vote 2025**

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/32qfcndc/2025 whats-new.pdf

#### **Voter Assistance**

**Polling place accessibility.** State and federal laws require polling places to be physically accessible. Cities and towns typically choose polling place locations and are responsible for polling place accessibility.

Assistance from others. You can bring anyone to assist you while you vote or you can get assistance from election judges. You cannot get assistance from your employer or your union. Your assistant can participate in all parts of the voting process. Assistants cannot influence how you vote or mark the ballot for you if you cannot communicate to them who you want to vote for.

**Sign in orally.** You have the right to orally confirm who you are and to ask another person to sign for you if you cannot sign your name.



#### **Download PDF: Voter Assistance**

https://www.sos.mn.gov/media/nz1j1cp3/2025 voter-assistance.pdf

#### Voters with print disabilities may request an accessible absentee ballot

Print disabilities are disabilities that interfere with the effective reading, writing, or use of printed materials. This definition includes:

- persons who are blind or visually impaired;
- those with learning disabilities;
- those with a physical disability that interferes with holding and manipulating paper or a pen/pencil.

If you do not have a disability, you are not eligible to receive an accessible ballot. **To request an accessible absentee ballot:** 

- Complete and submit an absentee ballot request.
- Once you have submitted your application, contact your <u>county election</u> <u>office</u> and specify that you wish to receive an accessible ballot.

https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote

## 11 Get Involved!

#### SERVE AS AN ELECTION JUDGE

Election judges are temporary, paid employees of local election officials trained to handle all aspects of voting at the polling place. Serving as an election judge is a chance to learn about elections and is a great service to the community.

On Election Day, there can be as many as 30,000 election judges temporarily employed at polling places across Minnesota. You too can be an election judge—many towns and cities are always looking for qualified applicants. Visit your local county elections office or <a href="https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/get-involved/become-an-election-judge">https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/get-involved/become-an-election-judge</a> for information on how to apply, who can apply, pay, time commitment, time off from work, and student trainees.

#### High school student trainees

16 and 17-year-old students can work as election judge trainees, receive training, and be paid for their work. It's a great way to learn about elections and voting and earn cash at the same time! You cannot be asked to work past 10:00 p.m. You will be assigned the same duties as other judges, with the exception of tasks requiring party affiliation. You will need to attend and complete the same training as other judges.

To qualify, you must be 16 or 17 on or before Election Day, be a U.S. citizen in good academic standing at a Minnesota high school (or home schooled) and get permission from your parents and your school.



#### **Ramsey County Elections**

https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/elections-voting/election-judges/election-judge-information



#### **Washington County Elections**

https://www.washingtoncountymn.gov/3442/Serve-with-Us



### Encourage your family, friends, neighbors, and work colleagues to vote!

- ✓ Share this voting guide with them.
- ✓ Remind them of important dates.
- ✓ Offer car rides to their polling place.
- ✓ Remind them: VOTE Our democracy depends on it.

## 12 Resources

#### MN Secretary of State

Metro Area: 651-215-1440

Greater MN: 1-877-600-VOTE (8683)

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Email: secretary.state@state.mn.us

Mailing address:

Veterans Service Building, Suite 210 20 W 12th Street, St. Paul, MN 55155

Website: <a href="https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting">https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting</a>

#### Safe at Home

Minnesota's address confidentiality program

Metro Area: 651-201-1399 Greater MN: 1-866-723-3035 Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

Email: secretary.state@state.mn.us

Mailing address:

PO Box 17370, St. Paul

MN 55117-0370

#### **Ramsey County Elections**

Phone: 651-266-2171

Email: elections@co.ramsey.mn.us

Mailing address:

Plato Building (90 Plato Blvd West) PO Box 64098, St. Paul 55164-0098

Website: https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/elections-voting

#### **Washington County Elections**

Phone: 651-430-6175

Email: elections@washingtoncountymn.gov

Mailing address: 14949 62nd St N

PO Box 6, Stillwater 55082

Website: https://www.washingtoncountymn.gov/667/Elections

#### League of Women Voters White Bear Lake Area

Email: <a href="mailto:lwv-wbla@lwvmn.org">lwv-wbla@lwvmn.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:https://lwv-wbla.org">https://lwv-wbla.org</a>

League of Women Voters Minnesota

Website: <a href="https://lwvmn.org">https://lwvmn.org</a>

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League of Women Voters (US) Website: https://www.lwv.org

## 13 Index

Absentee ballot	<u>19,24</u>		
Automatic voter registration	<u>13</u>		
Accessible absentee ballot	<u>26</u>		
Candidate forums	<u>16</u>		
Candidate public voting records	<u>17</u>		
Confidentiality of address	<u>10</u>		
Election calendar	<u>02</u>		
Election facts	<u>23</u>		
Election judge	<u>27</u>		
Elections in White Bear Lake Area in 2025	<u>03</u>		
Eligibility	<u>06</u>		
High school students/election judge trainee	<u>27</u>		
High school students/pre-registration	. <u>06</u> , <u>14</u>		
Language accessibility	<u>25</u>		
Misinformation and disinformation	<u>18</u>		
Polling place accessibility	<u>25</u>		
Pre-registration for 16 & 17 year-olds	<u>06, 14</u>		
Print disabilities	<u>26</u>		
Privacy of voter registration application	<u>13</u>		
Register to vote	<u>11</u>		
Register online	<u>11</u>		
Register on paper	<u>12</u>		
Register when you vote	<u>12</u>		
Automatic voter registration	<u>13</u>		
Research candidates	<u>15</u>		
Resources <u>29</u>			
Restore the vote <u>06</u>			

Safe at Home program <u>10</u>		
Secure and fair elections23		
Translation tools <u>14</u>		
Vote early by mail20		
• Vote early in person <u>21</u>		
• Vote on election day <u>21</u>		
• Vote from home <u>24</u>		
Vote 41117		
Voter's bill of rights <u>24</u>		
Voting residence <u>07</u>		
College students <u>07</u>		
• Homeless <u>08</u>		
Military or living abroad08		
Residential facility <u>08</u>		
• Living temporarily in Minnesota <u>09</u>		
Home in foreclosure <u>09</u>		
Home destroyed <u>10</u>		
Voting with a criminal record <u>06</u>		
Who can vote <u>06</u>		
Why vote <u>05</u>		







