

TEXAS PREPARED TO VOTE 2018



Important Dates

Deadline to Post Notice of Candidate Filing Deadline (Local Political Subdivisions Only)

Thursday, June 21, 2018 for local political subdivisions that have a first day to file for their candidates

First Day to File for a Place on the General Election Ballot (Local Political Subdivisions Only)

Saturday, July 21, 2018

Last Day to Order General Election or Special Election on a Measure

Monday, August 20, 2018

Last Day to Register to Vote

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

First Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance

Monday, October 22, 2018

Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)

Friday, October 26, 2018

Last Day of Early Voting by Personal Appearance

Friday, November 2, 2018

Last Day to Receive Ballot by Mail

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 (Election Day) by 7:00 pm if carrier envelope is **not** postmarked, **OR** Wednesday, November 7, 2018 (next business day after Election Day) at 5:00 p.m. if carrier envelope is postmarked by 7:00 p.m. at the location of the election on Election Day (unless overseas or military voter deadlines apply)



Voter ID

You will be asked to show a **PHOTO ID** to vote in person.

To vote in person by regular ballot, bring one of the following photo IDs to the polling place:

- Texas driver's license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate (EIC) issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas handgun license issued by DPS
- United States military identification card containing your photo
- United States citizenship certificate containing your photo
- United States passport

Except for the U.S. citizenship certificate, the photo ID that you present must be current or have expired no more than 4 years before you vote.

Registered voters can get a "free" EIC with a photo from a DPS office. For more information, visit www.votetexas.gov.

YOU CAN STILL VOTE A **REGULAR BALLOT** WITH **NON-PHOTO ID**

To vote in person by regular ballot without a photo ID based on a "reasonable impediment" or difficulty (see other side), follow these four steps: →

(1) inform the poll managers that you do not possess a photo ID and have had an obstacle to getting one. You can lack an accepted photo ID even if, for example, it was lost, stolen, suspended, revoked, or expired by more than four years;

(2) present an alternative form of ID:

- a valid voter registration certificate;
- a certified birth certificate (must be an original);
- a copy or original current utility bill;
- a copy or original bank statement;
- a copy or original government check;
- a copy or original paycheck; or
- a copy or original government document with your name and an address (e.g., out-of-state driver's or non-driver's license; Social Security, Medicaid, or Medicare document; public college or university document; ID card issued by a recognized Native American tribe; etc.). A government document that has your photo must be an original. The address DOES NOT have to match the address on the list of voters.

(3) sign a declaration* identifying yourself and your reason for not having an accepted photo ID; and
(4) cast a regular ballot.

*A person is subject to prosecution for perjury for providing a false statement or false information on this declaration.

Note that voters with "documented disabilities" and religious objections to being photographed may qualify for exemptions from the voter ID law. More information is available through the Texas Secretary of State's office at www.votetexas.gov.

This card is a resource, not legal advice. It is provided for informational purposes only and not as a substitute for or supplement to the legal advice necessary to address the specific concerns of any individual. Moreover, Texas may revise its laws after the publication of this card. Therefore, it is your responsibility to determine how all applicable laws concerning voter registration, voting, and the restoration of voting rights in Texas affect you.

LDF is challenging certain aspects of Texas's voter identification requirements. These materials do not represent an endorsement of those requirements or waiver of any legal claims.

★ Voting Information

How to vote a regular ballot with NON-PHOTO ID under the “reasonable impediment” provision:

You can vote in person by regular ballot with a non-photo or alternative ID (see other side for list) if you have a reason why you have had difficulty getting an accepted photo ID. Such a “reasonable impediment” or difficulty, includes:

- Lack of transportation
- Disability or illness
- Lack of birth certificate or other documents needed to obtain accepted photo ID
- Work schedule
- Family responsibilities
- Lost or stolen photo ID
- Photo ID applied for but not received

After initially asking a voter whether he/she has an accepted photo ID, an election official cannot further question the voter concerning whether they have a photo ID, the reasonableness of any claimed impediment/difficulty, or the truth of the declaration.

In certain areas, the “reasonable impediment” form will be available in Spanish, Chinese, and Vietnamese. Oral translations of the “reasonable impediment” form are available in El Paso and Maverick counties.

You may request the help of someone (e.g., a friend, family member, poll worker, etc.), but not an employer

or union representative) as a language interpreter or assistant when voting or completing the “reasonable impediment” form.

Will my ballot be counted if I do not have a photo ID because of a “reasonable impediment” or difficulty?

Yes. If you complete a reasonable impediment or difficulty declaration and show an alternative ID document, you can vote a regular ballot that will be counted unless there is conclusive evidence that you are not the person who you claimed to be.

What if the NAME on my ID is not exactly the same as the name under which I am registered?

If your name isn’t an exact match, but is still “substantially similar,” then you have the right to vote, but will be required to sign an affidavit swearing that you are the same voter as the voter on the official list of registered voters. Election officials have some discretion in determining whether two forms of a name are “substantially similar,” but they must consider whether one name is a short form of the other (e.g., “Elizabeth” and “Liz,” or “Francisco” and “Paco,” or “Bob” and “Robert”). Also, officials must look at other information—like your address or birthdate—to help show that you are the same voter as the one on the list.

What if the ADDRESS on my ID isn’t the same as the address on the list of voters?

You cannot be prevented from casting a regular (non-provisional) ballot solely because the address on your ID

is not the same as the address on the list of voters. You may still cast a regular ballot if the addresses are not the same.

What if I don’t have any accepted IDs with me?

If you do not have any of the required IDs when you vote, you will be asked to cast a provisional ballot. For your provisional ballot to count, you must return to the county voter registrar with an accepted ID within six calendar days.

What is a Provisional Ballot?

A provisional ballot is used to record your vote when there’s an unresolved question about your eligibility to vote. You should never be turned away from a polling place just because poll workers are not sure whether you are eligible to vote. Election officials are required to make every effort to provide you with the opportunity to vote (such as allowing you to use non-photo alternative ID to vote a regular ballot under the “reasonable impediment” or difficulty process). A provisional ballot has all the candidates and offices on it, and is the same ballot that every other voter gets.

How do I verify my polling station?

On Election Day, you should vote at the voting precinct assigned to you. You can locate your voting precinct location at the following website: <https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/MVP/mvp.do>. Use the “My Voter Page,” which will be populated with voting sites two days prior to Election Day. Newspapers in your area may also publish Election Day polling sites.

Problem Voting?

If you encounter problems on or before Election Day, don’t hesitate to call Election Protection:

1-866-OUR-VOTE

Si confronta cualquier problema en o antes del día de votación llame al Election Protection:

**1-888-VE-Y-VOTA
(888-839-8682)**



NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

40 Rector Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10006
212-965-2200
www.naacpldf.org