

# OHIO VOTER EMPOWERMENT CARD

CURRENT AS OF JANUARY 2020



## STEP 1: REGISTRATION

### HOW DO I REGISTER TO VOTE?

- **ONLINE REGISTRATION:** [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov)
- **PAPER REGISTRATION:** (Voter registration form)
  1. **OBTAIN A FORM** at the Board of Elections (BOE), on the Secretary of State website, Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles offices, any public high school, and at public libraries.
  2. **FILL OUT THE FORM** and mail it to the BOE or hand deliver it to any of the above agencies.

### HOW DO I CHECK THE STATUS OF MY REGISTRATION?

- **ONLINE:** Go to [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov)
- **BY PHONE:** Call your county BOE.

### DO I NEED TO UPDATE MY REGISTRATION?

If you moved or changed your name, file a new voter registration form.

## STEP 2: IDENTIFICATION

### WHAT FORMS OF ID ARE ACCEPTABLE?

- **ID CARD**, such as:
  - A photo ID card with your name and address – such as an Ohio driver's license or state ID card (old address is acceptable), or other government ID (with current address);

- U.S. military ID with your name and photo (address not required);
- Note: Student ID is not accepted.
- **OTHER ID DOCUMENT THAT SHOWS YOUR NAME AND CURRENT ADDRESS**, such as:
  - A copy of a current utility bill (including a cell phone bill), bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document.
- **ID NUMBER:** Ohio driver's license or state ID or the last four digits of your social security number.

### WHEN IS ID REQUIRED?

- **MAIL-IN VOTERS** must provide an ID number or a photocopy of their ID card or document when they mail in their absentee ballot.
- **IN-PERSON VOTERS** must show an ID card or document in order to cast a regular ballot.
  - If you do not have an ID card or document you can provide an ID number (your driver's license or state ID or last four digits of your social security number) and cast a provisional ballot. Election officials are required to verify your information before counting your ballot.

**NOTICE: YOU MUST REGISTER OR UPDATE YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION NO LATER THAN 30 DAYS PRIOR TO AN ELECTION.**

## STEP 3: DECIDE WHEN AND WHERE TO VOTE

### HOW DO I VOTE EARLY BY MAIL-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT?

1. **YOU MUST SUBMIT AN ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM TO YOUR LOCAL BOE.** Obtain the form:

- Online by clicking on the [ABSENTEE VOTING] button at [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov)
- Call your local BOE.

2. **MAIL-IN ABSENTEE BALLOTS WILL BE AVAILABLE BEGINNING 28 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY.**

3. **WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT IN THE MAIL,** follow the instructions carefully.

4. **COMPLETED ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSE OF POLLS ON ELECTION DAY.**

• **SPECIAL RULES FOR MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTERS:**

- Ohio voters who serve in the military or who are overseas and wish to vote by mail have extra time. Mail-in voting begins 45 days before Election Day, and the completed absentee ballot must be received by the BOE no later than 10 days after Election Day.

### HOW DO I VOTE EARLY IN PERSON AT THE BOE?

1. **IDENTIFY THE EARLY VOTING LOCATION IN YOUR COUNTY.** Some counties hold early voting at the BOE office, while other counties permit early voting at a different location. Call your BOE to find out where you can vote early.

2. **BRING ID AND KNOW YOUR PRECINCT NUMBER.**

3. **KNOW THE DATES AND HOURS FOR EARLY VOTING.**

- **DATES:** Early voting begins 28 days prior to

all primary and general elections. For special elections, voters should call their local BOE to confirm early voting schedule.

- **HOURS:** Early voting hours may vary. Call your local BOE to confirm early voting schedule.

### HOW DO I VOTE IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY?

1. **LOCATE YOUR POLLING PLACE AND PRECINCT.**

- Online by clicking on the [FIND MY POLLING LOCATION] button at [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov),
- Call your local BOE.

2. **VOTE IN THE CORRECT PRECINCT.** If you vote in the wrong precinct, you may be required to cast a provisional ballot that may not count. If you are unsure of your precinct, ask a poll worker for assistance.

3. **BRING ID.**

- **POLLS ARE OPEN FROM 6:30 A.M. TO 7:30 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.** By law, you have a right to vote if you are in line when the polls close.
- **IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY,** poll workers are required to provide assistance.
- **IF YOU HAVE LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY,** it is your right for a person of your choice (with only a couple exceptions) to assist you in voting.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REPORT A PROBLEM:

- Ohio Secretary of State: 877-767-6446 or <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/>
- ACLU of Ohio: 614-586-1958 or [www.acluohio.org](http://www.acluohio.org).

**ACLUOHIO.ORG/VOTE**