

Provisional Ballots

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Provisional voting is a way for a voter to cast a ballot at the polls on Election Day when they are challenged because of one of the situations explained below.

1. If the voter is **unable to present photo ID** that meets the “proof of identification” requirements.
2. If the voter’s **name does not appear on the poll list** (the voter is not registered to vote in the precinct) unless the voter qualifies to vote using one of the “Fail-Safes” explained in the *Indiana Voter’s Bill of Rights*.
3. The voter’s name appears on the poll list, but the **voter does not currently reside in the precinct** unless the voter qualifies to vote using one of the “Fail-Safes” explained in the *Indiana Voter’s Bill of Rights*.
4. The poll list indicates that the voter is also required to **present additional documentation to verify their residency** as a first time voter, but the voter is not able to do so.
5. The voter is **not a U.S. citizen**.
6. The voter will **not be 18 years of age** or older at the general or municipal election. *NOTE: Otherwise qualified 17 year olds may vote in a primary election, but NOT for a school board office, political party office (such as precinct committeeman or state convention delegate) or on a public question voted on at the same time as the primary.*
7. The voter’s **signature on the poll list does not match** that on the registration record of the county.
8. In a primary, the voter is **not affiliated with the party** whose ballot the voter is requesting.

EXCEPTION: A voter challenged in a primary due to party affiliation is NOT issued a provisional ballot. If the challenged voter is willing to complete and sign the challenged voter’s affidavit (Form PRE-6), then the voter is issued the regular ballot of that party, which is NOT kept separate from the undisputed ballots cast in the precinct.

If you do cast a provisional ballot, you have until noon 10 days after the election, (until May 16th for the Primary Election on May 6th, and until November 14th for the General Election on November 4th), to present the needed documentation or a proper form of photo ID.

The voter’s provisional ballot is kept separate from all other ballots cast at the polls on Election Day. After the polls close, the provisional ballot is forwarded to the county election board, which decides whether or not the provisional ballot should be counted.

Election Resources

Offices on the Ballot

2008 Primary Election: The major parties will conduct a presidential primary so that voters of that party can indicate their choice for the party’s presidential nominee. The major parties will also nominate candidates for the following offices:

- Governor
- U.S. House of Representatives (all 9 seats)
- Indiana State Senate ((25 of the 50 seats)
- Indiana House of Representatives (all 100 seats)
- Judges of the circuit, superior, and county courts in several counties
- Clerks of the circuit court, County Auditor, County Recorder, County Treasurer, County Coroner, County Surveyor, County Assessor, County Commissioner, and County Council Member in several counties
- Town Council members, town clerk-treasurers, and town judges in towns which have chosen to stagger terms, or to elect all town officials during 2008
- Several jurisdictions will also elect non-partisan school board members at the primary election.
- Some local public questions may be placed on the ballot in certain counties.
- Democratic Party and Republican Party state convention delegates
- Republican Party precinct committeemen

2008 General Election: Candidates are elected to the following offices at the General Election:

- Presidential electors pledged to support candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States
- Governor and Lieutenant Governor
- Attorney General and Superintendent of Public Instruction
- U.S. House of Representatives (all 9 seats)
- Indiana State Senate (25 of the 50 seats)
- Indiana House of Representatives (all 100 seats)
- Judges of the circuit, superior and county courts in several counties
- Clerks of the circuit court, County Auditor, County Recorder, County Treasurer, County Sheriff, County Coroner, County Surveyor, County Assessor, County Commissioner, and County Council Member in several counties
- Town Council members, town clerk-treasurers, and town judges in towns which have chosen to stagger terms, or to elect all town officials during 2008
- Voters will vote on the ratification of proposed state constitutional amendments, the retention of state appellate judges or local judges, and on any local public question placed on the ballot in accordance with state law.
- Several jurisdictions will also elect non-partisan school board members at the general election.

Published by:
Indiana Election Division, Co-Directors:
J. Bradley King and Pamela Potesta
302 West Washington Street, E204
Indianapolis, IN 46204
800.622.4941 (Telephone)
317.233.6793 (Fax)
www.in.gov/sos/elections

Indiana Secretary of State’s HAVA Office
Julia Bauler
HAVA Education and Outreach Director
302 West Washington Street, E111
Indianapolis, IN 46204
866.IN.1.VOTE (Telephone)
317.233.3675 (Fax)
jbauler@sos.in.gov

2008 Indiana Voter Information Guide



Primary Election Day
May 6, 2008

General Election Day
November 4, 2008

Polls are open from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm,
prevailing local time.

Provided by the Indiana Secretary of State
and the Indiana Election Division
Revised November 2007



Voting Basics

Voting Requirements

You have the right to vote in an Indiana election, if:

- You are both a U.S. citizen and a resident of Indiana; *and*
- You will be at least 18 years of age at the next General Election, November 4, 2008; *and*
- You are not currently in prison after being convicted of a crime; *and*
- You have lived in the precinct where you vote for at least 30 days prior to the election; *and*
- You are registered to vote.

To register to vote, simply complete the VRG-7 form and submit to your county before the Voter Registration Deadline (listed below)

Election Calendar

- **April 7, 2008:** Voter Registration Closes for the 2008 Primary Election
- **April 28, 2008:** Deadline for absentee-by-mail applications to be received for the 2008 Primary Election
- **May 6, 2008:** Primary Election Day
- **May 20, 2008:** Voter Registration Opens for the 2008 General Election
- **October 6, 2008:** Voter Registration Closes for the 2008 General Election
- **October 27, 2008:** Deadline for absentee-by-mail applications to be received for the General Election
- **November 4, 2008:** General Election Day

Mail-in voter registration applications must be postmarked on or before the above registration deadlines.

More Information

- If you would like to check your voter registration or the location of your polling place, please visit www.IndianaVoters.com or call the Hoosier Voter Hotline at 1-866-IN-1-VOTE (866-461-8683).
- If you are interested in being a poll worker on Election Day, contact the county office of your party or circuit court clerk. Poll workers are compensated for their time, varying by county. 16/17 year olds may also be eligible, contact your county for more information.

Photo ID

Photo Identification

A voter must provide government-issued photo ID before casting a ballot. The ID must fit the following criteria:

- Your ID must display your photo.
- Your name on the ID must conform with your voter registration record. Conform does NOT mean identical. Below are examples of names that would conform to “Robert John Crew”:
 - Robert John Crew
 - Robert J. Crew
 - Robert Crew
 - R. John Crew
 - R. J. Crew
 - Bob John Crew
 - Bob J. Crew
 - Bob Crew
 - John Crew
 - J. Crew
- Your ID must contain an expiration date and either still be current or have expired sometime *after* the date of the last General Election (November 7, 2006).
 - Including Military IDs with expiration dates of “INDEF.”
- Your ID must be issued by the State of Indiana or the US government.

In most cases, an Indiana driver license, Indiana photo ID card, Military ID or US passport is sufficient.

If you are unable or unwilling to present ID meeting these requirements, you may cast a provisional ballot. If you cast a provisional ballot, you have until noon 10 days after the election to follow up with the county election board and either provide the necessary documentation or affirm one of the law’s exemptions applies to you.

Exemptions do exist for the indigent, those with a religious objection to being photographed, and individuals living in state-licensed facilities where the precinct’s polling place is also located.

If you do not already have a valid photo ID, you can obtain an Indiana photo ID card **free of charge** from any Bureau of Motor Vehicles branch that issues driver licenses and ID cards.

For more information, please visit www.PhotoID.in.gov or call the BMV at (317) 233-6000.

Absentee Voting

Absentee Voting

As a registered voter in Indiana, you are eligible to vote **absentee-in-person** at your county election board office beginning 29 days before Election Day.

In order to vote **absentee-by-mail**, one of the following must apply:

1. You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 am to 6 pm).
2. You have a disability.
3. You are at least 65 years of age.
4. You will have official election duties outside of your precinct.
5. You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
6. You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
7. You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
8. You are a participant in the state’s address confidentiality program.

When the county election board receives your application for a mail-in absentee ballot, they will process it and if the application is approved, mail you an absentee ballot for the upcoming election.

In order to vote **absentee-by-traveling board**, you must fit into bullet points 2 or 6 above. The ballot will be delivered to you by a bi-partisan absentee voter board who will be able to assist you with your ballot.

Accessibility

State law requires that polling locations and voting machines be accessible to elderly voters and voters with disabilities. If you need assistance voting, you may choose someone to help you (other than your employer or union officer) or one poll worker from each major political party will be available to assist you.

If you wish to file a grievance about your polling place’s accessibility or report possible fraudulent election activities please call the Hoosier Voter Hotline at 1-866-IN-1-VOTE (866-461-8683).