



Helpful Voting Facts

- All voting polling sites are required to be fully accessible for all voters.
- Vote early! If you have an issue at the polls, voting early may give you time to address your issue.
- An audio guide for voters with disabilities is available at http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/disability_voting.htm, or call (404) 656-1787 (TDD) or (404) 656-2871.
- Any voter can vote by mail (called an absentee ballot). You can apply for an absentee ballot up to 180 days prior to the election. An absentee ballot must be received by the County Board of Registrars office by 7p.m. on Election Day.

Download an application for an Official Absentee Ballot at http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/absentee.htm, or call the County Board of Registrars office to request one.

The completed application can be mailed, faxed or delivered in person to your County Board of Registrars office.

Even if You are Registered, You Cannot Vote if:

- You are incarcerated or are on parole for a felony conviction
- A court of law has determined you are unable to vote

Acceptable Forms of Identification (I.D.)

- A Georgia driver's license, even if expired
- A valid state or federal government-issued photo I.D., including a free voter I.D. card issued by your county Registrars Office or Department of Driver Services
- A valid U.S. passport
- A valid photo I.D. from any branch, department, agency or entity of the U.S. Government, Georgia, or any county, municipality, board, authority, or other entity of the state of Georgia
- A valid U.S. military photo I.D.
- A valid tribal photo I.D.


Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc.

Georgia Advocacy Office (GAO) is Georgia's Protection and Advocacy System for people with disabilities (P&A). We are available to provide information, referrals and in some instances, direct advocacy, regarding any issues related to disabilities and voting.

If you are a Georgia citizen with a disability and encounter problems with voting, please call us at (404) 885-1234 or (800) 537-2329 (both numbers are voice or TDD), weekdays from 9a.m. until 5p.m., and on Election Day from 7a.m. until 7p.m.

Or call the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office at (404) 656-2871.

Funding for this brochure is made possible through the US Dept. of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families. The contents are solely the responsibility of the grantee and do not necessarily represent the official views of the funder.



Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc.

The Protection and
Advocacy System
for People with
Disabilities in
Georgia

Reminding you to vote

Georgia Advocacy Office, Inc.

150 East Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 430
Decatur, Georgia 30030

404.885.1234 voice/TDD or 1.800.537.2329 voice/TDD
404.378.0031 fax

<http://www.thegao.org>; info@thegao.org



How to Vote in Georgia

- 1. Meet the criteria to register:** You can register six months before your 18th birthday, but you cannot vote until you turn eighteen. You must be a U.S. citizen and Georgia resident. You are eligible to vote even if you have a guardian.
- 2. Register:** Request an application by phone, e-mail or apply in person through the Secretary of State's Office, local county board, public library, or when you get or renew your driver's license.
- 3. Mail or hand-deliver the completed, signed form:** Place the completed application in an envelope addressed to your local county Board of Registrars office. Postage is paid for by the state. Find the address at http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp, or call 404.656.2871 or 404.656.1787 (TDD).
- 4. Verify your identity:** Mail a copy of your proof of identity with your application, or provide it when you go to vote at the polling place. (See the other side of this brochure for acceptable forms of identification.)
- 5. Receive your voter precinct card:** It usually takes two weeks to receive your card.
- 6. Locate polling site:** Call the Secretary of State's office (see numbers below) or visit <http://www.sos.georgia.gov/MVP>. Remember the date of the election and VOTE!

Bill of Voting Rights

- The Constitution of the United States says I have the right to take part in civil life.
- If I am registered to vote in Georgia, I have the right to vote in all state and federal elections.
- I have the right to vote by myself or with help. I can select who I want to assist me except for my employer, my employer's agent, or an officer or representative of my union.
- Even if I have a guardian, I may vote unless a court specifically says I cannot. *
- I have the right to be accommodated at all polling places with assistive voting devices.
- If I am waiting in line when the poll closes, I must be allowed to vote.
- If I have a disability and arrive at my polling place between 9:30a.m. and 4:30p.m. on Election Day, I have the right to go to the front of the line.
- If I have been convicted of a felony but have completed my sentence, including all probation and parole, and I have registered to vote since that time, I have the right to vote. **
- If someone challenges my right or qualification to vote, I have the right to vote a provisional ballot. ***

***Simply having a guardian imposed is not enough to keep you from voting. You must have been found judicially incompetent to vote in order to be denied.**

****A felony conviction does not prevent you from voting forever. After you have served your complete sentence, you are eligible to register to vote and can vote. If you have been convicted of a misdemeanor you can vote.**

*****If a problem occurs on Election Day (improper identification, not on registered voters list, etc.) you can request to vote a provisional ballot. You must provide the missing information or identification within 48 hours.**

“Vote as if Your Life Depends on It, Because it Does.” Justin Dart