

Your vote counts, so go out and vote!

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JULY 2018

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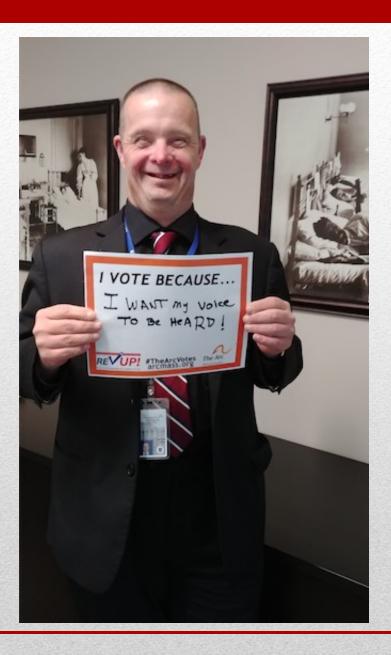
July 16-20 is National Disability Voter Registration Week

What is voting?

Your right

Your voice

Your opportunity to create change



Voting "is a way for elected officials to know what their constituents want, what our country wants. The way to make your voice heard is by your vote."

"It's important to vote because it's how we, as a nation, impact the laws that structure our society."



Voting "is the most basic fundamental right that American citizens have, and it's so incredibly important that people exercise it."

- Congressman Joe Kennedy III

Primary Election

- An election to choose the candidates that will represent their political party in the general election.
- This year in Massachusetts, the Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, September 4, 2018.

General Election

- A regular election for statewide or national offices.
- This year in Massachusetts, the General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018.



Types of Elections

Calendar

August 15, 2018

(Wednesday)
Registration deadline for the
Massachusetts Primary Election

September 4, 2018

(Tuesday)

The Massachusetts **Primary Election**

October 17, 2018

(Wednesday)
Registration deadline for
The Massachusetts General Election

November 6, 2018

(Tuesday)

The Massachusetts **General Election**



Who can vote?

You may vote in Massachusetts if:

You are a **citizen** of the United States; and

You are 18 years old; and

You are **not currently incarcerated** by reason of a felony conviction.

If you meet the above requirements, you may apply online, by mail, or in person.



Are people with disabilities allowed to vote?

Voting is a fundamental right of <u>all</u> American citizens.



"Massachusetts residents who are under guardianship are still eligible to register and vote under most circumstances. Unless a court specifically states that the person under guardianship is restricted from registering or voting, that person remains eligible to vote, as long as they meet all other requirements for voting."

- Elections Division, Secretary of the Commonwealth

Know Your Rights

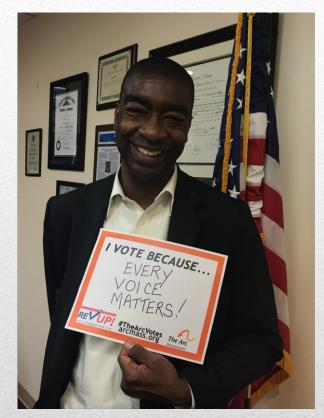
As a voter with a disability, you have the right to

- vote privately and independently
- have an accessible polling place with voting machines for voters with disabilities

You may either

- seek assistance from workers at the polling place who have been trained to use the accessible voting machines, or
- bring someone to help you vote

You may request your local election officials to tell you about any voting aids, voting assistance, and absentee ballot procedures that are available.



Commissioner Thomas Hicks, Chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Getting Help with Voting

If you need help voting because of a disability, you have the right to get help from almost any person you choose:

- a family member
- a friend
- a supporter
- a poll worker

The two kinds of people who cannot help you vote are:

- your boss or someone working for your boss
- if you belong to a labor union, an officer or agent of that labor union



Anyone helping you vote must respect your choices and cannot assume he or she knows who you want to vote for.

Your Rights When Someone Is Helping You Vote

- The helper must respect your privacy at all times.
- If you have a hard time reading the ballot, you may
 - ask for a voting machine that reads aloud the choices on the ballot
 - ask a helper to read aloud all the names on the ballot.
- If you have a hard time marking the ballot by yourself, you can tell the helper which person you want to vote for.

What You Can Expect from Officials When You Vote

- Election officials must help you vote if you ask for their help.
 - They must ensure that you can use all of their voting booths, ballots or other voting forms, voting machines, and any other voting equipment.
- Service providers and election officials must make reasonable changes to their policies in order to help you vote.
- The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) says that all disability service agencies are voter registration agencies.
 - They must give you voter registration forms, if you ask for them.
 - They must help you fill them out.
 - They must send the form to the appropriate agency for processing.

Accessible Polling Places

Accessible voting provides the same opportunity for access and participation to persons with disabilities as for other voters.

All polling places in Massachusetts must provide access on a permanent or temporary basis on Election Day.

Voting assistance and absentee voting offer options that persons with disabilities *may* use to vote, but are not considered substitutes for actual accessibility to the voting location.

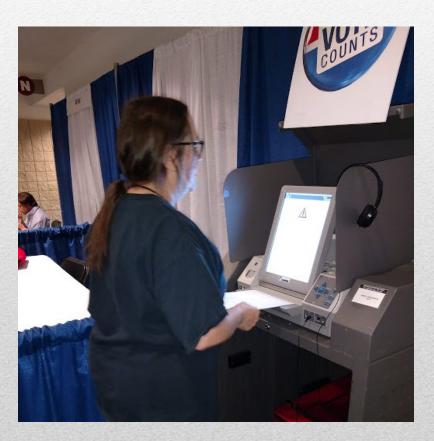


Accessible Voting Equipment

Polling places must be equipped for voters with disabilities, allowing them to have the **same opportunity to vote privately and independently**. Every precinct must have at least one accessible voting machine available.

The AutoMARK:

- is a marking device that uses audio cue capacity for visually impaired voters
- has a feature that will greatly magnify the ballot or display the ballot high-contrast for voters that have limited visual impairment
- can produce an oral report to the voter of the choices selected prior to the voter printing the ballot.



Accessibility complaints?

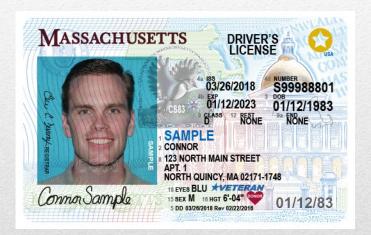
The Elections Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is committed to making voting as accessible for all voters.

Please let the Elections Division know how it can improve accessibility by calling 800-462-VOTE (8683) (toll free) or 617-727-2828.

You may also e-mail elections@sec.state.ma.us.

When is identification required?

If you are voting for the first time or have been an inactive voter, you may be asked to show identification.





Acceptable identification must include your name and the address at which you are registered to vote. Examples of acceptable identification include: a driver's license, state-issued ID card, recent utility bill, rent receipt, lease, a copy of a voter registration affidavit, or any other printed identification which contains the voter's name and address.

How to register to vote

- 1) You may register to vote online.
- In order to register to vote online, you must have a signature on file with the Registry of Motor Vehicles.
- If you currently have a Massachusetts driver's license or state ID card, you may use the online voter registration application to register, update your address, or change your party affiliation.
- Voter registration forms submitted online must be submitted by midnight on the date of the voter registration deadline.

https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/

How to register to vote

- 2) You may register to vote by mail.
- If you do not qualify to register to vote online, or if you would prefer to register by mail, you may download the voter registration form available on the Elections Division webpage. (See the example on the next slide.)
- The form must be completed, signed, and delivered to your local election official.
- Voter registration forms submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than the voter registration deadline.

https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howreg.htm

Sample Voter Registration Form

		Print all information in i	black ink. Follow above instructio	ons for proper delivery.	
1	Check one: Are you a (Citizen of the United States of	America? ☐ Yes ☐ No N	OTE: If you checked "no," do n	ot complete this form.
2	Full name:	last name	first name	middle name or initial	jr. Sr. II III IV (ctrcle one if appropriate)
3	Former name:	last name	first name	middle name or initial	jr. Sr. II III IV (ctrcle one if appropriate)
4	Address where you li	ve now (street number / street n	ame / rural route number & box num	ber/apariment number/city or town/z	ip code):
5	Address where you re	eceive all your mail (if di	ferent from #4):		
6	Date of birth: month de	y year 7 Identification	on #: license # or last 4 digits of SSI	Telephone (optional):	Check if unlisted
9	Party enrollment or o	lesignation (check one): — Political Designation	□ Democratic □ Repub n (not a political party):	lican Libertarian	
10	Address at which you	were last registered to vot	e(street number/street name/rural i	route number & box number / apartment nu	mber/city or town/zip code):
11	If the applicant is unable	to sign this form, give the na	ame, address and telephone address	number (optional) of the person	n helping the applicant: telephone number (optional)
12	old and I understand that I must	be 18 years old to be eligible to vote, t rom voting because of corrupt practic	hat I am not a person under a guardian	CTTIZEN OF THE UNITED STAT ship which prohibits my registering to vote, currently incarcerated for a felony conviction	that I am not temporarily or
13	Today's date: month day	y year 14 Signed	Sign your name bere.		

How to register to vote

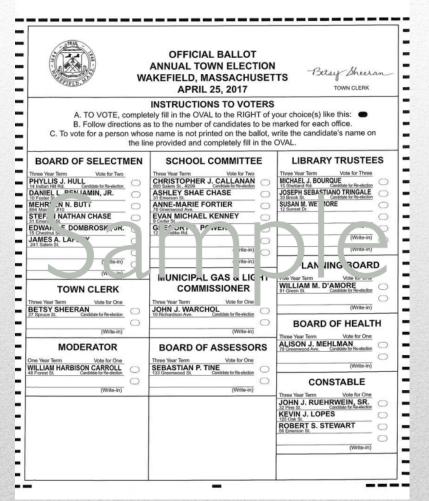
- 3) You may register to vote in person.
- If you would like to register in person, you may do so at any local election office, as well as the Elections Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office (1 Ashburton Place, #1705, Boston, MA 02108).
- Voter registration is also available as part of every transaction at the Registry of Motor Vehicles and at certain public assistance agencies.
- Voter registration forms completed in person are valid as of the day that they are signed.

How do I find out where to vote?

Find my election information:	ation			
 Enter your residential address. This address must be in a city or tow 	age names (opens in new window or tab) to find			
* Required: Enter your street address i	n 3 separate boxes			
1. Your street number (numbers only):				
2. Your street name:				
3. Select street suffix:	•			
* Required: Provide a city or town, or y	our zip code			
Your city or town:	•			
Or your zip code (numbers only):				
Clear fields	Show my results			

http://www.sec.state.ma.us/wheredoivotema/bal/MyElectionInfo.aspx

Sample Ballot



QUESTION 3 / PREGUNTA 3 LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016? SUMMARY	=
This proposed law would prohibit any farm owner or operator from knowingly confining any breeding pig, calf raised for yeal, or egg-laying hen in a way at prevents the animal from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs, or turning around freely. The proposed law would also prohibit any business wher or operator in Massachusetts from selling whole eggs intended for human consumption or any uncooked cut of well or pork if the business owner or	=
where or operator in Messacruseus from seiming whose egister interests in the sent of the proposed pertor knows or should know that the hen, breeding pig, or veal call that produced these products was confined in a manner prohibited by the proposed in the proposed as would exempt sales of food products that combine veal or pork with other products, including soups, sandwiches, pizzas, hordogs, or imiliar processed or prepared food items.	=
imitar processed or prepared flow items. The proposed law's confinement prohibitions would not apply during transportation; state and county fair exhibitions; 4-H programs; slaughter in ompliance with applicable laws and regulations; medical research; veterinary exams, testing, treatment and operation if performed under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian; five days prior to a pregnant pigs expected date of giving birth; any day that pig is nursing piglets; and for temporary periods for	Ξ
nimal husbandry purposes not to exceed six hours in any twenty-four hour period. The proposed law would create a civil penalty on to \$1,000 for each violation and would give the Attorney General the exclusive authority to enforce the The proposed law would create a civil penalty on the \$1,000 for each violation and would give the Attorney General the exclusive authority to enforce the The proposed law would allow a business owner or operator to rely in	Ξ
ood faith upon a written certification or guarantee of compilance by a supplier. The proposed law would be in addition to any other animal welfare laws and would not prohibit stricter local laws. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay	Ξ
n effect. A YES VOTE would prohibit any confinement of pigs, calves, and hens that prevents them from lying down, standing up, fully extending their limbs, or	-
urning around freely. A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to the keeping of farm animals. YES/SÍ	O -
NO.	

Sample Ballot Initiative Question

Absentee Ballot

In order to be eligible to vote by absentee ballot in Massachusetts, a voter must be prevented from voting at their polling place on Election Day, due to:

- Absence from the voter's city or town on Election Day
- Physical disability
- Religious belief

Sample Ballot ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION ABSENTEE BALLOT NORTHBOROUGH. MASSACHUSETTS May 8, 2018 To vote for a candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the candidate's name. To vote for a person not on the ballot, write that person's name and residence in the blank space provided and fill in the oval. N/S REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MODERATOR (Northborough Candidates) vote for one vote for two Frederick A. George Jr. % Wesson Tenace Helynne B. Winter 22 Gristmil Lane WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY 20 School Street O Kathleen M. Howland BOARD OF SELECTMEN WITE-INSPACE ONLY 3 YEARS HETE-INSPACE DALY 10 Mulberry Lane William J. Pantazis 19 Smith Road N/S REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE Julianne S. Hirsh (Southborough Candidates) 42 Davis Street Timothy M. Kaelin vote for two WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY Kathleen A. Harragan 28 Darlene Drive WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY 1 Ashley Fload Cathy A. Kea PLANNING BOARD **1YEARS** vote for two IRTE-INSPACE ONLY 28 Moore Lave Leslie RM Harrison 16 Hemlock Drive Kerri A. Martinek 17 Franklin Ciede Anthony W. Ziton WRITE-INDENCE ONLY WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY SCHOOL COMMITTEE 3 YEARS vote for two Lauren C. Bailey 11 Elmwood Drive C 311 Davis Street Hallie Joan Burak Kelly L. Guenette 69 Northgate Road

Contact information

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Waltham, MA 02453

Resources

- "AutoMARK Machine." REV UP! Register, Educate, Vote: Increasing the Disability Vote in Massachusetts. http://revupma.org/wp/vote/automark-machine/. Accessed 12 July 2018.
- "Elections and Voting." William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleidx.htm. Accessed 12 July 2018.
- "Getting Help with Voting." Vote. It's Your Right: A Know-Your-Rights Guide for Voters with Mental Disabilities and Advocates.

http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2016 Voter-Guide-Plain-Language.pdf. Accessed 14 July 2018.

Kennedy, Joseph, III. 12 June 2018.

- O'Malley, Debra. "A Get Out the Vote Project." Received by Julie Heffernan, 19 June 2018.
- "#TheArcVotes." *The Arc of Massachusetts*. http://arcmass.org/voting. Accessed 12 July 2018.