What to Bring with You to Register

If you can, bring paperwork or similar electronic documents to show your identity, age, citizenship. A driver’s license, passport, or other photo ID is good. Your birth certificate or naturalization papers will prove citizenship. Also bring something that shows where you live, such as a utility or tax bill addressed to you.

If you don’t have these documents, you will be allowed to sign a statement attesting to your identity, age, citizenship, or where you live.

The registration form asks for your name, age, place of birth, and where you live now.

If you were registered somewhere else before, you will report your previous voting address.

The form also asks for a driver’s license ID number or the last four digits of your Social Security number.

May You Register Absentee?

If you can’t register in person, you may register by mail.

Ask your town or city clerk for an absentee voter registration affidavit and a standard voter registration form.

The affidavit must be witnessed and both documents returned to your clerk’s office at least 10 days before an election.

Must You Register for a Specific Party?

No. If you want to keep your options open for voting in the Presidential or state primaries, you may register as “undeclared.” When you go to the polls, ask for the ballot of the party you want to vote for.

Unless you change back to “undeclared” on your way out of the polling place, you will be considered a member of that party for the next election.

To change back to “undeclared” fill out a form at the Supervisors of the Checklist station before you leave the polling place.

If you are now registered with a specific party and want to change that, you may do so at a scheduled meeting of the Supervisors of the Checklist. That meeting will be publicized in local newspapers and on your town’s website.

Note: for the state primary in 2020, the time to change is before early June.

Step 2: Vote

Absentee Voting

If you’re a registered voter but you can’t vote in person because of
- disability (includes illness, fear of catching a serious illness in public)
- religious beliefs,
- work hours (paid or unpaid, including care of minor children),
- military service, or
- temporary absence (including being away at college),

you may ask your city or town clerk for an absentee ballot application in advance of the election. Fill out the application and return it to your town or city clerk.

When you get your ballot in the mail, fill it out and mail it back to your town or city clerk. The clerk must receive it by 5 pm of Election Day. Ballots may not be faxed.

Voting in Person

If possible, show a valid photo ID to the Ballot Clerk at the polls. You need only one ID!

Acceptable photo IDs include the following:
- Driver’s license from NH or any other state (current or expired no more than 5 years*);
Your Vote is Your Voice!
Every Vote Counts!

Prepared as a voter education service by the League of Women Voters New Hampshire

League of Women Voters of New Hampshire
4 Park Street Rm 200, Concord, NH 03301

www.LWVNH.org

What You Should Know about Voting in New Hampshire

Step 1: Register to Vote

Every New Hampshire citizen, 18 years and older, has the Constitutional right to vote. You don't have to live in your town or in New Hampshire for any set length of time before registering.

17-year-olds may register to vote if they will be 18 by the time of the next scheduled election.

If you are already registered in your town, you don't have to register again.

Where to Register to Vote

- At your town or city clerk's office up to 6-13 days before any election (this period varies by election. Check with your city/town clerk).
- At a special meeting of the Supervisors of the Checklist (about a week or two before each election. Check your newspapers or town website for date, time, and place.)
- At the polling place on Election Day. This will take extra time.

If you don't have an ID listed above, you will still be able to get a ballot by signing an affidavit saying you are who you claim to be.

Your photo will be taken at the polls and attached to the affidavit.

Following the election you'll receive mail from the Secretary of State. Sign the enclosed postcard and mail it back, confirming that you did vote in the recent election.

Non-driver’s photo ID issued by NH Department of Motor Vehicles;
US armed services ID card;
US passport or passcard (current or expired no more than 5 years*);
Valid student ID card;
Other photo ID acceptable to the moderator, supervisor of the checklist, or town clerk;
Verification of a person’s identity by the moderator, supervisor of the checklist or town or city clerk.
NOTE: *For voters over 65 years old, no expiration date restriction applies.

(This flier represents election law in effect in 2020.)