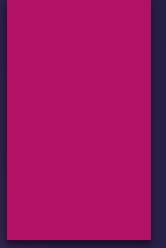


Disability and Voting



Why Vote?

- ▶ You vote for your government
- ▶ Your government is who decides how money is spent
 - ▶ Disability services
 - ▶ Education
- ▶ Your government makes laws
 - ▶ Non-discrimination laws
- ▶ You can vote for new laws (initiatives) and new taxes (levies)
- ▶ Your vote impacts all this
- ▶ Your vote is powerful!

Can I Vote?

- ▶ Most people can vote
- ▶ This includes most people with disabilities
- ▶ You can vote from TODAY until November 8th if:
 - ▶ You are a U.S. citizen
 - ▶ You have lived in Washington for 30 days
 - ▶ 18 years old on or before the election date
 - ▶ You are not in prison for felonies
- ▶ Learn more: [Who can vote - King County](#)

What if I have a guardianship?

- ▶ Unless a court said you can't vote—**you still have the right to vote.**
- ▶ Guardianship does NOT mean you are not capable of voting.

Can I vote from jail or an institution?

- ▶ Yes, your right to vote does not go away when you are in jail or in an institution.
- ▶ Some elections officials bring ballots to jails, nursing homes, and institutions. They might also bring an Accessible Voting Unit (AVU)
- ▶ If a jail or institution tries to stop you from voting, call Disability Rights Washington.
- ▶ [Contact Us - Disability Rights Washington](#)

Can I Vote After Being Incarcerated?

- ▶ Yes. In Washington State you can vote after you are no longer in custody of the Department of Corrections.
- ▶ Learn more: [Who can vote - King County](#)

Can I Vote While Homeless?

- ▶ **Yes. Your right to vote does not go away if you are homeless.**
 - ▶ "If you don't have a traditional residential address, you can still [register to vote](#).
 - ▶ Put the location where you live, such as a shelter, park, motor home, intersection or other identifiable location you consider your residence on your registration form. This location will be used to register you to vote. ([RCW 29A.08.112](#) effective 2005)
 - ▶ You must also provide a valid mailing address where you can receive ballots and election information on time. A mailing address can be a post office box, address of a friend or relative, shelter, or general delivery at a local post office."
- ▶ Learn more: [Who can vote - King County](#)

Can I Get Help to Vote?

- ▶ You have a right to accommodations.
- ▶ Your right to accommodations is still there at the ballot box.
- ▶ Someone can assist you in voting.
- ▶ They can help you understand the ballot.
- ▶ They can NOT tell you how to vote.
- ▶ This is like Supported Decision Making. It's your choice. It's your vote. And support is okay!
- ▶ Rooted in Rights Video: [People with assistants have equal voting rights - YouTube](#)

Registering to Vote

- ▶ You can register:
- ▶ Online (until October 30th)
- ▶ By mail (until October 30th)
- ▶ In-person (same day)
- ▶ Make sure to update your address if you have moved

Who Do I Vote For? What Do I Vote For?

- ▶ Who and what you vote for is **your choice**.
- ▶ Many people use *endorsements* to decide who to vote for.
- ▶ Who endorses candidates?
 - ▶ Political nonprofits (501c4s)
 - ▶ Unions
 - ▶ Business groups
 - ▶ Newspapers
 - ▶ Current and former legislators
 - ▶ People in your community
- ▶ Some people like to do their own research only.

How Do I Do My Own Research?

- ▶ There are many ways to do research.
- ▶ You can
 - ▶ Read Campaign websites
 - ▶ Check out Ballotpedia
 - ▶ Reach out to candidates with your questions
 - ▶ Look at voters guides and endorsements
 - ▶ Video voters guide
 - ▶ Look through PDC (state) and FEC (federal) data (“follow the money”)
 - ▶ PDC: Public Disclosure Commission. FEC: Federal Elections Commission.
- ▶ [Home | Washington State Public Disclosure Commission \(PDC\)](#)

Where Do I Vote?

- ▶ Most people in Washington State vote by mail
- ▶ You can vote in person if you want to
- ▶ You can assistance to vote in person
- ▶ You can use an Accessible Voter Unit (AVU)
- ▶ Starting today, you vote in-person at the King County Elections office. All in-person voting locations: [Vote in person at an King County vote center - King County](#)
- ▶ Their office is a short drive from The Arc of King County office (near Ikea!)
- ▶ Learn more about accessible voting options: [Accessible voting options - King County](#)

Can Someone Bring My Ballot to a Ballot Box or a Post Box?

- ▶ Yes!
- ▶ Some people think this is illegal. That is wrong.
- ▶ If someone tries to stop you from helping deliver a ballot, that is a form of **voter intimidation**.
- ▶ Remember, you have a right to vote.
- ▶ Your right does not go away when you have a disability!
- ▶ Voter intimidation fact sheet: [Fact Sheet: Protecting Against Voter Intimidation \(georgetown.edu\)](#)

Report Voter Intimidation/Suppression

- ▶ Contact NAACP Legal Defense Fund through [this form](#);
- ▶ Use the [nationwide, nonpartisan voter protection hotlines](#) from the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights:
 - ▶ English: 866-OUR-VOTE
 - ▶ Spanish/English: 888-VE-Y-VOTA
 - ▶ Arabic/English: 844-YALLA-US
 - ▶ Asian Languages/English: 888-API-VOTE
- ▶ [The ACLU advises](#) reporting incidents to your [local elections office](#);
- ▶ If it's from an anti-democracy group, the Western States Center: info@wscpdx.org.
- ▶ [The Arc Voter Support Service \(thearc.org\)](#)

Track Your Ballot

- ▶ After you vote, make sure it is counted!
- ▶ You can track your ballot here: [My Voter Information - King County](#)
- ▶ If there is a problem with your signature, you may be asked to "cure" your ballot. Learn more: [Signature challenges - King County](#)

Additional Resources

- ▶ [GoVoter – SABE USA](#)
- ▶ [Voters with Disabilities Activated - Register To Vote Today | NDRN](#)