

Voting in New Hampshire in 2023

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 NH for any set length of time before registering.

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 varies by town. Check with your city/town clerk.
- At your polling place on Election Day. This can take extra time during major elections. **NOTE: Effective Jan. 1, 2023, per SB418** passed last year, anyone **registering at the polls on election day** MUST show a photo ID. If they don't have one, they will be allowed to cast a provisional ballot only. Ask for more information from the registrars if this applies to you.

What to Bring with You to Register

If you can, bring paperwork to show your **identity, age, citizenship, and where you live**. A driver's license, passport, or other photo ID will work for ID & age. Tax or utility bill addressed to you will show where you live. Birth certificate or naturalization papers will prove citizenship.

If you don't have these papers, you will be allowed to sign a statement attesting to your identity, age, citizenship, or where you live. *(See note re election day registration above.)*

The registration form asks for your name, age, place of birth, and where you live now. If you were registered somewhere else before, 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.

You'll be asked to read and sign a statement saying you understand voting fraud is a crime.

May You Register by Mail?

If you can't register in person because of disability or temporary absence, 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 (doesn't need to be notarized) and both documents returned to your clerk's office at least 10 days before an election. Copies of your ID and where you live should be included.

Must You Register for a Specific Party?

No. If you want to keep your options open for voting in future presidential or state primaries, you may register as "undeclared."

Step 2: Vote

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*);
- 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, town or city clerk or town selectman.

* For voters over 65 years old, no expiration date restriction applies.

If you don't have a photo 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.

Absentee Voting

If you're a registered voter but you can't vote in person because of disability (or medical condition that limits your public exposure), religious beliefs, work hours (which includes caring for children or the elderly, even if you aren't paid), military service, or temporary absence, 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/city clerk. You can also get this form online, print it out, and return it to your town clerk. sos.nh.gov/elections/voters/absentee-ballots/

When you get your ballot, fill it out and sign the inner envelope. (If your reason for voting absentee is illness, sign the *right* side of the envelope which mentions "disability"). **Mail it (you'll need a stamp) or hand deliver it to your town or city clerk before election day.** The clerk must receive it by 5 pm of Election Day. Ballots may not be faxed.

(This flier represents election law in effect in early 2023.)

Your Vote is Your Voice! Every Vote Counts!



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