VOTING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE as of February 2025

REGISTERING TO VOTE

From the New Hampshire Secretary of State: Recent Changes in Voter Registration

There are new requirements in place for **voter registration** following the passage of HB 1569, which took effect on November 11, 2024. Individuals can no longer use affidavits [signed statements] as an alternative means of proving their qualifications when registering to vote.

In New Hampshire, individuals **must be a United States citizen, at least 18 years old by the date of the election, and have their primary residence in New Hampshire to register to vote**. If an applicant does not provide acceptable documentary proof of identity, age, United States citizenship, and/or domicile, they are not eligible to be registered to vote.

When registering, individuals will need to prove they are qualified. The proof documents listed below are the most commonly used forms of proof, but the lists are not exhaustive:

- Proof of identity and age driver's license, or government-issued photo identification, or passport/passcard.
- Proof of citizenship birth certificate, or United States passport, or naturalization documents, or other proof of citizenship issued by the United States Department of State, or other reasonable documentation which indicates the applicant is a United States citizen.
 [note: a Real ID driver's license does NOT prove citizenship.]
- Proof of domicile [proof you live in the town in which you are registering to vote] driver's license, or resident vehicle registration, or government-issued ID with the current domicile address listed. If an applicant attests that they do not possess any of these, they can use a rental/lease agreement, or utility or other bill with the current domicile, or the Confirmation of Domicile Form (blank form provided by local election officials which must also be signed by a person owning, leasing, or renting the domicile property).

A full list of acceptable documents individuals can use when registering to vote can be found in the Secretary of State's <u>"Registering to Vote in NH"</u> document, which is posted on <u>www.sos.nh.gov</u>.

To register to vote in New Hampshire, individuals can register [before election day] at their local town/city clerk's office, at a local supervisor of the checklist meeting, or at the polls on election day.

[Only voters who qualify to use the absentee registration process may do so by absentee. New Hampshire does not have online voter registration.]

If you have questions about voter registration, ask your own town or city clerk. Voters can use the Secretary of State's <u>Voter Information Lookup</u> at <u>app.sos.nh.gov</u> to find their clerk's contact information.

VOTING

Registered voters must prove their identity at the polls on election day to receive a ballot.

Most voters show a photo ID such as a driver's license or non-driver ID.

Voting in Person

Show a photo ID to the Ballot Clerk at the polls. You need to show only one ID.

Acceptable photo IDs include

- Driver's license from New Hampshire or any other state;
- Non-driver's photo ID issued by NH Department of Motor Vehicles;
- US armed services ID card;
- US passport or passcard;
- Valid student ID card;
- Other photo ID such as a work ID.
- Or you can be identified by the moderator or other election official.
- IDs must be current or expired no more than 5 years. The expiration date rule doesn't apply for voters over 65.

Absentee Voting

If you're registered 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**, **incarceration** for a misdemeanor or awaiting trial, or **temporary absence**, you may get an absentee ballot application from your city or town clerk before the election.

* Do this as early as you can to allow time for mail to go back and forth.

New Hampshire also allows voting absentee up to 5 pm on the day before elections if the National Weather Service has issued a winter storm, blizzard, or ice storm warning for your town/ward for election day, and you have concerns about traveling safely in the storm.

If you believe you will not be able to get to the polls safely on election day because of the storm, you may go to your town clerk's office the day before.

* Bring a photo ID.

- * Request and fill out an application for an absentee ballot.
- * You'll receive the ballot right away. Fill it in.
- * Put the ballot in the envelope provided. Sign the envelope, and return it to the town clerk.

For more information: www.sos.nh.gov/elections

Prepared by the League of Women Voters New Hampshire as a voter service, from source material on the Secretary of State's website.

Any further changes because of 2025 legislation will be incorporated into future publications.



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