How to Register and Vote in Connecticut

What every voter needs to know to be vote-ready.









LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CONNECTICUT

Voter Eligibility and Registration Options

To be eligible to vote, you must:

- Be a United States citizen **and** a resident of Connecticut.
- Be at least 17 years old, provided you will turn 18 on or before Election Day.
- Have already completed confinement if previously convicted of a felony.

Three Ways to Register to Vote

1. **Online** with a current Connecticut DMV ID: **MyVote.CT.gov/register**
2. **By mail** with a completed registration form sent to your Registrar of Voters.
3. **In person** at your town hall with the Registrar of Voters or Town Clerk.

CT Voter Lookup Tool

Did you know? You can visit **MyVote.CT.gov/lookup** to check your registration status, party affiliation, polling place, or track your absentee ballot.

Text **VOTE** to **860.321.4221** to receive important election updates from the Connecticut Secretary of the State.

Connecticut Voter ID Requirements

First Time Voters

Before voting for the first time, you must:

1) present a valid photo ID that shows your name and address,
2) show a copy of a bank statement, utility bill, government check or document that shows your name and address, **or**
3) vote by provisional ballot.



ID When Voting In Person

Each registered voter must first check in to verify that they are on the active voter list. You will be asked for ID and can show one that includes either:

- Your name & address,
- Your name & signature, **or**
- Your name & photo.

You can also show your Social Security card or sign Form ED-681 affirming your identity if you don't have an ID.

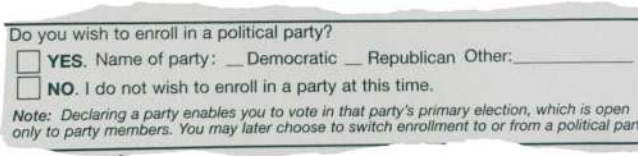


Election Deadlines and Voter Eligibility Requirements

Primaries and general elections have different deadlines and eligibility requirements.

Primaries are elections held by political parties to pick their candidates for a **general election**. Connecticut has a "**closed primary system,**" so only voters registered with a party are eligible to vote in its primaries.

When registering to vote, you will see Connecticut's major parties—the Democratic Party and the Republican Party—listed on your voter registration form. There are many minor parties, but they are not listed.


Do you wish to enroll in a political party?
☐ YES. Name of party: __ Democratic __ Republican Other:_____
☐ NO. I do not wish to enroll in a party at this time.
Note: Declaring a party enables you to vote in that party's primary election, which is open only to party members. You may later choose to switch enrollment to or from a political party.

You may enroll in a party or choose to remain **unaffiliated. Unaffiliated voters** may affiliate by the regular registration deadlines if they decide to vote in a party's primary election. **Affiliated voters** who wish to change parties to vote in another party's primary must update their voter registration three full months in advance of that primary.

Note: In Connecticut, an "Independent" is a voter affiliated with the Independent Party. It is not the same as an "unaffiliated" voter.

Voter Registration Deadlines: Online, by Mail, or In Person

To vote in an election, voter registration must be postmarked or submitted online:

- 11 days before a primary election, or
- 18 days before a general election.

Visit **MyVote.CT.gov/register** to apply online with a DMV ID. If you don't have one, you can fill out the online form using the last four digits of your Social Security number, print it, and mail it in to your Registrar.



In-person registration is always available at your Registrar of Voters' office during business hours. To vote in a primary election, you must be registered by noon the day before the primary.

Same-Day Registration (SDR) is available during general elections at your Early Voting location and at your Election Day SDR site. For details, contact your Registrar of Voters. **Note:** SDR is not available during primaries or special elections.

Connecticut's Three Voting Options

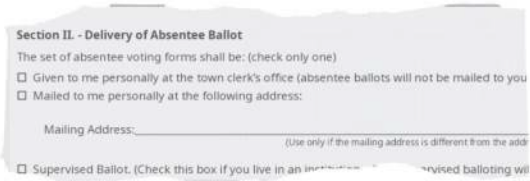
Every Connecticut voter has options to make their voice heard whether or not they can make it to the polls on Election Day.



1. Absentee Voting

Any eligible voter may vote by absentee ballot. Ballots are issued 31 days before an election but may be requested as early as 45 days beforehand. Absentee voting is not the same as "mail-in voting" in other states.

Step 1. Apply for an absentee ballot. Submit an application online, at your Town Clerk's office, or by mail. Select whether you want your ballot mailed or given to you personally at your Town Clerk's office.


Section II. - Delivery of Absentee Ballot

The set of absentee voting forms shall be: (check only one)

☐ Given to me personally at the town clerk's office (absentee ballots will not be mailed to you

☐ Mailed to me personally at the following address:

Mailing Address:_____

(Use only if the mailing address is different from the addr

☐ Supervised Ballot. (Check this box if you live in an

rvised balloting wil



Step 2. Return your completed ballot. Ballots must be received by your Town Clerk by 8 PM on Election Day. Return your ballot either by hand delivery, drop box, or mail.

Step 3. Confirm receipt of your ballot using the Voter Lookup Tool. If it does not say your ballot was received, contact your Town Clerk.



2. Early Voting

Connecticut offers in-person Early Voting that ends the Sunday before Election Day.

- Primaries: 7 days of Early Voting.
- General elections: 14 days of Early Voting.

Note: Your town must have at least one Early Voting location, and it may be different than your usual polling place. Check with your Registrar of Voters for locations and hours.

3.Voting on Election Day

Polls are open from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM across the state. As long as you are in line by 8:00 PM, you have a legal right to stay in line and cast your ballot. Check your polling place before you go using the Voter Lookup Tool.

Note: Every vote is recorded in the Centralized Voter Registration System. No matter how you choose to vote, it is not possible to vote more than once per election.

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Updated: September 2026

Something doesn't seem right when voting?
Notify your polling place Moderator, or contact the State Elections Enforcement Commission:

The Election Day hotline
1-866-733-2463 (1-866-SEEC-INFO)
elections@ct.gov