

A GUIDE TO VOTING WHILE TRANS IN MISSOURI

This guide is designed to help transgender, nonbinary, gender non-conforming, and/or intersex (TGNCI) people who want to vote in Missouri understand their legal rights.

As a TGNCI Missourian, your voice matters in our democracy! TGNCI citizens have the same right to vote that cisgender (non-transgender) citizens have in Missouri.

IN ORDER TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN MISSOURI, YOU MUST BE:

- A citizen of the United States;
- A resident of the State of Missouri; and
- At least 17 years and 6 months of age (must be 18 by Election Day).

If you meet these requirements, you are entitled to register to vote in Missouri.

IN ORDER TO BE ENTITLED TO VOTE IN MISSOURI:

- You must be registered to vote in the county that you live in prior to the election.
 - Note: New voters and new Missouri residents must register to vote by the fourth Wednesday before Election Day.
- You cannot vote while confined under a sentence of imprisonment.
 - Note: You may vote if you have not been convicted. If you are in jail, but have not been convicted of a crime, you may vote.
- As of August 28th, 2026, those who are previously incarcerated on probation or parole for a felony offense may register to vote.
 - There are exceptions for violent and sex crimes (which will regain voting rights after completing probation or parole). See RSMo. §115.133(2)(2) for more information.
- You cannot vote after conviction of a felony or misdemeanor connected with the right of suffrage (i.e., a voting-related crime).
 - The following voting-related offenses are permanently disqualified: voter fraud, voter intimidation, and ballot tampering, felony or misdemeanor.

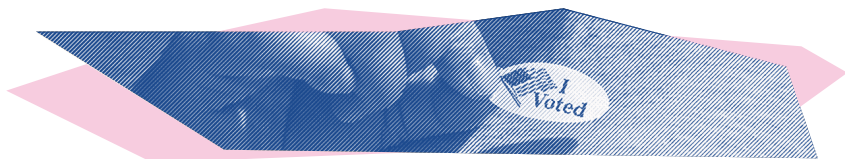
ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF VOTER ID

Voters in Missouri are required by law to show a certain kind of government-issued photo ID. See RSMo. §115.427.

You cannot be prevented from voting based on your physical appearance, gender marker or gender presentation. You **can** be prevented from voting if the name on your photo ID does not match the name on the voter rolls.

SOLUTION:

1. Update your name on both by going to a license office with your court-ordered name change
 - A. Go to Transpapers for information on how to legally update your name in Missouri: <https://transpapers.lgbt>
2. Go to the Secretary of State's website → Check the box to Register to Vote → Select the box for "Change of Name"



When you vote in Missouri, you must present a government-issued ID that shows a photo of you. See RSMo. §115.427(3)(b). However, Missouri law does not require that your gender identity or gender presentation match the name, photo, or gender marker on your ID.

While poll workers are supposed to understand that a person's physical appearance can change over time, using an ID with a photo that doesn't match your current gender identity or gender presentation can unfortunately sometimes lead to confusion at the polls. If this happens to you and you are told that you are not allowed to vote a regular ballot due to alleged issues with your photo ID, call the Election Protection Hotline at **866-OUR-VOTE** for help casting a regular ballot. As a last resort, you can cast a provisional ballot.

To vote, please be aware that you will need to show one of the following forms of acceptable government-issued photo identification and sign the poll book to obtain a regular ballot for voting:

- A nonexpired Missouri driver or non-driver license;
- A nonexpired military ID, including a veteran's ID card;
- A nonexpired United States passport; or
- Another photo ID issued by the United States or the state of Missouri which is either not expired or expired after the date of the most recent general election (Nov. 5, 2024).*

*If the driver or non-driver license has expired after the most recent general election, it is an acceptable form of voter ID.

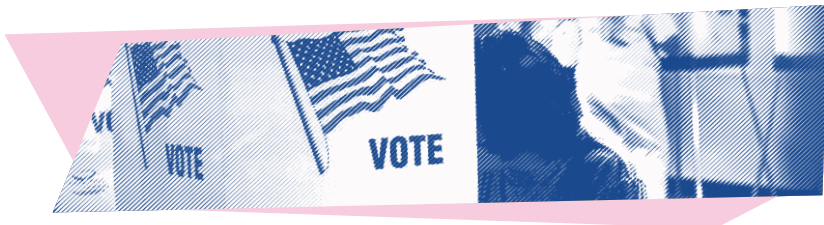


Note: Passed in 2022, the Missouri Voter ID Law (H.B. 1878, see RSMo. §115.427) eliminates previously accepted forms of identification, including university IDs, state IDs from other states, and voter registration cards. See the Missouri Secretary of State's website for examples of acceptable forms of government-issued photo ID.

If you do not possess any of these acceptable forms of photo identification, or a poll worker attempts to dispute the validity of your ID but you are a registered voter in Missouri, you can cast a provisional ballot.

Your ballot will count if: (1) you return to your polling place on Election Day with a qualifying photo ID; or (2) the signature on your provisional ballot envelope is determined by your local election authority to match the signature on your voter registration record. See RSMo. §115.427(3)(a). Make sure you sign the ballot envelope!

If you cast a provisional ballot, you will receive a stub from the envelope with instructions for verifying that your provisional ballot is counted. Make sure you ask the poll worker who provides it to explain the next steps. Then call or text [888-687-8683](tel:888-687-8683) to confirm that what they told you is accurate.



NON-DRIVER ID FOR VOTING PURPOSES

If you do not have identification for voting as outlined on the Secretary of State's website, you may request a non-driver ID for voting purposes at a Missouri license office in your area.

- You can enter your address or zip code to find a license office in your area here:

<https://dor.mo.gov/license-office-locator/>

To obtain a non-driver ID for voting purposes at one of the Missouri license offices:

- Request a non-driver ID for voting purposes;
- Provide documents verifying:
 - Full legal name, date of birth, place of birth;
 - Social security number (verbally or by presenting card); and
 - Missouri residence and mailing address, if different.

If you want to apply for a non-driver ID for voting purposes and you do not have the required verification documents, the Missouri Secretary of State's office is required to help you obtain the documents you need at no cost to you.

If you would like help obtaining the required documents, call [\(800\) 669-8683](tel:800-669-8683) or email elections@sos.mo.gov for assistance.

NAME TO MATCH ON VOTER REGISTRATION

The name on your photo ID must match the name on your voter registration. Missouri law requires that the name on your ID must “substantially conform” to the most recent signature in your voter registration record. See RSMo. §115.427(3)(a).

If this is not the case, you will need to go through the process of updating your name so that it matches on both documents before you are able to vote. You can update your name on your voter registration anytime, online or in person, including on election day at the polls.

HOW TO VOTE

Missouri allows limited mail-in voting as well as in-person “absentee,” or early voting. You can choose to vote on Election Day or during the in-person absentee voting period. You can apply to vote by absentee ballot if you meet certain conditions, such as being out of town or being sick on Election Day, or if you have a disability. Any Missourian can vote early in person without an excuse starting two weeks before Election Day.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

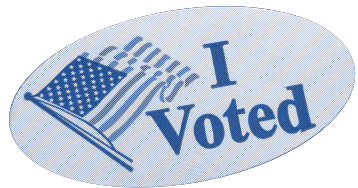
- In limited circumstances, if you face hardship in getting to the polls, you can vote absentee. Visit the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC)’s website for more information on the absentee voting process in Missouri:
<https://www.movpc.org/voting-before-election-day-in-missouri>
- When voting an absentee ballot in person, you must show an acceptable form of photo ID (see above). If you do not have a valid form of ID you can cast a blue provisional ballot.
- From the second Tuesday before an election to the day before the election, you may vote in person without providing an excuse at your local election office or satellite location they’ve designated.

- Check your local election authority for early voting locations in your county:
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/localelectionauthority>
- Locations for in-person absentee voting may be different than where you normally would vote on Election Day, so check with your local election authority to find where to vote by in-person absentee.
- You can also request a mail-in absentee ballot up to six weeks before the election from your local election authority.
- Find your local election authority on the Missouri Secretary of State's website:
<https://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/goVoteMissouri/localelectionauthority>
- Mail-in absentee ballots must be returned by mail or dropped off in person by the close of polls (7 pm) on Election Day.

It's important to request your absentee ballot as early as possible if you plan to vote by mail, so you don't run into delays.

If you experience trouble while voting, you can contact **1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)** for assistance or email the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC) at info@movpc.org.

You may also call the state of Missouri's toll-free election complaint information hotline at **1-800-669-8683**.



If you have any questions or concerns about this guide or if you would like to share your experience voting in Missouri as a TGNCI person, please contact the ACLU of Missouri at showmemyrights@aclu-mo.org.

Disclaimer: This document is intended to provide general information only and does not constitute legal advice. The provision of this guide does not create an attorney-client relationship.



ACLU Missouri