

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Voting should be straightforward, not stressful. This guide helps you navigate your polling place and shows you exactly where to get help if you need it. Most people are in and out without a hitch, but if you run into a snag, there's real-time help available to make sure your vote counts.

1. Bring The Correct ID

Texas law requires you to show one of seven acceptable forms of photo ID at the polls:

- Texas Driver's License
- Texas Personal ID Card
- U.S. Military ID Card (with photo)
- U.S. Passport (book or card)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate
- Texas Handgun License
- U.S. Citizenship Certificate (photo)

2. Stay In Line At Closing Time

If you are in line by 7:00 PM when the polls close, you are legally allowed to vote. Do not leave the line until you have cast your ballot. Poll workers are required to let everyone in line vote.

3. Fix A Mistake Before You Submit Your Ballot

Made a mistake? No problem. Before you cast your ballot, ask a poll worker for a new one so you can correct it.

4. Ask For A Paper Option If Machines Are Down

If voting machines are not working, you can ask for a paper ballot. Poll workers can help you understand your options.

5. Get Disability Accommodations If You Need Them

You deserve a voting experience that is accessible, private, and respectful. You cannot be turned away because of a disability, including an intellectual or mental health disability.

What Can You Expect?

- Accessible polling place: Polling places must be accessible. Curbside voting can help, but it does not replace ADA accessibility requirements.
- Accessible voting option: Every polling place should have at least one way for voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently.
- Reasonable accommodations: You can ask for what you need to vote. Tell a poll worker what would help.

Quick Requests You Can Make

- Need to sit? Ask for a chair or a place to rest.
- Need less noise or crowding? Ask for a quieter place to wait.
- Pathway not accessible? Ask for assistance and call the hotline to report the barrier.

Helpful Links

- ADA voting protections
 - <https://www.ada.gov/resources/protecting-voter-rights/>
- ADA polling place checklist
 - <https://www.ada.gov/resources/polling-places-checklist/>
- Voting with a disability
 - <https://vote.gov/guide-to-voting/disability>



6. Bring A Helper Or Use Language Support

If you need help because of a disability, or because you have difficulty reading or writing English, you can get in-person help from someone you trust.

- You are welcome to bring a family member, friend, or any other person you choose.
- Your helper cannot be your employer (or your employer's agent) or a union officer or agent.
- Your helper should respect your privacy. They should only look at your ballot if you ask them to.
- Poll workers may ask you to take a brief oath confirming you requested help, and your helper may be asked to sign a form.

Language Support

- If language makes voting easier, ask what support is available.
- Some counties are required to provide bilingual assistance for certain languages.
- In covered counties, you can request oral assistance from a bilingual poll worker and ask for voting materials, such as a ballot, in that language.

7. Use A Provisional Ballot If There Is A Registration Issue

Sometimes your name is not on the list. It happens, but it does not mean you are out of options.

- Ask the poll worker to double-check and spell your name out.
- Confirm you are at the right polling place. Poll workers may be able to check a statewide system or call the main election office.
- If it still is not resolved, ask for a provisional ballot.

What Is A Provisional Ballot?

A provisional ballot allows you to still vote. After Election Day, officials must investigate whether you were eligible and registered. If you were, they count it.

8. Need Help At The Polls?

If you have a question, run into an issue, or just want guidance, call the nonpartisan Election Protection Hotline. Trained volunteers can help you understand your options and what to do next.

- English: 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)
- Spanish: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (1-888-839-8682)
- Arabic: 1-844-YALLA-US (1-844-925-5287)
- Asian languages: 1-888-274-8683 (Bengali, Cantonese, Hindi, Urdu, Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese)
- Election Protection Hotline info (866ourvote.org)

