18 Years. 18 Rights.

Celebrate 18 Years with Us

1. Your Right to **Register**
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#1: Your Right to Register

Who can register, residency requirements, and same-day registration.

What it means

Who can register, residency requirements, and same-day registration.

If you are a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old by Election Day, and live in New Hampshire, you have the right to register to vote. New Hampshire also allows eligible voters to register on Election Day at their polling place.

Why it matters

Registering to vote is the first step to having your voice heard. If you are registered, you can participate in local, state, and federal elections that affect your daily life.

Take Action

- Check if you are registered.
- Gather documents that show your identity and where you live.
- Register before Election Day or at your polling place on Election Day if you are eligible.

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#1: Your Right to Register

Who can register, residency requirements, and same-day registration.

Take Action

What Documents Can You Use to Register to Vote?

In order to register to vote in NH, you must provide personal documentation that shows proof of identity, age, domicile (primary residence), and citizenship.

	Driver's License	Passport or Passport Card	Birth Certificate or Naturalization Papers	Tax Documents or Car Registration	**Signed Affidavit** (legally binding written statement you can sign when registering)
Identity	✅	✅	✅	❌	❌
Age	✅	✅	✅	❌	❌
Domicile	✅	❌	❌	✅	❌
Citizenship	❌	✅	✅	❌	✅

Note: Student ID's no longer serve as valid forms of voter identification

Need Help?

Contact your city or town clerk, the New Hampshire Secretary of State's office, or Disability Rights Center–NH if you need voting assistance.

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#2 Your Right to Vote at 18

What changes when you turn 18 and how to prepare for your first election.

What it means

This law means that anyone who is 18 years of age or older, including those who turn 18 on the day of the election, are eligible to vote.

Why it matters

If you are going to be 18 by the day of the election, you can still register to vote.

Take Action

- One practical step, such as checking deadlines, contacting your clerk, or learning more about eligibility.

Need Help?

Contact ABLE NH or your local election officials for nonpartisan assistance and information.

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#3 Your Right to Accessible Voting

What it means

Every voter has the right to vote privately and independently. Polling places must be accessible, and accessible voting equipment must be available for voters with disabilities.

Why it matters

Everyone deserves the opportunity to cast a ballot without unnecessary barriers.

Take Action

- Ask about accessible voting equipment before Election Day.
- Let election officials know if you need an accommodation.
- Report accessibility barriers.

Need Help?

Contact your local town clerk, Disability Rights Center–NH, or the Secretary of State's Office.

Omni Ballot Trainings: https://futureinsight.org/nhaccessiblevoting

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#4 Your Right to Request Assistance

What it means

If you need help voting because of a disability, blindness, or difficulty reading or writing, you have the right to ask for assistance. You may choose someone you trust to help you, as long as that person is not your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your union. You can also ask an election official to assist you. The person helping you must follow your choices and keep your vote private.

Why it matters

Needing assistance should never prevent you from voting. You have the right to make your own choices and receive the support you need to cast your ballot. The person assisting you cannot tell you who to vote for or make choices for you.

Take Action

When you arrive at the polls, tell the moderator that you would like assistance. You can bring someone you trust to help you or ask for an election official. You can also ask about the accessible voting system available at your polling place so you can vote independently and privately.

Need Help?

Contact your local town or city clerk, Disability Rights Center–NH, or the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office. If you believe your voting rights are being violated, you can contact the New Hampshire Attorney General's Election Law Unit at **1-866-868-3703**.

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#5 Your Right to Assistance While Voting

What it means

If you need help because of a disability or because you cannot read or write, you may choose someone you trust to help you vote (with limited legal exceptions).

Why it matters

You should never have to vote alone if you need assistance.

Take Action

- Decide who you would like to assist you.
- Tell election officials if you need help before entering the voting booth.

Need Help?

Ask a poll worker or contact the Disability Rights Center–NH for information about your rights.

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#6 Your Right to View a Sample Ballot

What it means

Before you vote, you can **look at a sample of the ballot you will see on Election Day**. This lets you review the candidates, offices, and ballot questions ahead of time.

Looking at your ballot before Election Day can help you:

- Know what to expect when you enter the voting booth.
- Take your time learning about the candidates and questions.
- Decide how you want to vote without feeling rushed.
- Ask questions or get information you need ahead of time.
- Feel more prepared and confident when you vote.

Remember:

You don't have to make your decisions for the first time while standing in the voting booth. You can prepare ahead of time.

ABLE Turns 18 Tip:

Preview your ballot. Make your choices. Be ready to vote.
SOS Sample Ballot

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#7 Your Right to Vote by Absentee Ballot (If Eligible)

What it means

Some New Hampshire voters may vote by absentee ballot if they meet the legal requirements, such as being absent from town or having a qualifying reason.

Why it matters

Absentee voting helps eligible voters participate even if they cannot vote at the polls.

Take Action

- Find out if you qualify.
- Request your absentee ballot early.
- Follow all instructions and return it on time.

Need Help?

Contact your local town or city clerk for absentee ballot information.

ABLE Turns 18 Tip:

Voting Absentee in New Hampshire

Sometimes getting to the polls on Election Day isn't possible. New Hampshire allows eligible voters to vote by absentee ballot, including people who cannot vote in person because of a disability or illness.

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#7 Your Right to Vote by Absentee Ballot (If Eligible)

Who Can Vote Absentee?

You may qualify to vote absentee if:

- You will be away from your town or city on Election Day.
- A **physical disability or illness** prevents you from voting in person.
- A religious observance prevents you from voting in person.
- Your work responsibilities, including caring for a child or an adult who is ill or has a disability, prevent you from voting while the polls are open.
- You are incarcerated for a misdemeanor or are awaiting trial and are otherwise eligible to vote.
- You qualify under certain protections related to domestic violence or address confidentiality.
- Severe weather conditions meet New Hampshire's requirements for absentee voting.

Important Change for 2026: Proving Your Identity

New Hampshire's absentee voting requirements have changed. Under **SB 287**, voters requesting an absentee ballot must verify their identity. Depending on how you request your ballot, you can do this by:

- Including a **copy of an acceptable photo ID** with your mailed absentee-ballot application
- Showing an acceptable photo ID **in person** to your town or city clerk or their designee,or
- Having your signature on the absentee-ballot application **notarized**.

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#7 Your Right to Vote by Absentee Ballot (If Eligible)

Registering to Vote Absentee

If you are eligible to register by absentee, contact your **town or city clerk** and request the absentee voter registration materials. New Hampshire now requires certain absentee registrants to provide documentation establishing their eligibility to register, which can include proof of:

Age: Examples include a driver's license, government-issued photo ID, or U.S. passport.

U.S. citizenship: Examples include a U.S. birth certificate, U.S. passport or passport card, or naturalization documents.

Identity: Examples include a driver's license, non-driver ID, government-issued photo ID, passport, U.S. Armed Services ID, or another acceptable form of identification.

New Hampshire domicile: Examples can include an NH driver's license or non-driver ID, vehicle registration, government document, benefit statement, tax document, lease, utility bill, or other acceptable documentation showing where you live.

If you are **already registered or were previously registered to vote in New Hampshire**, different documentation requirements may apply, including not having to prove age and citizenship again.

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#7 Your Right to Vote by Absentee Ballot (If Eligible)

Disability Access Matters

A disability that prevents you from voting in person can qualify you to vote absentee. You do **not** have to give up your right to vote because getting to or using a polling place is difficult.
If you need assistance completing or returning your absentee ballot, New Hampshire law also allows certain people to help.

How to Request Your Absentee Ballot

You can obtain an absentee-ballot application through your town or city clerk or the New Hampshire Secretary of State.
Don't wait until the last minute. Although New Hampshire permits absentee-ballot requests close to Election Day, mailing takes time both ways.
Your completed ballot must be received by your clerk by 5:00 p.m. on Election Day to be counted.

You can also vote absentee **in person at your town or city clerk's office** before Election Day if you qualify. **The in-person deadline is generally 5:00 p.m. the day before the election.**

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#7 Your Right to Vote by Absentee Ballot (If Eligible)

Returning Your Absentee Ballot

There are several ways an absentee ballot can be returned.

By mail: Mail it early enough to make sure your clerk receives it by the Election Day deadline. Election officials recommend allowing additional time for mail delivery.
In person: You can return your ballot directly to your town or city clerk.
Through an authorized delivery agent: In certain circumstances, another person may be permitted to return your absentee ballot for you. This can be particularly important for voters with disabilities who cannot return their own ballot.
A person assisting a voter with a disability may need to complete the appropriate absentee-ballot paperwork, and identification requirements can apply when a ballot is delivered.

ABLE Turns 18 Reminder

Having a disability does not take away your right to vote. If voting in person creates a barrier because of your disability, absentee voting may be an option. Because New Hampshire's voting laws have changed for 2026, **check the requirements early, gather any documents you need, and ask for assistance if you need it.** For official forms, deadlines, voter-registration information, and absentee-voting instructions, use the **New Hampshire Secretary of State's Elections Division**.

Request an Absentee Ballot — NH Secretary of State
https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/voters
Accessible Voting & Accessible Absentee Ballots

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#7 Your Right to Vote by Absentee Ballot (If Eligible)

Need Help?

Contact your local town or city clerk, Disability Rights Center–NH, or the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Election Division. The Secretary of State's website also provides information specifically for voters with disabilities.
NH Secretary of State — Voting with Disabilities
https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/voting-disabilities

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#8 Your Right to Bring Questions

What it means

You have the right to ask election officials questions about the voting process. Before Election Day, your town or city clerk can answer questions about voter registration, your polling place, absentee voting, and what you may need to bring. At the polls, election officials can explain voting procedures and how to use the voting equipment. They can also provide information about accessibility and assistance available to voters.

Why it matters

Voting rules and procedures can be confusing. You should not have to guess what to do or avoid voting because you are unsure about the process. Asking questions can help you understand your options and make sure you have the information and support you need to cast your own ballot.

Take Action

Make a list of your questions before Election Day. Contact your town or city clerk ahead of time if you have questions about registration, identification, accessibility, absentee voting, or your polling location. On Election Day, ask an election official if you need instructions or assistance.
NH Secretary of State — Voting With Disabilities
https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/voting-disabilities

Need Help?

Contact your local town or city clerk, the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office, or Disability Rights Center–NH if you have questions about your voting rights or accessibility.

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#9 Your Right to Understand Your Ballot

What it means

You have the right to receive clear instructions and ask questions about how to mark and submit your ballot before you vote.

Why it matters

Understanding your ballot helps ensure your vote counts the way you intended.

Take Action

- Read your sample ballot before Election Day.
- Ask a poll worker if you are unsure about the voting process.
- Take your time.

Need Help?

Ask a poll worker or your local clerk for assistance before casting your ballot.

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#10 Your Right to Have Your Ballot Count

What it means

When you are eligible to vote and follow the required voting procedures, you have the right to have your ballot counted. This includes following instructions for marking your ballot and, if voting absentee, completing the required absentee ballot materials and returning your ballot by the deadline. In New Hampshire, absentee ballots must generally be received by your town or city clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Why it matters

Your vote is your voice. Understanding the instructions and deadlines helps make sure your ballot can be accepted and counted. Voters with disabilities also have the right to assistance when completing an absentee ballot, and receiving assistance does not mean your vote should not count.

Take Action

Read the instructions before marking or returning your ballot. If you are unsure about something, ask an election official before submitting your ballot. If you vote absentee, return your ballot early enough to meet the deadline. You can also use New Hampshire's Voter Information Lookup to check whether your clerk received your absentee ballot.
NH Secretary of State — Absentee Ballots

Need Help?

Contact your local town or city clerk or the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office. Voters with disabilities can also find information about accessible voting, assistance, and accessible absentee voting through the Secretary of State.

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#11 Your Right to Report a Problem

What it means

If you experience intimidation, discrimination, accessibility problems, or believe election laws are not being followed, you have the right to report it.

Why it matters

Reporting problems helps protect fair and accessible elections for everyone.

Take Action

- Tell the moderator or election official immediately.
- Document what happened if possible.
- Contact the appropriate election authorities.

Need Help?

Contact the New Hampshire Attorney General's Election Law Unit or Disability Rights Center–NH.

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#12 Your Right to Vote Without Intimidation

What it means

You have the right to vote without being threatened, pressured, coerced, or intimidated. No one may use threats, force, intimidation, or deliberately false or misleading information to prevent you from registering, voting, or making your own choices on your ballot. New Hampshire law specifically prohibits voter intimidation and voter suppression.

Why it matters

Your vote belongs to you. No one — including a family member, caregiver, support person, or anyone else — should pressure you to vote for a particular candidate, tell you not to vote, or interfere with your ability to make your own voting decisions. Voters with disabilities have the same right to vote privately and independently as other voters.

Take Action

If someone threatens, intimidates, pressures, or tries to prevent you from voting, tell an election official at your polling place. You can also report suspected intimidation or other election-law violations to the **New Hampshire Attorney General's Office at 1-866-868-3703 (866-VOTER03)**.

NH Secretary of State — Election Integrity & Reporting a Complaint

Need Help?

If you experience an accessibility problem or believe your voting rights were violated because of your disability, contact **Disability Rights Center–NH's Election Day Hotline at 603-410-5200** to speak with an attorney free of charge.

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#13 Your Right to Learn About Candidates and Issues

What it means

You have the right to seek information about candidates, ballot questions, and elections from reliable sources before voting.

Why it matters

Being informed helps you make choices that reflect your own values and priorities.

Take Action

- Read trusted voter guides.
- Attend candidate forums or debates.
- Verify information before sharing it.

Need Help?

Visit your local election office or trusted nonpartisan voter information resources.

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#14 Your Right to Correct Problems

What it means

If there is a problem with your voter registration or another issue that could affect your ability to vote, ask an election official for help. In New Hampshire, the **Supervisors of the Checklist** are responsible for voter registration and correcting the voter checklist, and eligible voters can also register at the polls on Election Day.

Why it matters

A mistake or problem with your registration should not automatically stop you from asking questions or finding out whether it can be corrected. Knowing what to do ahead of time can help prevent problems on Election Day. This is especially important because New Hampshire's voter registration and identification requirements have changed for the 2026 elections.

Take Action

Check your voter information before Election Day. If something appears incorrect, contact your town or city clerk as soon as possible. If you encounter a problem at the polls, **do not leave without asking an election official what options are available to you.** If the issue involves disability access or assistance, explain what you need and ask for help.

Need Help?

Contact your local town or city clerk or the New Hampshire Secretary of State. If you have a disability and experience an accessibility problem or believe your voting rights have been violated, contact **Disability Rights Center–NH's Election Day Hotline at 603-410-5200**.

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#15 Your Right to Be Free from Intimidation

What it means

No one may threaten, pressure, or prevent you from voting because of who you are or how you choose to vote.

Why it matters

Voting should always be safe, respectful, and free from fear.

Take Action

- Report intimidation immediately.
- Stay calm and speak with an election official.
- Remember that your vote is private.

Need Help?

Contact the moderator, local election officials, or the New Hampshire Attorney General's Election Law Unit.

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#16 Your Right to Make Your Own Voting Decisions

What it means

Your vote is your choice. If you need assistance because of a disability, the person helping you must mark the ballot according to your instructions. They cannot tell you which candidate or issue to choose, and they must keep your choices private.

Why it matters

Getting help does not take away your right to make your own decisions. A family member, caregiver, support person, guardian, or other person cannot cast a vote based on how they think you would vote. Even when someone assists you, you decide how your ballot is marked.

Take Action

If you need help voting, tell the moderator at your polling place. You may ask for assistance from an election official or choose someone you trust, with limited exceptions under the law. Make sure the person helping you understands that you will make the voting decisions and they are there only to assist you.

Need Help?

If someone tries to make voting decisions for you, interferes with your choices, or you believe your disability voting rights have been violated, contact **Disability Rights Center–NH**. Its Election Day Hotline is **603-410-5200.**

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#17 Your Right to Have Your Voice Heard

Make your opinions known before, during, and after an election.

What it means

Your voice matters. Voting is one way to make your voice heard, but it's not the only way. You have the right to share your opinions with elected officials, attend public meetings, testify on bills, contact lawmakers, and advocate for issues that are important to you.

Why it matters

Decisions made by the government affect your everyday life, from health care and housing to transportation, education, and employment. When you speak up, you help leaders understand your experiences and the needs of your community. Every voice has value.

Take Action

- Vote in every election you are eligible to vote in.
- Contact your local, state, or federal elected officials.
- Attend town, school board, or city council meetings.
- Testify on legislation or submit written comments.
- Join an advocacy organization or community group.
- Encourage others to participate in civic life.

Need Help?

ABLE NH can help you learn how to contact elected officials, testify on legislation, understand the legislative process, and become an effective advocate. Your local town or city government can also provide information about public meetings and opportunities to participate.

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#18 Your Right to Participate

What it means

Your civic participation does not end after you vote. You can learn about issues that affect you, contact elected officials, attend public meetings and hearings, and share your views. In New Hampshire, members of the public can participate in many public hearings, including by providing testimony or written comments.

Why it matters

People with disabilities should be included in the decisions that affect their lives. Your experiences and ideas matter. When people with disabilities participate in government and advocacy, policymakers hear directly from the people who are affected by their decisions.

Take Action

Find an issue you care about and get involved. You can contact your elected officials, follow legislation, attend a public hearing, submit testimony, participate in your local government, or join an advocacy organization. The New Hampshire General Court provides schedules, bill information, and options for submitting testimony online.
https://gc.nh.gov/house/

Need Help?

If you need an accommodation to participate in a government meeting or civic activity, contact the organization or government body holding the meeting and ask about accessibility or accommodations. For disability-rights questions, Disability Rights Center–NH can also provide information and assistance.

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