

Virginia Voter Advocate Guide

What You Need:

Basics

In order to vote at the polls in Virginia, you will need to bring ONE (1) of the following documents to your polling place: It MUST contain your photograph. If not, you must vote provisionally, and deliver the required identification by noon on the Friday after the election (within 3 days). This photograph ID must be current:

- Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card
- Valid Virginia DMV-issued Veteran's ID card
- Valid United States Passport
- Other government-issued photo identification cards (must be issued by US Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth)
- Valid college or university student photo identification card (must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia)
- Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business or
- Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office

Name and Address Match Voter Registration Record

Check the Virginia State Board of Elections' website to confirm your name and address:
<http://sbe.virginia.gov/index.php/registration/view-your-info/>

"Cure" Period:

Q: What is the "cure period"?

A voter who arrives at the polling place without an acceptable form of photo identification will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification, including email, fax, and address of where the ID should be delivered in person or through USPS or commercial delivery service. A Friday postmark will not be sufficient if the copy of the ID is not delivered to the electoral board **by noon on the Friday after the election.**

Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be

provided to the electoral board to comply with the identification requirement. You can access the application for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card here:

<http://sbe.virginia.gov/Files/Forms/VoterForms/VoterPhotoIdApplication.pdf>

Absentee/Mail Voting

Virginia voters who wish to vote absentee in person or by mail must meet certain criteria. The reason code list can be found on the Absentee Ballot Application form:

http://www.longdistancevoter.org/files/voter_forms/virgina-absentee-ballot.pdf

Registered voters who want to vote absentee in person can fill out an Absentee Ballot Application at their local registrar's office within 45 days prior to the election in which they wish to vote. Voters must show an acceptable form of photo ID when applying. After completing the application, they will be allowed to vote absentee, in person, using a voting machine in the registrar's office.

Registered voters who wish to vote by mail can access the Absentee Ballot Application form here: http://www.longdistancevoter.org/files/voter_forms/virgina-absentee-ballot.pdf. The completed form must be returned to the local registrar, who will process the application and mail the ballot to the voter. The ballot must be returned to the local registrar by 7:00pm on Election Day.

Further details about absentee voting can be found here:

<http://sbe.virginia.gov/index.php/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/>

For military and overseas voters please refer to:

<http://sbe.virginia.gov/index.php/registration/military-overseas/>

Federal Law

Federal law, the Help America Vote Act, requires ID for first-time voters (defined as: registering to vote by mail; did not vote in a previous Federal election, or never voted in your county of residence in a Federal election). Visit the VoteRiders website for more detailed identification requirements:

http://www.voteriders.org/sites/default/files/VoteRiders-site-HAVA-1st-Time-Voters-03-2014_0.pdf

How To Get It:

Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card

The application for a free Virginia Voter Photo ID Card can be accessed here:
<https://www.sbe.virginia.gov/Files/Forms/VoterForms/VoterPhotoIdApplication.pdf>.

Completed applications are submitted to the voter's local Voter Registration office:
<http://sbe.virginia.gov/Files/VoterRegistration/Information/Physical-Registrar-Addresses-2014.pdf>

Virginia Driver's License/Identification Card Renewal

Visit your local DMV or order a replacement from the Virginia DMV website:
<http://www.dmv.state.va.us/drivers/#index.html>

US Passport Renewal

You may obtain a new passport by mail, or if needed sooner, visit a passport agency or passport acceptance facility. Please visit the US State Department website for further information: <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports.html>

Didn't find what you were looking for?

Virginia State Board of Elections:

Visit <http://sbe.virginia.gov> for general questions related to the above information.

(804) 864-8901

Toll Free: (800) 552-974

info@elections.virginia.gov

To find and contact your local registrar:

<https://voterinfo.sbe.virginia.gov/PublicSite/Public/FT2/PublicContactLookup.aspx>