



# Easy Voting How-To Guide: Your Vote Matters



# What is voting?

Having your voice heard.



## Can I Vote?

If you are:

- 18 years old or older.
- A citizen of the United States.
- Not a convicted felon (unless you are done with your sentence).
- Have not had your ability to vote taken away by a judge through guardianship.

# Guardianship

Do you have a guardian?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

Do you know if you have the right to vote?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know



# Things You Vote For or About

People who will make decisions that affect you:

- President
- Senator
- Representative
- Governor
- Mayor
- City Council
- School Board

Other things you vote for:

- Propositions [Laws]
- Constitutional Amendment [changes to the rules of the United States]

# How To Learn About Candidates

- Read the newspaper



- Watch TV



- Listen to the radio



- Ask friends and family



- Social media



# What's Important to You

To help you choose who to vote for,  
think about things that are important to  
you.

Are they:

- Where you live



- Jobs



- Transportation



- Healthcare





# Registering to Vote

Before you can vote in an election, you must register. You can ask for help to register.

Places you can register:

- Library



- Post Office



- Voter Registrars Office



# Voting By Mail



- People with disabilities and those over 65 can vote by mail.
- You must send a vote by mail application to your county voting clerk before each election or you can complete an annual application which you only do once per year.
- You can get a vote by mail application from your county voting clerk, the Secretary of State's Office, or Disability Rights Texas.
- Ask for help if you need it.



# On Voting Day



- Find a ride to your voting place.
- You will need to bring identification such as a state-issued drivers license or ID, state-issued election identification certificate, or voter registration certificate with a disability exemption to vote.
- Vote!



# Voting Rights



- You can bring someone with you to help.
- You can ask for a provisional [temporary] ballot if you are told you can't vote.
- Every polling place must be accessible to people with disabilities. They must also have an accessible voting booth.

# Voting Responsibilities

- Make sure you are registered to vote.
- Know the issues and the candidates.
- Ask questions if you need help.
- Be a role model as an educated voter.
- Help someone else learn to vote.
- Celebrate your choice and your voice.



# Disability Rights Texas Voter Hotline



If you have questions about your voting rights or need to report a problem voting, call 1-888-796-VOTE (8683) or e-mail [vote@drtx.org](mailto:vote@drtx.org).

Disability Rights Texas' goal is to make materials understandable by and useful to the general public. If you have suggestions on how this guide can be improved, please contact Disability Rights Texas at [info@disabilityrightstx.org](mailto:info@disabilityrightstx.org). Thank you for your assistance. This guide is available in Braille and/or on audio tape upon request. Disability Rights Texas strives to update its materials on an annual basis, and this guide is based upon the law at the time it was written. The law changes frequently and is subject to various interpretations by different courts. Future changes in the law may make some information in this guide inaccurate. The guide is not intended to and does not replace an attorney's advice or assistance based on your particular situation.

Disability Rights Texas  
2222 West Braker Lane  
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1-866-362-2851 (video phone)  
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