



VETERANS
FOR ★ VOTING

Accessible Voting Need-To-Knows Toolkit



Iowa Secretary of State

Accessible Voting in Iowa



Federal and state laws require polling places to be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Additionally, every polling place is equipped with a ballot marking device to allow persons with disabilities to vote privately and independently.

Voting with Assistance

If special assistance is needed, you may ask for help from a precinct election official at the polls, or you may have someone assist you. You may choose anyone except your employer, your employer's agent, or an officer/agent of your union.

You will be asked to sign a form stating that you asked for help. If you are not physically able to sign the forms, you can use a rubber stamp or mark to sign. You may also ask for assistance or have someone sign the reform on your behalf as long as it is in your presence and with your permission.

Curbside Voting

If you are unable to enter the polling place building, you may vote curbside. Two precinct election officials, one from each political party, will bring voting materials to you in your car, where you can then mark your ballot. Setting up curbside voting can be done either by contacting your county auditor's office or by having an able-bodied assistant ask inside the polling location.



Accessible Voting Machines

Each polling place has an accessible voting machine. These machines are available to assist voters with reading or marking their ballot. Features on the machine such as a touch screen, an audio component, and/or a sip and puff element to select their candidates. The device will mark their ballot according to their selection.

To find out which machine your county uses, please go to [**https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/covotesystem.pdf**](https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/covotesystem.pdf).

To watch a demonstration video of voter assist terminals, visit the [**sos.iowa.gov/disabilities website**](https://sos.iowa.gov/disabilities).

Voting with a Conservator of Guardian

Those who have a conservator or guardian can still vote unless a judge has specifically said in a court ruling that they may not vote.

Additional questions? Contact the Voter Hotline at **515-281-0145**. Help can also be found at [**elections@sos.iowa.gov**](mailto:elections@sos.iowa.gov).



Absentee Voting in Iowa



Voting at polls can present a unique set of challenges to people with disabilities. It is the intent of federal and state law to ensure that voters with disabilities are fully able to exercise their voting rights at the polls.

How can I vote absentee?

An absentee ballot may be requested by printing a request form from the **[sos.iowa.gov/disabilities website](https://sos.iowa.gov/disabilities)**. Once signed, mail the request form to your county auditor. An absentee ballot will be mailed to you. After you have completed your ballot, mail it back to your county auditor.

How can I vote absentee and in person?

Beginning 20 days before the General Election, you may vote in person at your county auditor's office. This might be helpful if you need a little extra time or personalized assistance. Some counties allow you to use satellite voting locations.



Find your
Auditor



Elections
Accessibility
Website

Election Day Voter Registration



You can register to vote on Election Day. You must prove who you are and where you live. Bring current identification with you to expedite the process.

Proof of ID

Driver's License

Nonoperator ID

US Passport

US Military ID

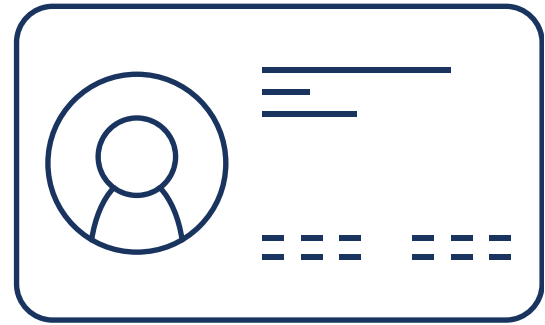
US Veteran ID

ID Card issued by your employer

Student ID issued by Iowa High School or College

Tribal ID card

Tribal document



Proof of Residence

If your Proof of ID doesn't list your current address***

Residential lease

Utility bill

Bank statement

Paycheck

Government check

Other government document

Property tax statement



Email Text



These emails can be sent to your members to share information on the upcoming November 4, 2025, city and school board elections to educate them on accessible voting in Iowa. The November 4 elections are specific to the counties, districts, and wards in which they are held. If members respond with questions about their accessible voting options in this election, direct them to their local auditor for specific information. A list of auditors can be found at - <https://sos.iowa.gov/auditors>.

Graphics can be found in the folder in both jpg and png format. Graphics can be mixed and matched with the messages or serve as inspiration for your own designs.

Text -

Dear Veteran!

The next election is just around the corner! Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate and (insert organization name) want you to know that 2025 is a city and school board election year. If you require assistance casting your ballot, there are several resources available to you. More information can be found online at the [**https://sos.iowa.gov/elections-voting**](https://sos.iowa.gov/elections-voting) website. Check with your local auditor for more information about accessible resources at your polling location. Veteran's for Voting is here to make sure you have all the tools needed to cast your ballot with confidence.

(Insert name of organization)

Dear Veteran!

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate and (insert organization name) want you to know that 2025 is a city and school board election year. These elections are just as important as presidential elections as they impact local leadership in schools and cities and are responsible for the implementation of public measures.

Check with your local auditor for more information on what will be on your ballot. Veterans for Voting is here to ensure that you have all the resources you need to cast your ballot with confidence.

(Insert name of organization)

Dear Veteran!

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate and (insert organization name) hope this email finds you well! Accessible voting is available to Iowa voters for **all elections**, not just presidential elections. If you require assistance in casting your vote, there are multiple tools available.

For more information visit **<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections-voting>**. Veterans for Voting needs you to show up and help support your community by casting your ballot. Vote to support your friends, your family, and your community.

(Insert name of organization)



Social Media Text

These posts can be scheduled for Facebook, Instagram, or X to share information for the upcoming November 4, 2025, city and school board elections. These elections are specific to the counties, districts, and wards in which they are held. If members respond with questions about their elections, direct them to their local auditor for specific information. A list of auditors can be found at - <https://sos.iowa.gov/auditors>.

Graphics can be found in the folder in both jpg and png format. Graphics can be mixed and matched with the messages or serve as inspiration for your own designs.

Text -

Vote for your friends, vote for your family, vote for your community! Veterans for Voting! Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate and (Insert organization name) want you to be aware that on November 4, 2025, there are City and School Board elections across Iowa. Accessible voting information can be found at <https://sos.iowa.gov/voters/elections-accessibility>.

Veterans for Voting! Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate and (Insert organization name) would like to make you aware of local school board and city elections near you during 2025! Contact your local auditor for more information on candidates, polling locations, and more. Contact the Secretary of State's office for more information about accessible voting options.

The Veterans for Voting initiative from the Iowa Secretary of State's Office and (Insert organization name) want you to vote in school board and city elections this November! For questions about accessible voting, visit

<https://sos.iowa.gov/voters/elections-accessibility>.

