FAQ About the 2018 Elections in Utah

2018 Utah Election Dates

Important Election Dates

- General Election: November 6, 2018
- Mail ballots are mailed to voters: Around October 16, 2018. Note: Some counties do not offer mail ballots except for absentee ballots which you must request from your county clerk’s office (click here to find your county clerk).
- In-person early voting: October 23, 2018 through November 2, 2018 Note: Early voting dates and times can vary by county. Please contact your county clerk’s office (click here to find your clerk) to learn the exact dates, locations and times for early voting.
- Mail ballot postmark deadline: On or before November 5, 2018 (the day before the Election)

1) Who Can Vote in Utah?

Can I vote in Utah?

- You can vote in the Tuesday, November 6, 2018 election if you’re registered to vote in Utah, or you can register in person on Election Day. However, you will be asked to vote by provisional ballot. (October 9, 2018, is the last day to register to vote by mailing in a registration form. October 30, 2018, is the last day to register to vote online or at your county clerk’s office.)
- You can register if you meet all of the following qualifications:
  (1) you’re a U.S. citizen;
  (2) you will have been a resident of Utah for at least 30 days on Election Day; and
  (3) you’ll be at least 18 years old on Election Day.

What if I’m a student?

- You can register to vote at whatever address you regard as your principal place of residence. This can be your school address or your home address.

What if I’ve been convicted of a crime?

- If you were convicted of a misdemeanor in Utah, you can vote, but you have to vote by absentee ballot if you’re still in jail.
- If you were convicted of a felony in Utah, you can vote if you’re not currently incarcerated.
- If you were convicted of a state or federal felony in another state, you can vote in Utah if your right to vote was restored in the state of your conviction.

What if I’m homeless?

- You don’t need a home to register, but you do have to identify a place of residence (which can be a street corner, a park, a shelter, or any other place where you usually stay). You also have to
identify a mailing address. You may want to use the address of a local advocacy organization, shelter, or outreach center, or anywhere else willing to accept mail on your behalf.

2) Where can I Register to Vote?

How do I register?

• (1) Beginning in 2018, the Utah Department of Motor Vehicles is initiating automatic voter registration that requires individuals who apply for, or renew their driver’s license, to choose whether to also be registered to vote.
• (2) in person, by filling out a voter registration form at your county clerk’s office;
• (3) by mail, by filling out a mail-in voter registration form and mailing it to your county clerk’s office; or
• (4) when you apply for services at the Driver’s License Division, Division of Workforce Services, Utah State Department of Health, Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Offices, the Division of Services for People with Disabilities, the Department of Rehabilitation, and public colleges and universities. You may also be able to register at many state and federal offices and agencies.
• (5) online if your address is current with the Driver License Division. If your address is not current with the Driver License Division, you may still use the online system but will be required to print the form, sign it and mail it in. https://secure.utah.gov/voterreg/index.html
• If you register in-person on Election Day, however you will be asked to vote by provisional ballot.
• You can get mail-in voter registration forms from your local elections office, from most libraries, colleges and high schools, or online at http://www.vote.utah.gov

Can I register to vote on Election Day?

• Yes, thanks to a bill passed by the Utah legislature in 2018 you can register to vote—and cast a ballot—on Election Day in every county in the state of Utah. After 11 years of advocating for Election Day Registration, the ACLU is glad to see this practice made permanent statewide.
• If you register to vote and cast a ballot on Election day, you will be asked to vote via a Provisional Ballot—but your vote will still count the same as all the other votes.
• Regular voter registration qualifications still apply. You can register if you meet all of the following qualifications:
  (1) you’re a U.S. citizen;
  (2) you will have been a resident of Utah for at least 30 days on Election Day; and
  (3) you’ll be at least 18 years old on Election Day.

What’s the registration deadline?

• If you register by mail, your registration form must be postmarked by October 9, 2018.
• If you register online or in person at your county clerk’s office, the deadline is October 30, 2018.

What if I miss the deadline?

• You can register to vote at the polls on Election Day or during the Early Voting Period, however you will be asked to vote by provisional ballot.
What if I've moved or changed my name?
- You have to re-register to vote every time you move or change your name.
- If you moved to Utah from another state and didn’t re-register, you can register in person during early voting or on Election Day. However, you will be asked to vote by provisional ballot.
- If you moved within Utah and didn’t re-register, you can cast a provisional ballot. Your ballot will be counted when election officials determine after the election that you were eligible to vote.
- If you moved after the deadline, call your county clerk’s office as soon as possible to find out where to vote.

How do I know if I’m registered?
- You can check your registration status online at http://vote.utah.gov/ or by calling your county clerk. In Salt Lake County, check here: https://slco.org/klk/elections/voter-info-look-up/

3) Can I Vote Early

Can I vote before Election Day?
- Yes. Any registered voter can vote before Election Day by casting an absentee ballot or by casting a ballot in person at an early voting center provided your county has early voting.

How do I vote early in person?
- The early voting period begins October 23, 2018 through November 2, 2018. Check your local newspaper or call your county clerk for the hours and location of an early voting center near you.

How do I get an absentee ballot?
- If you want your ballot to be mailed to you, you have to submit an application no later than October 30, 2018. You can get an application for an absentee ballot at your county clerk’s office or you can download one at http://vote.utah.gov/. If your application is approved, the ballot will be mailed to you. (This form must be submitted online at least 7 days before an election to be eligible to vote in that election. If this form is sent by mail, it must be postmarked at least 30 days before an election to be eligible to vote in that election.)
- You can also apply for an absentee ballot and vote your ballot in person at your county clerk’s office until the close of business on October 30, 2018.
- If you have any questions, please contact your county clerk’s office.

What’s the deadline for returning my absentee ballot?
- To be counted, your absentee ballot must be postmarked no later than November 5, 2018. You can also drop off a completed ballot at a polling location on Election Day.
4) How Do I Vote?

When is Election Day?
- Tuesday, November 6, 2018.

When are the polls open?
- Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You have the right to vote if you’re in line or inside your polling place when the polls close. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-1-302.

Can I get time off from work to vote?
- Maybe. If your work schedule would prevent you from voting in person while the polls are open, you have the right to take time off from work (up to two hours of which must be paid time off) in order to vote. You have to give your employer notice of your need to take time off, and your employer has the right to specify which hours you get to take. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-103.

Where do I vote?
- On Election Day, you have to vote at the polling place to which you’re assigned.
- Your assigned polling place will be listed on the voter instruction card that you should receive in the mail when you register.
- If you don’t have your card, you can call your county clerk’s office or look up your polling place online at http://vote.utah.gov/.

Can I take election materials with me into my polling place?
- Yes. You can take written or printed election materials with you as long as they’re for your own use in casting your ballot. Examples include a sample ballot, a voter guide, or this card. But you’re not allowed to show or distribute these materials to anyone else within 150 feet of your polling place, and you may not be allowed to wear campaign clothing, stickers, or buttons in your polling place unless you cover them up. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-501.

What if my polling place is not accessible?
- If you find this out before Election Day, call your county clerk right away and ask for an alternative accessible location. You have the right to an accessible polling place and an accessible voting machine. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-5-403.
- Otherwise, bring one or more people to assist you. You have the right to have anyone you choose help you as long as the person is not your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your labor union.

Can I get a ballot in my native language?
- If you vote in San Juan County, you have the right to assistance in Navajo and Ute languages. Poll workers are required to offer this assistance to you. If they don’t, tell a poll worker that you want assistance in one of these languages. You’re entitled to translation of all ballots and other election materials.
- If assistance in your language isn’t required where you vote, you have the right to bring an interpreter with you to the polls or to get assistance in your language from anyone you choose, including a poll worker, as long as the person is not your employer, an agent of your employer, or
an officer or agent of your labor union. A county may also choose to voluntarily provide election materials in languages other than English, such as Salt Lake County, which provides materials in Spanish.

What if I need help in the voting booth?
- If you need help because of a physical disability or because you can’t read the ballot, tell a poll worker when you get to your polling place. You have the right to vote on an accessible voting machine. You also have the right to have anyone you choose assist you in the voting booth, including a poll worker, as long as the person is not your employer, an agent of your employer, or an officer or agent of your labor union. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-108.
- If you need instructions on how to use the voting equipment, ask a poll worker for help. Poll workers are required to help you at any time you ask—even after you’ve entered the voting booth. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-109.

5) Do I Need an ID to Vote?

Do I have to show ID?
- Yes. ID is required by Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-104.

What are the accepted forms of ID?
Accepted forms of ID include:
- (1) a valid form of photo identification that shows your name, photograph, and current address—like a driver’s license or passport; or
- (2) two different forms of identification without a photo that show your name and current address—like a recent bank statement or a utility bill. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-1-102.
- [3] Additionally, each of the following is a valid form of ID for voting purposes: a valid United States military identification card, a Bureau of Indian Affairs card, or a tribal treaty card. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-1-102.

What if I don’t have any ID?
- Ask for a provisional ballot. You have the right to vote by provisional ballot even if you don’t have ID with you when you vote. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-105.5.

6) What are Common Problems with Voting and Elections?

What if I’m not on the voter list?
- First, ask a poll worker to check the list again and to confirm that you’re at the right polling place for your address.
- If you’re at the right polling place but your name isn’t on the voter list, ask for a provisional ballot. You have the right to cast a provisional ballot even if your name isn’t on the voter list. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-105.5.
What if I go to the wrong polling place?
- Go to the right polling place. You can ask a poll worker to help you find the polling place where you’re registered. You can also call your county clerk’s office or look up your polling place online using your home address at http://vote.utah.gov/.
- If you can’t figure out where you’re registered, go to the polling place that you think is most likely to be the right one for your address and ask for a provisional ballot. You have the right to cast a provisional ballot even if you’re not sure that you’re at the right polling place.

What if someone challenges my right to vote?
- If you bring an accepted form of ID with your current address, you may be able to resolve the challenge at the polling place and cast a regular ballot.
- If you can’t resolve the challenge, ask for a provisional ballot. Your provisional ballot will only be counted if election officials determine after the election that you were eligible to vote. Utah Code Ann. § 20A-3-202.

What if someone tries to intimidate or harass me?
- Tell a poll worker right away. If the poll worker is the problem, tell a poll watcher, call your county clerk’s office, call the national ACLU Voter Protection Hotline at (877) 523-2792 or one of the election hotline numbers listed at the end of this card, or make a complaint online at Utah Voting and Polling Place Intake Form.

What if I make a mistake on my ballot or the voting machine malfunctions?
- Tell a poll worker before you cast your vote. If your voting machine malfunctions, you can request a different machine.

7) How do I File a Complaint?
- First, ask for the person in charge of your polling place. He or she can handle most routine complaints that arise on Election Day. Candidates, political parties, and nonprofit groups may also have poll watchers at your polling place who might be able to assist you. If any of those people ask you who you voted for, or if they can’t resolve your complaint, call your county clerk’s office or the Lieutenant Governor.
- You can also call the national ACLU Voter Protection Hotline at (877) 523-2792, one of the election hotline numbers listed at the bottom of this page, or file a complaint online with the ACLU of Utah.

8) Who Can Help if I have Problems Registering or Voting?
- Contact your County Clerk (https://elections.utah.gov/election-resources/county-clerks)
- Contact the Lt. Governor’s Elections Office (https://elections.utah.gov, 800-995-VOTE)
- Contact the ACLU Voting Rights Project (https://action.aclu.org/legal-intake/voting-rights-complaint-form, 877-523-2792)
- Contact the ACLU of Utah (https://acluutah.org/component/k2/item/1032-submit-a-complaint-to-the-aclu-of-utah?Itemid=219, 801-521-9862 ext. 104 (Complaint line)