When Civil Rights Are Restored

In Minnesota, you cannot vote while serving a sentence as a result of a felony conviction. However, once the full sentence is completed — including parole and probation — commonly called "off paper," the right to vote is automatically restored.

- If you reside in Minnesota and are "off paper," you can vote. This is true even if your felony conviction was in another state.
- Do not register to vote before you have completed your sentence, even if you will be "off paper" by Election Day. It is a felony to register if your rights have not been restored.
- In Minnesota you can register to vote on Election Day if you have not pre-registered.
- Even if you are "off paper," the county elections office may not have been notified that your civil rights have been restored. In this case, there may be a note on the list of voters at the polling place directing the election judge to challenge your eligibility to vote. If so, explain that you have completed your sentence and your civil rights have been restored. The election judge may require you to swear an oath that your rights have been restored, but then should allow you to vote.

Registration Options:

Pre-register

If possible, pre-register to vote. This will allow problems to be brought to your attention before Election Day. Register as far in advance as possible. The deadline for pre-registration is Tuesday, October 16.

Election Day Registration

If you did not pre-register to vote, don't worry! You can still register or update your registration on Election Day. You must provide one of the following proofs of residence when registering to vote on Election Day:

Accepted proofs of residence:

- A valid Minnesota driver's license, Minnesota ID card, or permit with current address.
- A photo ID that does not have your current address <u>along with</u> a document that does have your current address.

Eligible photo IDs:
Minnesota driver's license, Minnesota ID card, U.S. passport, U.S. military ID card, Minnesota college/ university student ID card, or tribal ID with your signature issued by a tribe recognized by Bureau of Indian Affairs ("BIA").

Eligible documents with current address:
Current student fee statement, an original utility bill due 30 days before or after the election, or a rent statement that shows utility expenses. Eligible utility bills: gas, electric, solid waste, water, sewer, phone, cell phone, television, or internet service provider.

- A student ID card that includes your photo (valid if your college/university provided a student housing list to election officials).
- A yellow receipt for a valid Minnesota driver's license, Minnesota ID card, or permit with current address.
- Vouching: a registered voter in your precinct who will confirm your address with a signed oath at your polling place.
- A tribal ID card containing your name, current address, signature and photo (tribe must be recognized by the BIA).
- A "Notice of Late Registration" you receive from your county auditor or city clerk.
- If you moved to a new residence within your same precinct or changed your name, a current voter registration in the precinct.
- Vouching: an employee of a residential facility where you reside (nursing home, group home, battered women's shelter, homeless shelter, etc.) who will confirm your address with a signed oath at your polling place.

This document is available in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities.

Office of the Secretary of State
State of Minnesota

180 State Office Bldg.
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651- 215-1440
Toll Free: 1-877-600-8683
Minnesota Relay Service: 1-800-627-3529
E-mail: elections.dept@state.mn.us.
Web site: mnvotes.org