

# Proof of Residence for Voter Registration

Information provided by the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

## What do I need to know about Proof of Residence for Voter Registration?

### Proof of Residence is NOT Photo ID

- Proof of Residence and Photo ID are two separate processes. A Proof of Residence document is a document that proves where you live in Wisconsin and is only used when registering.
- You only provide a Proof of Residence document when you are registering to vote. Photo ID is separate, you show Photo ID to prove who you are when you request an absentee ballot or a ballot at the polls.

## When do I have to provide Proof of Residence?

### All voter must provide Proof of Residence

- All voters MUST provide a Proof of Residence Document. If you register to vote by mail, in-person in your clerk's office, with a Special Registration Deputy, or at the polls on Election Day, you need to provide a Proof of Residence document.

\*If you are an active military voter, or a permanent overseas voter (with no intent to return to the U.S.) you do not need to provide a Proof of Residence document.

## What documents can I use as Proof of Residence for registering?

### You can use these documents as Proof of Residence.

This is not a comprehensive list, but categories of the most common types used by voters.

**All Proof of Residence documents must include the voter's name and current residential address.**

- A current and valid Wisconsin driver license or Wisconsin state identification card.
- Any other official identification card or license issued by a Wisconsin governmental body or unit.
- Any identification card issued by an employer in the normal course of business and bearing a photo of the card holder, but not including a business card.
- A real estate tax bill or receipt for the current year or the year preceding the date of the election.
- A university, college, or technical college identification card (must include photo) ONLY if the voter provides a fee receipt dated within the last 9 months or the institution provides a certified housing list to the municipal clerk.
- A gas, electric, or telephone service statement (utility bill) for the period commencing no earlier than 90 days before Election Day.
- Bank statement.
- Paycheck.
- A check or other document issued by a unit of government.
- An affidavit on public or private social service agency letterhead identifying a homeless voter and describing the individual's residence for voting purposes.
- Residential lease that is effective on date of registration. (Not valid if registering by mail.)

## Will my WI Driver License or WI State ID Card work as Proof of Residence?

### You can use a WI Driver License/ID if:

Only a current and valid (unexpired and not suspended or revoked) Wisconsin driver license or Wisconsin state ID card with the voter's current name and address qualifies as **Proof of Residence**.

## How do I present my Proof of Residence Document?

### Present paper or Electronic copies

You may present your Proof of Residence document as a hard copy, paper document or an electronic document on your smartphone, tablet, or computer. An internet connection will not be provided for your use.

For detailed information about the Voter Photo ID law, visit [bringit.wi.gov](http://bringit.wi.gov).

For other information on the Government Accountability Board, visit <http://gab.wi.gov> or call the G.A.B. Help Desk at 608-261-2028.

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### What are examples of government agencies who can issue a Proof of Residence document?

**These are some units of government that can issue Proof of Residence:**

**THIS IS NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LIST. THESE ARE ONLY EXAMPLES OF UNITS OF GOVERNMENT.**

Government agencies can include local, state, or federal units of government.

- Local units of government include: city, town or village clerk or treasurer's office, your county clerk or treasurer, and many others.
- State units of government include: Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV or DOT), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Workforce Development (DWD), Department of Human Services (DHS), and many others.
- Federal units of government include: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Medicare (not second party vendors), Social Security, and many others.

### What are examples of Proof of Residence document issued by a government agency?

**These are some documents issued by units of government that can be used as Proof of Residence:**

**THIS IS NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LIST. THESE ARE ONLY EXAMPLES OF PROOF OF RESIDENCE DOCUMENTS.**

- Fishing and hunting licenses
- Vehicle registrations
- Food stamps, Wisconsin Works, Wisconsin Shares, and BadgerCare notices and correspondence
- Medicare notices and Medicare Explanation of Benefits (not from 2<sup>nd</sup> party providers or other health insurance providers)
- Social Security and SSI notices and benefits statements
- Public high school, technical college, and public university correspondence and documents, including: admissions correspondence, financial aid notices, report cards, and schedules
- Federal student loan correspondence and notices
- Billing statements and collection notices from a governmental entity
- Correspondence from a federally recognized Native American Tribe living in Wisconsin.

### What if I am unsure if my document will count as Proof of Residence?

**If you aren't sure about your documents, call:**

**If you are unsure if your document will qualify as acceptable Proof of Residence, please call:**

- Your municipal clerk, contact information can be found at <http://myvote.wi.gov>
- The Government Accountability Board: 1-866-VOTE-WIS or [gab@wi.gov](mailto:gab@wi.gov)

**REMEMBER: Acceptable Proof of Residence documents must always include the voter's name and current address.**

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