

Voter ID

North Carolina's Photo ID Requirements to Vote



What Does the Law Mean?

You need to show an NC driver's license or other "acceptable photo ID" to vote with a regular ballot.

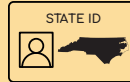
Acceptable IDs

NC Driver's License



- Must NOT be expired OR expired for 1 year or less

Non-Driver's ID From NC DMV



- Must NOT be expired OR expired for 1 year or less

U.S. Passport or Passport Card



- Must NOT be expired OR expired for 1 year or less

Driver's License or Non-Driver ID From A State, Washington DC or U.S. Territory



- Only if voter registered in North Carolina within 90 days of the election.
- Must NOT be expired OR expired for 1 year or less

State or Local Government or Charter School Employee ID Approved by the NCSBE.



- Must NOT be expired OR expired for 1 year or less.

College or University Student ID Approved by the NCSBE.



- Must NOT be expired OR expired for 1 year or less

NC Voter Photo ID Card (free, issued by a county board of elections)



- Voter must provide name, DOB, and the last 4 numbers of their SSN, and have their photo taken
- Must NOT be expired OR expired for 1 year or less

Tribal Enrollment Card



- Must be issued by tribe recognized by NC or federal government.
- May be expired or have no expiration date

Military or Veteran ID Card Issued by the U.S. Government



- May be expired or have no expiration date

Public Assistance Program ID Card Issued by NC or U.S. Government



- May be expired or have no expiration date

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What Else Do I Need to Know?

- A voter 65 or older may use an expired form of acceptable ID if the ID was unexpired on their 65th birthday – it's good for life!
- The address on your ID does not matter to vote – the law says ID is only used to prove who you are, not where you live. (Make sure your voter registration matches your current address!)
- Mail-in absentee voters now need to include in their ballot return envelope either (1) a photocopy of their photo ID or (2) an ID exception form saying they are unable to attach a copy of photo ID. Visit [gotidnc.org](https://www.gotidnc.org) for real time updates.

IMPORTANT! If you forgot to bring your acceptable photo ID, **you can vote a provisional ballot, and you must take an acceptable ID to your county elections board by the day before election results are certified** (*county canvass day, the second Thursday after the Primary and General Election Days*). If you don't have an acceptable ID (whether voting in person or by mail), **you can request and fill out an ID Exception Form** (*also known as a reasonable impediment form*) and vote a provisional ballot.



DEMOCRACY NC

Check for more information and resources at www.gotidnc.org OR text or call the **voter assistance hotline** at **888-OUR-VOTE**

(Resource updated as of February 2026)

