

Voting – A Brief Guide for the Entire UW Community

All members of the UW-Madison community – faculty, students, employees (both permanent and student) - can learn these key points and help inform students. Do you like mnemonics? C-H-A-I-R.

1) Choose where to vote

University students in Wisconsin can vote from **ONE** address: **EITHER** a campus address, **OR** a home address in Wisconsin or another state.

Vote from your campus address. Once a student has established residency at a campus address, the student may vote using the student's campus address until the student establishes a new voting residence. You can vote at your campus-area polling place. You will need to register each time you move.

Alternatively, vote from your home address. A student may register to vote from a home address (in Wisconsin or another state) if the student has not yet registered to vote from a campus address. This may be a good option for those eligible for online registration and who plan to vote via absentee ballot.

2) Registration

Wisconsin voters can register to vote at MyVote.wi.gov. Online and mail-in registration closes 20 days before each election. Voters can also register at their polling place on Election Day, but are strongly encouraged to register beforehand. 2018 Wisconsin election dates are February 20, April 3, August 14, November 6, and are on the UW calendar at <http://today.wisc.edu/events/tag/vote>. You must be 18 and a U.S. citizen to register and vote.

3) Absentee Ballot

Wisconsin registered voters can use MyVote.wi.gov to request an absentee ballot. While making the request, you will need to upload a picture of acceptable voter ID. Another option is to contact the clerk for the municipality where the voter is registered.

4) ID for Voting

The standard Wiscard is not acceptable. A student can take their Wiscard to the Wiscard office at Union South to get a special student voting ID card. When using this card to vote, you must also show proof of enrollment, such as the document from go.wisc.edu/verify.

Other acceptable ID's are a Wisconsin driver license, WI DOT-issued ID card, passport, tribal ID, military ID, or naturalization papers. See MyVote.wi.gov for details on expired ID's.

5) Help – For Further Information

- a) vote.wisc.edu – A UW-Madison website with detailed information.
- b) Myvote.wi.gov – Wisconsin voters - check to see if you are registered at your current address, find your polling place, find contact information for your municipal clerk, and see what's on your ballot.
- c) Get help from the Vote Everywhere Ambassadors in the Morgridge Center.
- d) Voters who are registering in their home state outside of Wisconsin can Google "secretary of state for the state of xxx". Many states have deadlines approximately 30 days before the election.

"One of our missions as an American educational institution is to prepare and encourage everyone who passes through the university to be an active, engaged citizen. Voting is one important aspect of this. It is essential to our democratic form of government and a responsibility that comes with citizenship." – Blog of UW-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank, January 29, 2016