



Voting Resources for LGBTQIA+ Students



Guide to Voting in Florida While Trans, Nonbinary, or Gender Nonconforming

What if I don't look like my ID photo anymore?

What if I changed my name since I last
registered to vote?

What happens if the poll worker still isn't letting
me vote?



Questions or concerns about voting, identification, or other civic
engagement matters? Contact vote@ringling.edu





EQUALITY FLORIDA
TRANSACTION
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TRANSGENDER

VOTER I.D. TOOLKIT

Florida is an “identification required” state, but know your rights to ensure that you are treated with respect and dignity at the polls. Your vote counts more than ever this year, so be sure you have the knowledge to make your voice heard and your vote count!

Identification Requirements to Cast a Ballot

To vote a regular ballot, the Florida clerk or inspector requires each elector, upon entering the polling place, to present one of the following current and valid picture identifications:

- Florida driver license;
- Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles;
- United States passport;
- Debit or credit card;
- Military identification;
- Student identification;
- Retirement center identification;
- Neighborhood association identification;
- Public assistance identification;
- Public assistance identification;
- Veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs;
- A license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or
- Employee identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality.

Note: If the picture identification does not contain the signature of the voter, an additional identification that provides the voter's signature shall be required. If the voter fails to furnish the required identification, the voter shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.



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Checklist For Election Day

- If ID is required in your state, bring it. It is also helpful to bring your voter registration card, a utility bill showing the address where you are registered, and this one-pager. You might also want to bring other IDs if you have them available.
- If poll workers question your identity or eligibility to vote, show them the utility bill and the info for poll workers below.
- If you are still not allowed to vote, look for a volunteer attorney at the polling place who may be there assisting voters who are being told they cannot vote. If no one is around, then call the National Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683) for help.
- If you are still not allowed to vote on a regular ballot, request a provisional ballot. If you are forced to use a provisional ballot, ask for follow-up instructions, as you generally must return to election officials within a few days to prove your identity in order for your ballot to be counted. If you cast a provisional ballot, call the National Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683), which can help you make sure your ballot is counted.

Information For Poll Workers And Election Officials

The voter you are talking to is transgender, meaning that their gender identity is different than the gender that was recorded on their birth certificate. Transgender people may not have been able to update their IDs to reflect their identity for a number of reasons. This is not illegal. As long as the relevant voter data (usually the name and address) matches one of the acceptable forms of ID, the voter has the right to vote. Please do not be distracted by gender presentation when you are evaluating a voter's identity and eligibility to vote.

Here is other information that might be useful to you:

- **Gender discrepancies on ID are not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot.** Transgender voters may have ID that indicates a different gender than what they look like. They may not have had the opportunity to update their ID yet, or may not be able to do so in your state. This does not mean their ID is invalid or fraudulent for voting.
- Different clothing, makeup or hairstyle on an ID photo is not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot. Voters may look different today than on their photo ID for many reasons. The photo on an ID may show a different gender presentation. **As long as you can identify the voter from their picture, the ID is valid for voting.**
- A voter's transgender status and medical history is private. Although you may be curious or confused about a voter's appearance, asking personal questions is offensive, inappropriate, and not relevant to their right to vote.
- **Transgender voters are not doing anything wrong or trying to deceive you—they are just being themselves.** Transgender people have the right to vote just like everyone else, and it is your responsibility to ensure they are able to do so without hassle. If confusion about this person's right to vote persists, please speak to an election supervisor or election judge in your area to resolve any remaining questions.

Voting Rights

TRANSGENDER VOTING GUIDE: FOR VOTER

During election season, eligible Floridians may vote at their precinct on Election Day, or they may choose to vote by mail or vote in-person during early voting in their respective counties. No excuse need be provided to vote by mail or during early voting. Consider voting early in-person or voting by mail to avoid long lines and crowded precincts on Election Day.

WAYS YOU CAN VOTE

Vote by Mail

- Voting by mail may be the safest option for many during this election cycle. You can request a vote by mail ballot to be mailed to you by 5 p.m. October 24. You can submit a request online through your Supervisor of Elections website (dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors). A vote by mail ballot can also be picked up until the 7 p.m. deadline on Election Day either by the voter or a designee.
- Your Supervisor of Elections must receive your ballot by 7 p.m. on Election Day. You can mail your ballot or drop it off in person at the Supervisor of Elections office, any early voting site or other designated drop sites. If you choose to mail it, to ensure your ballot is received by Election Day, please mail it at least two weeks in advance. Your vote-by-mail ballot will list the drop off sites.

Early Voting

- Early voting begins statewide in Florida on October 24 and runs through October 31. Some counties begin early voting as early as October 19. You can find early voting locations through your county Supervisor of Elections website (dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors). You can vote at any early vote site in your county during the early voting period. You will need to present an acceptable form of ID to vote early.

Election Day

- You can also vote at your precinct on Election Day. Polls are open from 7am to 7pm. Double-check your polling place on your county Supervisor of Elections website or your Voter Information Card. Anyone standing in line to vote at 7pm must be allowed to vote. You will need to present an acceptable form of ID to vote on Election Day.

ID REQUIREMENTS

During early voting or on Election Day, all voters must present a photo ID with signature. Your gender identity or presentation need not match your name, photo, or gender-marker. If you can update your photo ID, try to update it to lessen the risk of encountering confusion when you arrive at the polls. Alternatively, you may bring an additional ID OR utility bill with you to lessen the risk of any confusion at the polls.

If you are a college or graduate student, you can register to vote at either your school address or previous permanent address. Student IDs may display a more recent photo, no gender-marker, and are typically cheaper to replace or update than other forms of ID.

You may present any of the following acceptable photo identifications:

- Florida driver's license;
- Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles;
- United States passport;
- Debit or credit card;
- Military identification;
- Student identification;
- Retirement center identification;
- Neighborhood association identification;
- Public assistance identification;
- Veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs;
- License to carry a concealed weapon or firearm;
- Employee identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality.

Voting Rights

TRANSGENDER VOTING GUIDE: FOR VOTER

ISSUES YOU MAY ENCOUNTER

- If a poll worker questions your eligibility to vote, show them your additional ID and utility bill. You may also show them the other version of this guide addressed to poll workers. It will inform the poll worker that your photo ID's gender-marker and your gender expression and/or identity need not match for you to vote.
- If the poll worker still denies you the right to vote, ask for a provisional ballot and follow-up instructions. You may also call the Election Protection Hotline for help at the following hotlines:

- English: 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)
- Spanish: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (1-888-839-8682)
- Asian languages: 1-888-API-VOTE (1-888-274-8683)
- Arabic: 1-844-YALLA-US (1-844-418-1682)
- ASL (video call): 1-301-818-VOTE (1-301-818-8683)

CALL YOUR LOCAL ELECTION OFFICE

- If you have any unanswered questions, call or visit your county's supervisor of elections office. You can additionally ask them to confirm whether your ID is sufficient to vote.
- You can find your county's supervisor of elections through your county's supervisor of elections' website (dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors).



Voting Rights

TRANSGENDER VOTING GUIDE: FOR POLLWORKER

- The voter you are speaking with is transgender, meaning their gender identity differs from their assigned birth-sex. The way they express their gender incorporates characteristics that may be viewed as feminine, masculine, a mix of both, or neither.
- The gender-marker on the voter's ID may not reflect their gender identity and/or expression. For example, the voter may be wearing different clothing and makeup, and have their hair styled differently than what is presented on their photo ID. *This is not illegal and not a valid reason to deny them a regular ballot.* If all other legal requirements are met, this voter is entitled to vote.
- Please do not assume whether the voter is male or female, or to ask them for their "real" name. Use the name the voter prefers.
- Being transgender is not dependent on any medical procedures. Medical history is private information about which you should refrain from asking.
- As long as you can identify the voter from their photo ID, they have met the ID requirements even if their gender presentation or expression seems different from their photo ID.

