

Tips for Registering Voters in Monroe County, Indiana

Prepared by the League of Women Voters of Bloomington-Monroe County August 30, 2021

Voters can register themselves and anyone (whether a registered voter or not) can help people register to vote.

To register, one must:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be at least 18 years old on or before the next general, municipal or special election. (A 16-year-old may register and vote in the primary election if the voter turns 18 on or before the next general or municipal election.)
- Have lived in the voting precinct for at least 30 days before the next general, municipal, or special election.
- Not be currently imprisoned after being convicted of a crime.

The best way to assure that the voter's information is entered accurately and promptly is for the voter to register online at https://indianavoters.in.gov. Anyone who has an Indiana driver's license or Indiana state identification card can register through this site.

If online registration is not convenient, the voter registration application prepared by the U.S. government can be downloaded (https://tinyurl.com/h748ry7c) and the application form (pg. 4) printed. Paper copies are also available at Voter Registration (401 W. 7th Street, Suite 100, Bloomington).

The applicant MUST check the boxes to answer the questions on citizenship and age (being 18 or older on Election Day counts as "yes"). Some questions on the form may need a little explanation:

- Question 2: Home address: Where the voter sleeps at night. Be sure to include an apartment/room number if there is one.
- Question 3: Address where the voter wants to receive mail if different from above: This could be where the parents' address or a shelter for a person without housing.
- Question 5: Telephone number: Optional, but very helpful if there are any questions about the application.
- Question 6: ID number: Indiana driver's license or state identification number. If neither is available, use the last four digits of the Social Security number.
- Question 7: Choice of party: Indiana does not require this and the information will be ignored.
- Question 8: Race or ethnic group: Indiana does not require this and the information will be ignored.

Applicant must sign and date the application. If the applicant's name or place of registration has changed, the old information goes in sections A and/or B on the form.

Completed applications must be returned to Voter Registration (401 W. 7th Street, Suite 100, Bloomington) within 10 days.

Voter Registration will send a postcard to the applicant to confirm their address. Registration generally takes about 10 days to two weeks.

Anyone can check their registration status online at https://indianavoters.in.gov.

Anyone who votes in person (early or at the polls) will need an ID issued by the U.S. or Indiana government. A U.S. passport, Indiana driver's license, or ID from a state university are examples. The ID must include:

- The voter's name (The ID name must "conform" to the name on the registration. They may vary in fullness of the name, use of initials, etc., but should be recognizably the same.)
- The voter's photograph
- An expiration date that is after the date of the last general election

Voter Registration can help with any questions: 401 W 7th St., Suite 100 Bloomington, IN 47404 812-349-2690