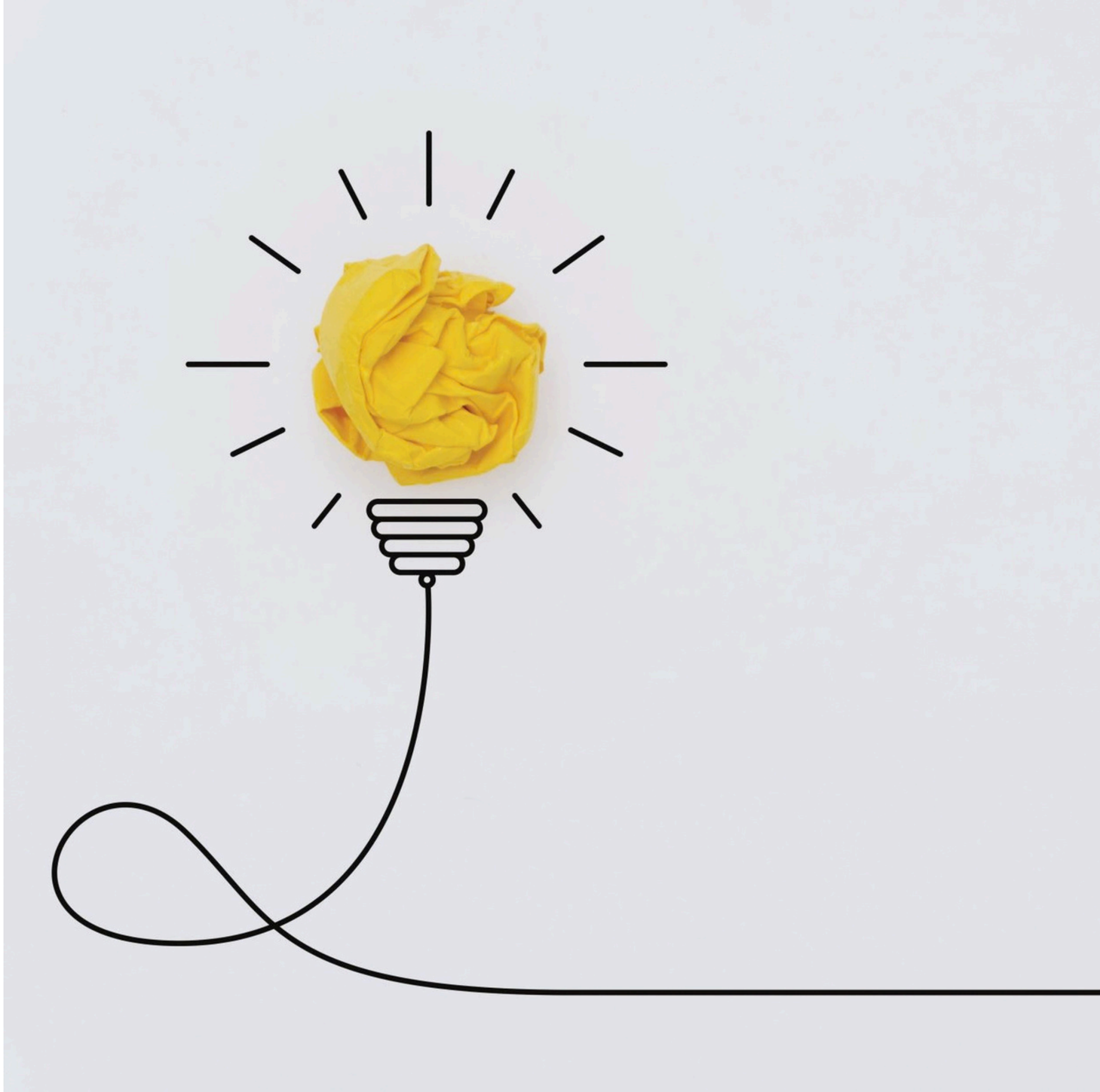
The Voting Power of The Disability Community

2026 Elections



REV UP!

Imagine the power of **1,001,956 people with disabilities** voting in Minnesota



Overview



- Voter Registration
- Voting Methods
- Voter Rights and Accessibility
- Candidate Forums & Voter Engagement
- Election Process & Election Calendar



Voter Registration

How & When to Register to Vote
Same-Day Registration
Automatic Registration
Inactive Voter Status & How to Reactivate
Checking Registration Status

How to Register to Vote

Paper Registration

- Print and complete your registration
- Mail or drop off your registration in-person to your county election office
- Large print and alternative languages are also available

Online Registration

- Quick & easy five-step process
- Each step must be completed within 10 minutes, or you will have to begin again from Step 1

Same Day Registration

To register in-person, you must bring:

- A valid ID with current name and address
- A photo ID and a document with your current name and address

When Do I Register to Vote?

In Minnesota, you can **register to vote early,** or you can **register to vote on Election Day**.

Voter registration closes 21 days before Election Day.

- Online Registration Deadline: 11:59 pm 21 days before the election
- Paper Registration Deadline: 5:00 pm 21 days before the election

  If you register past the deadline, you will receive a **Notice of Late Registration**.
- Bring this to the polls to use as proof of residence to register.



2026 Elections

2026 Minnesota State Primary

- **JUNE 26 – AUGUST 10**
  - Vote early by mail or in-person
- **JULY 21**
  - Deadline to register in advance
- **AUGUST 11**
  - PRIMARY ELECTION

2026 General Election

SEPTEMBER 18 – NOVEMBER 2

- Vote early by mail or in-person
- **OCTOBER 13**
  - Deadline to register in advance
- **NOVEMBER 3**
  - ELECTION DAY

Same-Day Registration

To register on Election Day, you must provide **PROOF OF RESIDENCE:**

Same Day Registration

ID with Current Name and Address

- Valid MN Driver's License
- Valid MN Driver's Permit
- Valid MN State ID
- Receipt for one of the above
- Tribal ID with name, address, photo, and signature

One Photo ID AND One Document with Current Name & Address

Approved Photo IDs*:

- Driver's License
- U.S. Passport
- U.S. Military or Veteran ID
- Tribal ID
- MN Collegiate ID
- MN high school ID

Approved Documents:

- Residential Lease (Must be valid through Election Day)
- Current Student Fee Statement

  Bill for one of the following:*
- Phone/TV/Internet
- Trash/Electric/Sewer/Water/Gas
- Banking / Credit Card State

Automatic Voter Registration

Individuals will **automatically be registered to vote*** when **applying for an instructional permit, driver's license or state ID.**

Upon approval by the federal government, **individuals applying for public health programs** will be automatically registered to vote.

This change will make it easier for Minnesotans to vote and will improve the process of updating voter rolls.

Minnesotans will be able to opt-out of registering to vote within 20 days of their registration being processed.

Checking your Registration Status

Find your Minnesota Voter Registration

You are registered to vote!	You will receive instructions for next steps to start or complete your voter registration.
You are not yet registered to vote!	You will You will receive a confirmation message and additional information about voting.

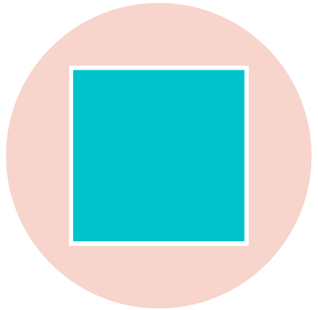
The voter registration website is updated nightly.
It can take up to 14 days for your application to be processed.
Your registration status will appear on the website the day after it is processed.



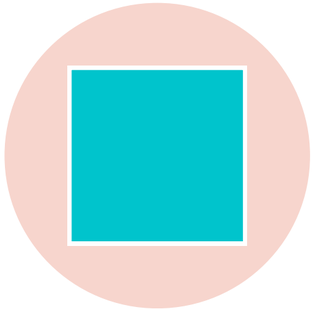
Voting Methods

Voting by Mail (Absentee)
Agent Delivery
Curbside Voting
In-Person Voting

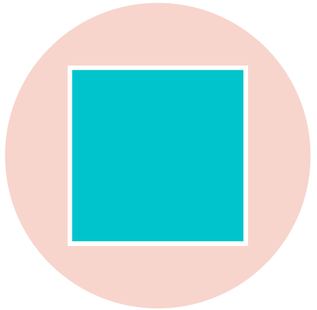
Voting Methods: What are my options?



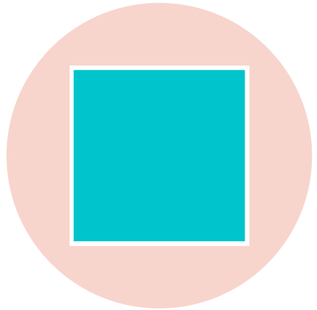
By Mail (absentee ballot)



Agent Delivery



Curbside Voting



In-Person

Voting By Mail (Absentee Ballot)



You must request your ab sentee ballot in advance by applying online.



You can apply for your absentee ballot at any time before Election Day.



Be sure to read the ballot instructions carefully.



You will need a witness when you complete your ballot. Witnesses can be a registered MN voter or a notary.



Return your completed ballot ASAP! Your ballot will not count if it is received after Election Day.



Ballots can be returned by mail, in-person, or through agent delivery.

Return your completed ballot **ASAP!**
Your ballot will not count if it is received after Election Day.
Ballots can be returned by mail, in-person, or through agent delivery.

Requesting An Absentee Ballot

Once you have submitted your absentee application, you must contact your county election office and notify them that you need an accessible ballot.
Accessible absentee ballots are available for voters wi th **print disabilities**.
This includes:

- Disabilities that interfere with the effective reading, writing, or use of printed materials;
- persons who are blind or visually impaired;
- those with learning disabilities;
- those with a physical disability that interferes with holding and manipulating paper or a pen/pencil.

Agent Delivery of Ballot

What is agent delivery?

Agent delivery is when you ask an "agent" to pick up and return your completed absentee ballot for you.

An agent is a person who:

- Is at least 18 years old
- Has a pre-existing relationship with the voter
  Is not an election candidate
  An individual can be an agent for a maximum of 3 voters per election.

Who qualifies for agent delivery?

Those who live in a(n):

- Nursing home
- Assisted living facility
- Residential treatment center
- Group home
- Domestic violence shelter
  Those who are hospitalized
  Those who are unable to go to their polling place due to health reasons or disability

How to Vote Using Agent Delivery

Request for Agent Delivery of Absentee Ballot

How to Vote Using Agent Delivery

- Agent Delivery of Ballot
- Agent must submit the following to obtain your absentee ballot:
    - Your completed *Absentee Ballot Application*
    - The *Request for Agent Delivery of Absentee Ballot* Form
    - Agents cannot pick up absentee ballots until 7 days before the election
- **Sample Ballot**
    - You can bring a completed sample ballot with you to your polling place as a "cheat sheet"
    - Find your precinct's sample ballot here

Curbside voting

What is Curbside Voting?

- If you cannot easily leave your vehicle to enter the polling place, you can ask to have a ballot brought out to your car, where you can complete your ballot.

How does Curbside Voting work?

- Two election judges from different major political parties will bring out a ballot to your vehicle. If you need to register or update your registration, they will bring you an application as well.
- When you are finished voting, election judges will bring your ballot inside for you and put it in the ballot box.

Curbside Voting may also be available during early voting. Check with your local election office for availability.

In-Person Voting

Vote in-person early at your local elections office

Primaries: June 26 – August 10, 2026
General Election: September 18 – November 2, 2026

Vote in-person on Election Day at your designated polling place

Primaries: August 11, 2026
General Election: November 3, 2026

Find your polling place & have a plan to cast your vote!



Voter Rights & Accessibility

Voting Rights in Minnesota
2024 Voter Accessibility Provisions
What to Know: Before and On Election Day
Ballot Marking Machines
Transportation
Filing An Accessibility Complaint

Voting Rights in Minnesota



[Link to Youtube Video]

Voting Rights in Minnesota

It is your right to have **time off from work to cast your vote** for all state, federal, and regularly scheduled local elections!

If your employer is refusing your right to take time off, Secretary of State, Steve Simon created this sharable **Letter to Employers** that explains your legal right to time off to vote

Voter rights factsheets from the MN Secretary of State:

- **Time Off Work to Vote**
- **Know Your Rights** (complete list of MN voter rights)

Voter Accessibility Provisions

Permanent Absentee Voter List
Expanded Hours for Early Voting
Voter Language Access Resources



Permanent Absentee Voter Status

Voters can apply for "permanent absentee voter status"

Automatically be sent an absentee ballot during the early vote period

Instead of applying ahead of every election cycle

This will save time for voters who know they want to continue voting from home.



Expanded Hours for Early Voting

- [Voting Locations Before Election Day]
- **Statewide General Elections:**
  - Two Saturdays and the Sunday before the Election: 9AM – 3PM
  - Tuesday the week before the Election until 7PM
  - Monday before the Election until 5PM

- **Non-Statewide General Elections:**
  - Saturday before the Election: 9AM - 3PM
  - Monday before the Election until 5PM

Voter Language Access Resources

English languages in the state
  - As determined by the state demographer based on the previous calendar year

- **Translated sample ballots** will be required in precincts where 3% of residents speak English "less than very well"

- **Translation services** will be available on Election Day in precincts where:
  - 20% or more of the population speak English "less than very well"
  - OR 10 or more registered voters file a request for an interpreter

Voter Accessibility & Rights: *What to Know* **Before** *Election Day*

SAMPLE

Agent Delivery of Ballot

- Agent must submit the following to obtain your absentee ballot:
  - Your completed *Absentee Ballot Application*
  - The *Request for Agent Delivery of Absentee Ballot* Form
  - Agents cannot pick up absentee ballots until 7 days before the election
  Agents cannot pick up absentee ballots until 7 days before the election

Sample Ballot

- You can bring a completed sample ballot with you to your polling place as a "cheat sheet"
- Find your precinct's sample ballot here

Voter Accessibility & Rights: *What to Know* **Before** *Election Day*

Voter Assistance

- A family member, friend, or neighbor can accompany you and help you vote
- Exception: your employer or someone from your union cannot help you vote
- This person can help you with all parts of voting, including inside the voting booth
- Helpers cannot influence your vote or share how you vote with others

Voting Under Guardianship

- It is your right that you can still vote under guardianship
- The only exception is if a judge was issued a court order taking away your right to vote

Voter Accessibility & Rights: *What to Know* **Before** *Election Day*

Voter Language Access

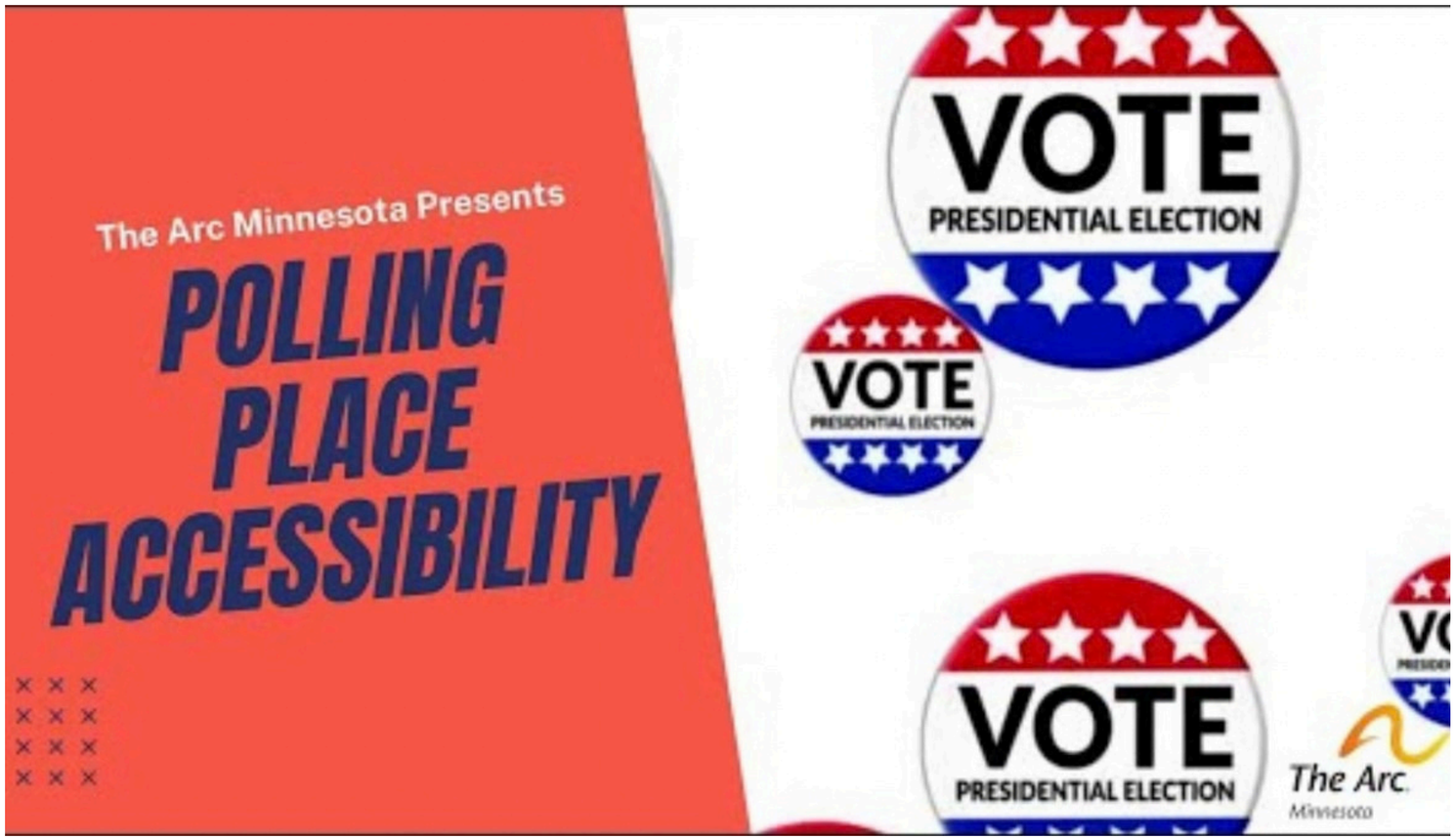
- Voting instructions will be available in Spanish, Somali, and Hmong at all polling places
- For all precincts in a language minority district*, voting instructions and sample ballots will be translated into the most spoken non-English language for all precincts in that tract
- View the Language Minority District Spreadsheet to find your precinct

****Language Minority District**

- Census tract where 3% or more of the population speaks English "less than very well"

*Voter Accessibility & Rights: What to Know **On** Election Day*

Accessible Polling Places For Voters with Disabilities



[Link to YouTube Video]

*Voter Accessibility & Rights: What to Know **On** Election Day*

Ballot Marking Machines

There are five different ballot marking machines used in Minnesota:				
Democracy Live OmniBallot Tablet	**Dominion ImageCast Evolution**	**Hart Verity TouchWriter**	**ES&S ExpressVote**	**ES&S AutoMARK**

All machines will:

- Allow selections by touching the screen or using Braille keys
- Read the ballot to you through headphones
- Allow you to turn the screen off for privacy
- Print your choices on the ballot

Ballot marking machines must be present in every polling place

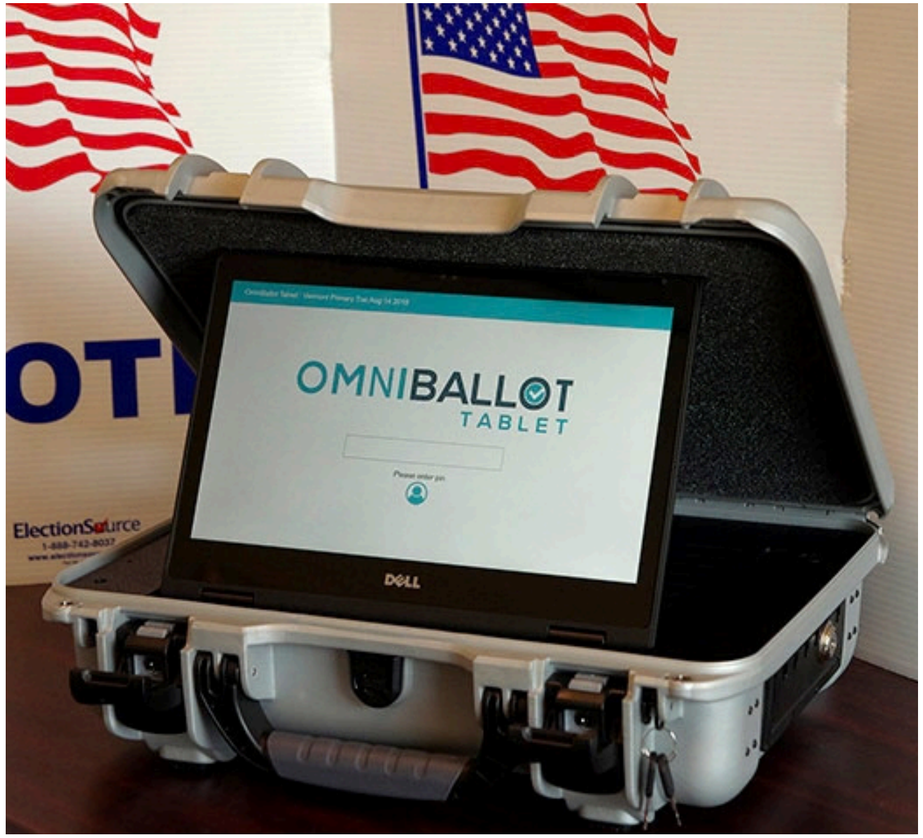
- Exception: Stand-alone township elections in townships with < 500registered voters

Voter Accessibility & Rights: Ballot Marking Machines

Democracy Live OmniBallot Tablet

Demonstration Video (Anoka County)

- OmniBallot is used in the following Minnesota counties:
  - Anoka, Becker, Benton, Blue Earth, Brown, Carlton, Carver, Cass, Chippewa, Clay, Cook, Douglas, Goodhue, Hennepin, Hubbard, Isanti, Itasca, Jackson, Kanabec, Lac Qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Le Sueur, Lyon, Lincoln, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Mower, Nicollet, Nobles, Pennington, Pine, Pipestone, Polk, Redwood, Rice, Rock, Roseau, St. Louis (partial), Stearns, Swift, Todd, Wabasha, Waseca, Watonwan, Wilkin, and Wright Counties



More information about OmniBallot can be found HERE

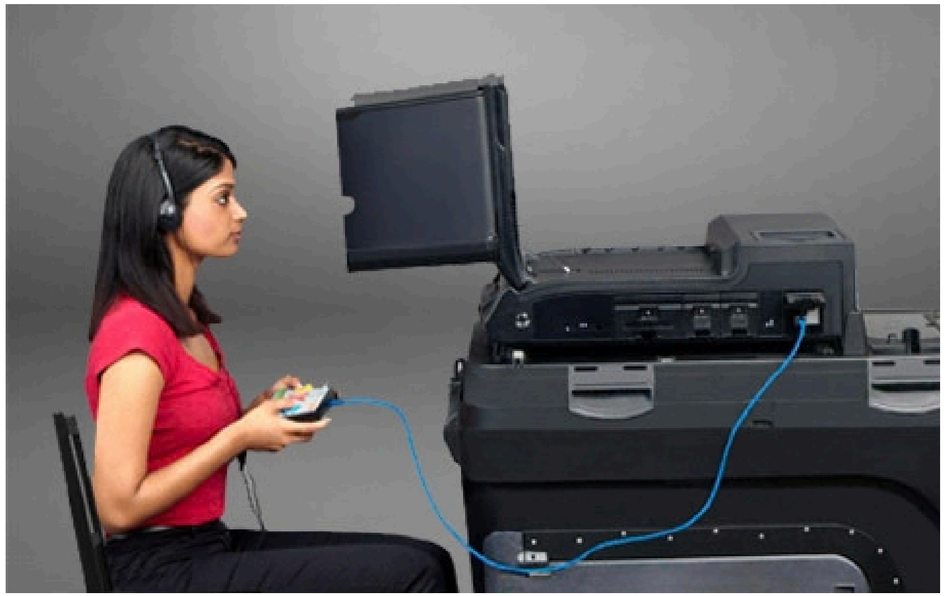
Voter Accessibility & Rights: Ballot Marking Machines

Dominion ImageCast Evolution

Demonstration Video (Scott County)

ImageCast Evolution is used in the following Minnesota counties:

- Aitkin, Crow Wing, Dakota, Mahnomen, Scott, and Sherburne Counties



Find more information about ImageCast E volution HERE

Voter Accessibility & Rights: Ballot Marking Machines

Hart Verity TouchWriter

Demonstration Video

Verity TouchWriter is used in the following Minnesota counties: Big Stone, Chisago, and Ramsey Counties



More information about Verity TouchWriter can be found HERE

Voter Accessibility & Rights: Ballot Marking Machines

ES&S AutoMARK

Demonstration Video

AutoMARK is used in the following Minnesota counties:

Beltrami, Clearwater, Cottonwood, Dodge, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Grant, Houston, Kandiyohi, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake, Marshall, Murray, Norman, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Pope, Red Lake, Renville, Sibley, St. Louis (partial), Steele, Stevens, Traverse, Wadena, Washington, Winona, and Yellow Medicine counties



More information about AutoMARK can be found HERE

Voter Accessibility & Rights: Ballot Marking Machines

ES&S ExpressVote

[Demonstration Video]

ExpressVote is used in the following Minnesota counties:
Beltrami, Blue Earth, Clearwater, Dodge, Freeborn, Norman, Otter Tail, Stearns (partial), and Winona counties.



More information about ExpressVote can be found HERE

Accessibility: Transportation

- In the past, public transit systems have offeredfree rides on Election Day
  - Information about free rides for Election Day2026 has not been made available

- Other options for transportation include:
  - Work with local paratransit provider(s) to see if theycan offer free or discounted rides to polling places
  - Coordinate rides with a friend, family member, orcolleague to go to your polling place together

Filing An Accessibility Complaint

If you find your polling station is not accessible or has created challenges that have impacted your right to vote, you can file a complaint by completing:

- The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Complaint Form

- OR you can file a complaint directly with your local elections office
  - Find your local elections office HERE



Candidate Forums & Voter Engagement

Candidate Forums
A Guide to Hosting Candidate Forums
Candidate Questionnaires
Voter Engagement Activities

Candidate Forums

What are they?

- Candidate forums are a space where candidates for a specific office directly address questions and issues that impact the disability community
- They provide an opportunity for the disability community to connect and interact directly with election candidates

Why host a forum?

- Hosting a forum allows candidates to become more educated about disability-specific issues, and learn what is important to the disability community
- Candidates for local offices are more likely to attend a forum, but these candidates may have the most direct influence on programs / policies that affect the local disability community and your everyday life

A Guide to Hosting Candidate Forums

A Guide to Hosting Candidate Forums

Candidate Forums can be:

In-Person

Hybrid

Virtual

For virtual candidate forums, you can record the meeting and make the recording available to the disability community through links on your Arc YouTube channel or Facebook page

Consider partnering with the League of Women Voters to learn how to conduct candidate forums.

This resource from the AAPD has additional information related to candidate forums.

Voter Engagement Activities

Postcards & Buttons

Hand these out at community events

Include a link to register to vote online





Disability Voting Rights Week (DVRW)

September 14-18, 2026

Organized by AAPD and REV UP America

Dedicated to promoting voting within the disability community

Sponsor a forum during DVRW with partner organizations to address voting issues in your community

Create a Social Media Kit

Create a Social Media Kit and share with your community partners

Use these graphics to promote events and educate/inform the community

Use sample graphics from AAPD or create your own!



Election Process

Overview
Minnesota Primary
Minnesota State Elections
Election Calendar

Minnesota Primary

What is a primary election?

- A primary election is the election where voters choose a candidate that they feel should be the candidate representative for a specific political party for the general election.
- Primaries occur for elections at the state-level and at the local-level.

When does the primary election occur?

- Primary elections occur before the general election in November.

Who participates in primary elections?

- Any registered voter in Minnesota can participate in the primaries.
- Minnesota uses an **open primary** system, meaning voters do not need to be members of a specific political party to vote in that party's primary.

In 2026, Minnesotans will:

Elect 1 member to the United States Senate

Minnesota's current Senators are Amy Klobuchar (D) & Tina Smith (D)

Tina Smith is stepping down. Her seat is up for election in 2026.

Elect 8 members to the United States House of Representatives

One member from each of Minnesota's Congressional Districts

Elect 134 members to the Minnesota House of Representatives

One member from each of Minnesota's Legislative Districts

In 2026, Minnesotans will:

Elect 1 Governor and Lieutenant Governor

Minnesota's Governor and Lieutenant Governor will be elected to a four-year term.

Elect 3 constitutional Officers

Attorney General • Secretary of State • State Auditor

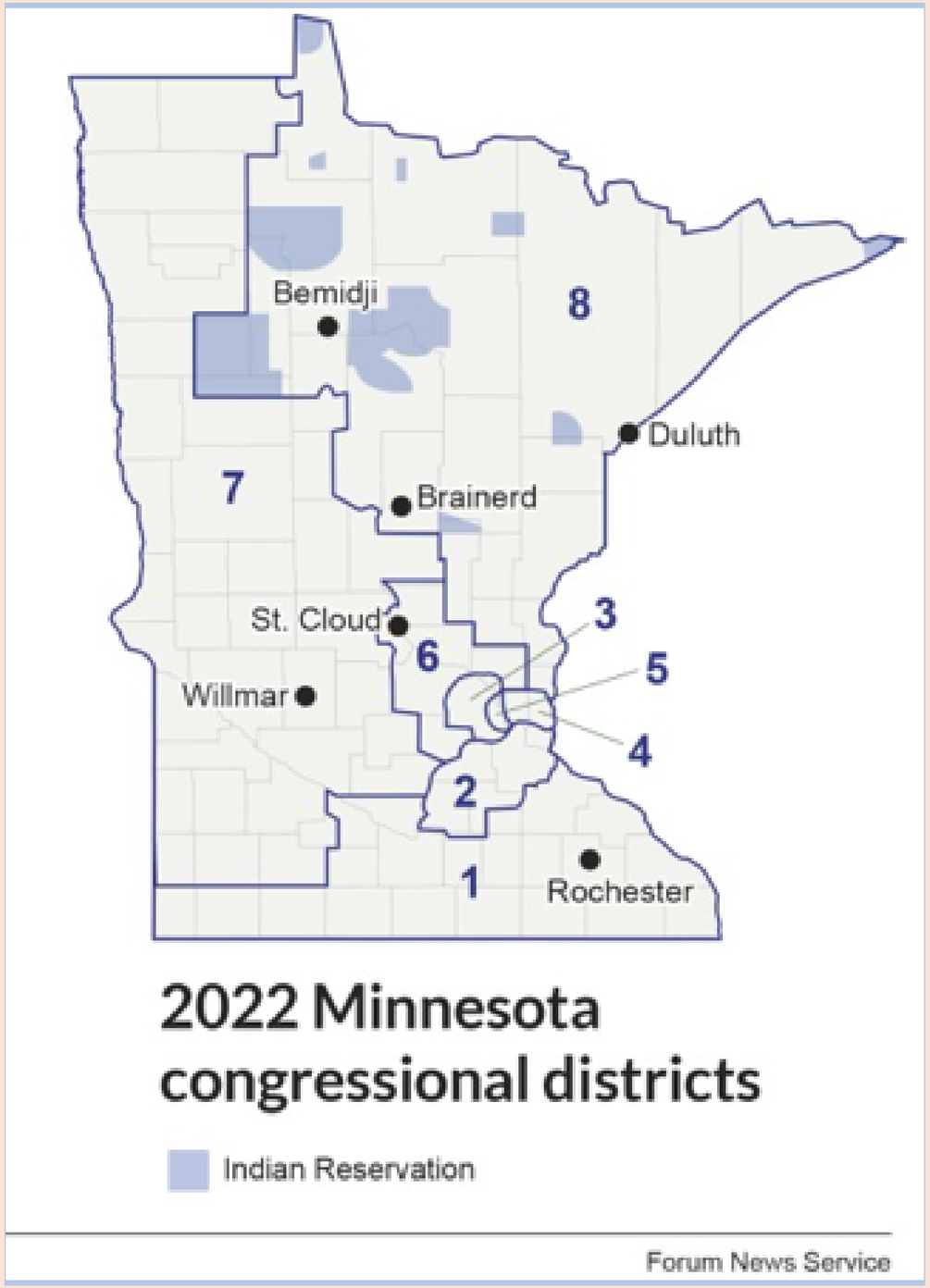
House of Representatives V.S. Senate

U.S. HOUSE

- Represent individual districts
- Serve two-year terms
- There are 435 House members
  - One representative from each Congressional District in every state
- **Powers:**
  - Initiate revenue bills
  - Impeach federal officers
  - Elect the U.S. President in the event of an Electoral College tie

U.S. SENATE

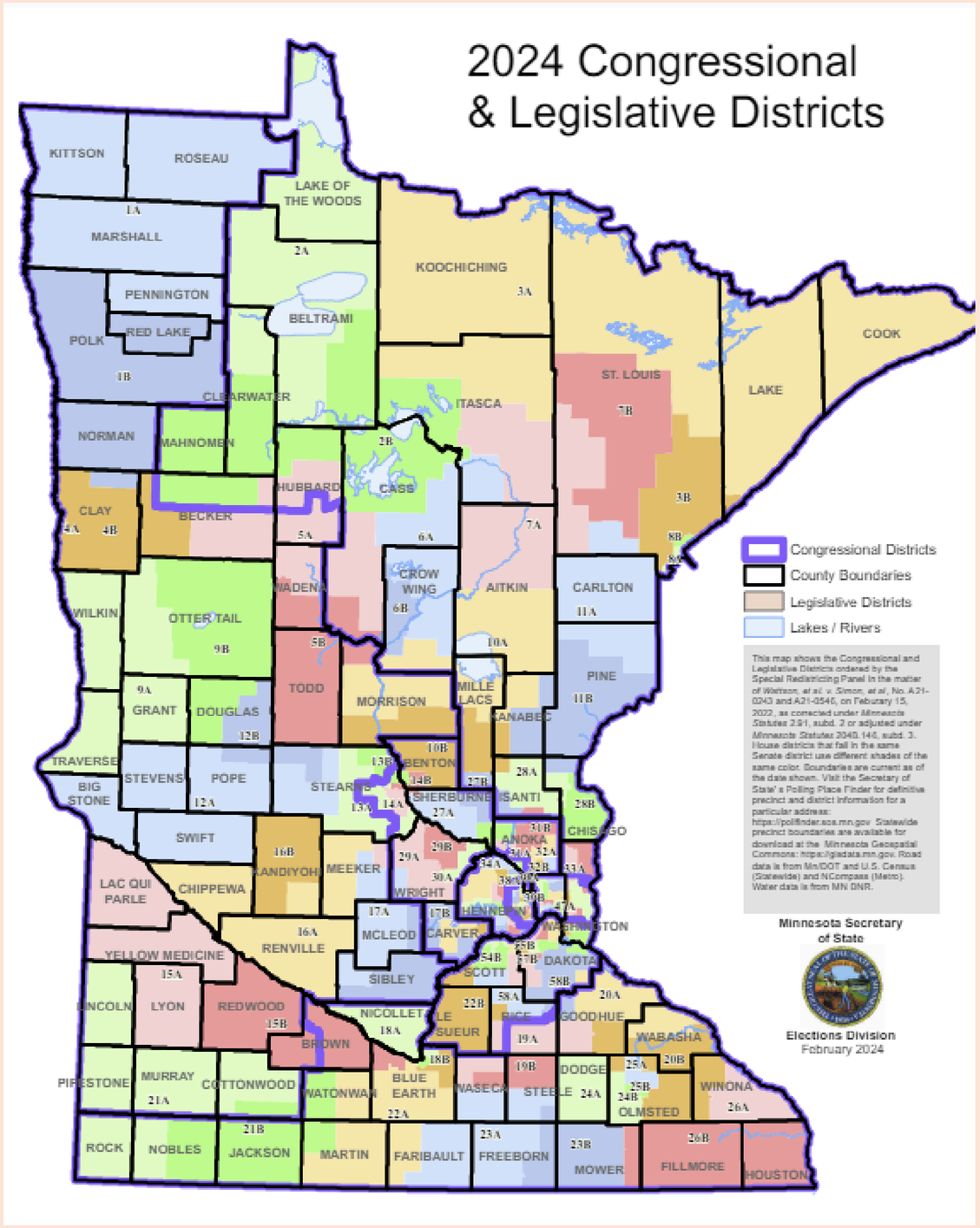
- Represent their entire state
- Serve six-year terms
- There are 100 senators in Congress
  - 2 from each state
- **Powers:**
  - Confirm Presidential appointments that require consent
  - Provide advice and consent to ratify treaties
  - Tries impeachment cases for federal officers



- MN has 8 Congressional Districts, totaling 8 Representatives
  - 1 Representative per Congressional District

Detailed Congressional District Maps

District Number	Area of Minnesota
District 1	Southern Minnesota
District 2	South Metro, SE Minnesota
District 3	Greater Hennepin County
District 4	Ramsey County and suburbs
District 5	Minneapolis and suburbs
District 6	North and West Metro, St. Cloud area
District 7	Western Minnesota
District 8	Northeastern Minnesota



Each Legislative District is marked by the different color blocks.

Minnesota Secretary of State: 2026 Election Factsheets

- What's New
- Presidential Primary
- Election Day Registration
- Voter Assistance
- Time Off Work to Vote
- Tips for New Voters
- Know Your Rights
- Vote Early By Absentee Ballot
- How to Vote
- Voting With A Criminal Record

Thank You!

Gene Martinez
genemartinez@arcminnesota.org

AAPD / REV UP
https://www.aapd.com/about-rev-up/

Minnesota Secretary of State Website
https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/