





VOTER RIGHTS

You have the right to vote in the State of Wyoming if you are¹:

- 18 years old on Election Day
- A citizen of the United States
- A resident of Wyoming

You cannot vote if:

- You have been found guilty of a felony and have not had your civil or voting rights restored.
- You have been adjudicated mentally incompetent, by a judge, then you cannot vote.

VOTER REGISTRATION

To register to vote:

- If you are registered to vote in a different state or city you must withdraw your voter registration from where you used to live.
- When you register to vote, you must show a current Wyoming Driver License or ID card.
 If you do not have either, you can provide the last four digits of your Social Security Number.
- You register to vote through your local County Clerk's office. Through the County Clerk's office, you can register in person, by mail, or at the polls on Election Day. You must fill out a voter registration form.

GUARDIANSHIP

Sometimes, people who have guardians think they cannot vote. **This isn't always true.**

- If a person has a guardian and their guardianship order does say "adjudicated mentally incompetent" then that person cannot vote.
- If the guardianship order does not say "adjudicated mentally incompetent" anywhere in the order, then that person can vote.

ACCOMMODATIONS

You have the right to many different types of accommodations as a voter with a disability.

- If you need help reading a ballot you can ask someone to read it to you.
- If you need help marking your ballot you can ask someone to mark your ballot for you.
- If you have a service animal, you can bring your service animal with you to the polling place.
- If you would like to use an accessible voting machine each polling location must have one.
- Look for a sample ballot in the local newspaper or online. Practice by marking who you are going to vote for on the sample ballot.
- You can bring your sample ballot with you when you go to vote.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



WYOMING INSTITUTE FOR DISABILITIES

Department 4298, 1000 University Ave.
Phone: (307) 766-2853
Laramie, WY 82071
Fax: (307) 766-2763
http://www.uwyo.edu/windwind@uwyo.edu

CHOOSING A CANDIDATE 2

Step 1:

Think about what type of candidate or politician you would like to vote for. Candidates can run for different positions such as president, senator, governor, and city council members.

- Learn about positions, or how candidates feel, about different issues like healthcare, taxes, and disability services.
- Learn about the candidate's experience. Learn about their background to decide if they have the
 experience to be a good candidate.
- Ask others in your community what they think about the candidate.

Step 2:

Learn about the candidates. You can do this by reading the newspaper, listening to the radio, watching the news, checking candidate websites, and asking a person you trust to help you learn about a candidate. Contact the candidate and ask them questions about different issues that are important to you. Does your candidate support disability issues on a local, state, or national level?

You can learn about candidates by visiting these websites:

- **Project Vote Smart** <u>www.votesmart.org</u>
 This website gives your information on candidates including how they have voted on issues in the past, their positions, and speeches they have given.
- Vote 411- www.Vote411.org
 Enter your address and this website can help you find your polling place and show you what you can vote for.
- The RespectAbility Report www.therespectabilityreport.org
 This website provides nonpartisan information on candidates' views on disability issues.
- One Vote <u>www.votenow.org</u>
 One Vote provides information on voting rights, what to do if you are a person with a disability and have difficulties voting, and candidate opinions on disability issues.
- VoteRiders http://www.voteriders.org/sites/default/files/vote-riders-Wyoming.pdf
 Downloadable and printable voter information card for Wyoming. The card lets first time voters know what type of ID or documentation are needed for first time voters.

Step 3:

Before deciding who to vote for think about these questions:

- What issues are most important to you? Housing? Your job? Transportation? Healthcare? Which candidate supports the things that are most important to you?
- Which candidate do you agree with the most?
- Who has the candidate endorsed? By endorsing a company, group, or organization the candidate shows they support a certain issue.
- Who has the best leadership skills?
- Which candidate knows the most about issues that are important to you? What election is most important to you? Local or national elections?

Adapted from the Wyoming Secretary of State's office, http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/RegisteringToVote.aspx

²Adapted from the League of Women's Voters, "How to Judge a Candidate"