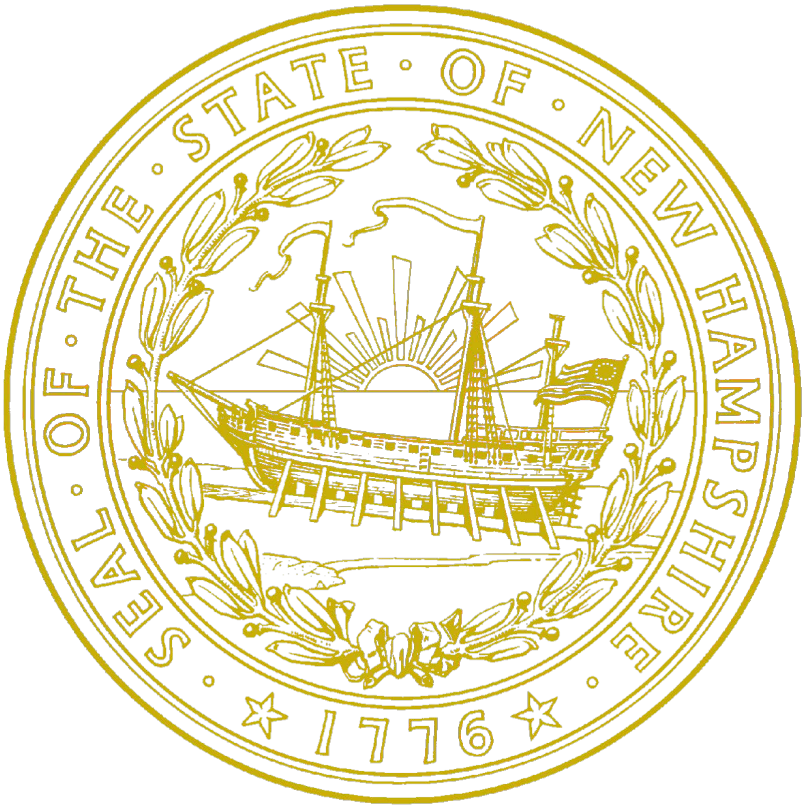
New Hampshire Senior Pocket Voter Guide



New Hampshire Secretary of State

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Your state and local election officials are your trusted source of information.

Voting in New Hampshire

New Hampshire boasts one of the highest voter turnout rates in the country. Registering to vote and casting your ballot in the Granite State is easy thanks to the work of our local election officials.

State law allows for a resident of a nursing home or similar facility to either vote:

- In person or by absentee from your previous domicile, provided you qualify and complete the necessary forms; ***or***
- In person at the polling location for your current domicile, the nursing home, or similar facility where you now live or by absentee using the nursing home's address.

Absentee Registration & Voting

Activities Directors at nursing homes or similar facilities will often arrange with the town clerk an absentee registration intake **and** absentee voting event for residents who qualify.

How to register to vote in New Hampshire

You can register to vote **in person** at your local clerk's office, at a local supervisor of the checklist meeting, or at your polling place on election day. You may register to vote by **absentee** if you are qualified.

Some examples of proof you'll need when registering include:

- **Identity and Age** – driver's license*, government-issued photo ID, or passport/passcard; **AND**
- **US Citizenship** – birth certificate, US passport, naturalization documents, or other reasonable documentation indicating your US citizenship; **AND**
- **NH Domicile** – driver's license*, government-issued photo ID, vehicle registration, government-issued tax document, government-issued check (all with domicile address listed)

Visit www.sos.nh.gov/elections/register-vote for a full list of acceptable proof of qualifications.

**For those 65+, an expired driver's license is a permissible form of ID.*

Voting with Assistance

Every polling place in New Hampshire has an accessible voting system with touchscreen and audio settings that any voter can use to produce a marked ballot.

If you are a qualified voter diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or other disability, you must be allowed to vote as long as you are able to vote without assistance, or communicate your choices to a person authorized to assist you with marking your ballot.

If you have a print disability (you cannot mark a paper ballot by hand), you can vote by accessible absentee using an online accessible absentee ballot. This process does require the use of a computer. Contact your local clerk for more information.

Visit www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots for more info on absentee voting.

Voting with Assistance

As a Senior voter, you are allowed to have a family member or authorized person assist you with marking your ballot provided you are able to communicate your choice(s) on how your ballot is marked.

- Any means of communication that a stranger can understand (blinking your eyelids or tapping a finger once for yes and twice for no) is acceptable.
- If you receive assistance marking your ballot from a family member, friend, or authorized person:

at the polling location: both you and the person assisting you must take an oath, orally or in writing, or by any other means of communication, as required by RSA 659:20.

at home: the person assisting you must sign the affidavit envelope in the section to be signed by a person assisting you.

If you think your voting rights are being violated, tell your local moderator, or contact the Attorney General's Office at (866-868-3703).

Voting Absentee

If you are a registered voter and are qualified to vote absentee, you may request an absentee ballot from your local clerk's office by mail (by noon the day before the election) OR in person (by 5pm the day before an election). **Note**: If the clerk discovers you are not registered to vote, the clerk will also send you the forms/instructions for registering to vote by absentee.

Once you have marked your official absentee ballot, you must either:

- **Mail** your ballot to the clerk's office (it must be received no later than 5pm on election day); OR
- **Personally deliver** your ballot to the clerk's office no later than 5pm the day before the election; OR
- Have a **delivery agent** (such as a family member, nursing home/elder care facility administrator, or other individual defined by RSA 657:17) deliver your ballot in its envelope to the clerk at the polling place no later than 5pm on election day.

Other useful information

- If you are a resident of a nursing home or similar facility, you may prove identity through verification by the facility administrator or designee.

- Activities Directors at nursing homes or elder care facilities often organize a clerk, assistant clerk, or clerk pro tem to deliver absentee ballots to your facility. Check with your Director to see if this is happening at your facility.

A family member, your authorized designee, or your power of attorney are not allowed to mark your ballot based on how they believe you would have voted had you been able to mark your ballot or communicate a choice. However, that person can assist you with marking your ballot.

Helpful links

When is the next election?

Visit the Secretary of State's website to find dates for upcoming state and federal elections, along with the deadline for changing your party affiliation.

How do I serve as a poll worker?

If you are interested in helping your local community on election day, reach out to your local town/city clerk.

Who is running in my district?

Before a state or federal election, you can look at a sample ballot on the Secretary of State's website to find out who is running for office. For local elections, check with your town/city clerk.

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