

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI VOTER INFORMATION

VOTER PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

All voters must present one of the following forms of acceptable photo identification:

- A driver’s license;
- A government issued photo ID card;
- A United States passport;
- An employee identification card;
- A firearms license;
- A student photo ID issued by an accredited Mississippi university, college or community/junior college;
- A United States military ID;
- A tribal photo ID;
- Any other photo ID issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the United States government or any State government; or
- A Mississippi Voter Identification card.

If you do not present photo ID, you may cast an affidavit ballot.

FOR UNVERIFIED VOTERS

If you registered to vote by mail after January 1, 2003. but did not provide the required identification and are voting in an election for the first time, you may be required to submit one of the following forms of identification:

- Valid photo identification (e.g., driver’s license);
- Current utility bill with your name and address;
- Current bank statement with your name and address;
- Current government check with your name and address;
- Current paycheck or stub with your name and address; or
- Other government document with your name and address.

If you do not present a required form of identification, you may cast an affidavit ballot.

VOTER’S RIGHTS: FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

- Any Mississippi resident who is a qualified elector is entitled to vote in this election regardless of race or physical ability with no literacy tests employed.
- No one may refuse a person to vote who is entitled to cast a ballot.
- No voter shall be threatened, intimidated, or bribed for voting by any person. (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 97-13-37, 39)
- Voters whose names do not appear on the pollbook or who do not have proper identification *may vote by affidavit ballot*.
- Voters who cast an affidavit ballot are entitled to written information at the time of voting on how to determine if the vote was counted and, if not, why.
- Voters who require assistance due to blindness, disability or inability to read or write may receive assistance from a person of the voter’s choice. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-549)
- Voters are entitled to skip races listed on the ballot if they choose not to vote in the contest.
- Voters can submit a formal complaint regarding alleged violations that have occurred, are occurring, or are about to occur through the Secretary of State’s Administrative Complaint Procedure. Alleged violations include, but are not limited to, inoperable voting systems, inaccessibility for those persons with disabilities, and false voter registration.
- Voters in line by 7 P.M. will be allowed to cast a ballot.

VOTING PROCESS

- When requesting a ballot the voter states his/her name.
- The election official/poll worker shall ask the voter to preesnt an acceptable form of photo

identification.

- If the voter presents an acceptable form of photo identification, the election official will mark VOTED next to the voter’s name on the pollbook, and ask the voter to sign the receipt book. (Miss Code Ann. §§ 23-15-575)
- The election official will then direct the voter to a voting booth where he/she may cast his/her ballot in secret. (Miss. Code Ann. §97-13-11)
- The voter is given no longer than ten minutes in the voting booth if no one is waiting in line and no longer than five minutes if other voters are waiting in line. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-435)
- Voters may not re-enter the voting booth after casting ballot. (Miss Code Ann. § 23-15-435)
- Voters who may not be permitted to vote *may cast an affidavit ballot* at the polling place as provided by law. (Miss Code Ann. § 23-15-573)

CASTING AN AFFIDAVIT (PROVISIONAL) BALLOT

- A person claiming to have been illegally denied registration, claiming to be registered to vote or to reside in the county and precinct, but whose name does not appear in the pollbook shall be entitled to cast an affidavit ballot as provided by law. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-573)
- A person who is unable to present acceptable photo ID based upon a religious objection or otherwise shall be entitled to cast an affidavit ballot as provided by law.
- Poll managers shall advise an affidavit voter his/her ballot will not count if he/she is voting at the wrong polling place.
- Affidavit voters shall be allowed to vote in secret. (Miss. Code Ann. § 97-13-11)
- The completed ballot shall be placed in an affidavit ballot envelope, sealed and placed into the ballot box. The reason for the challenge shall be specified on the envelope and the voter and poll manager shall sign the envelope.

- An information sheet will be given to the voter on how to determine whether his/her ballot was counted, and if not counted, then why.
- A voter casting an affidavit ballot because he/she did not present photo ID based upon a religious objection is entitled to have his/her ballot counted if he/she completes an Affidavit of Religious Objection in the Circuit Clerk’s Office within five (5) business days after Election Day.
- A voter casting an affidavit ballot because he/she did not present photo ID is entitled to have his/her ballot counted if he/she presents photo ID in the Circuit Clerk’s Office within five (5) business days after Election Day.

PROHIBITIONS: FRAUD & MISREPRESENTATION

- No person shall attempt to vote more than once in any election. (Miss. Code Ann. § 97-13-35)
- No person shall attempt to vote in the name of another person. (Miss. Code Ann. § 97-13-25)
- No person shall change or alter another person’s ballot. (Miss. Code Ann. § 97-13-9)
- No person shall make or accept a bribe for voting for or against a candidate or measure. (Miss. Code Ann. §§ 97-13-1,3)
- No person shall distribute any type of literature within 150 feet of any entrance to the polling place. This includes wearing items that display candidate information. (Miss. Code Ann. § 23-15-895)

CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Attorney General’s Office (601) 359-3167**
- **Disability Rights Mississippi (800) 772-4057**
- **Secretary of State’s Office (800) 829-6786.**

Distributed by the Mississippi Secretary of State’s Office for display in all polling places during all elections.